

REA Organics 2025

Q1 Snapshot

Out & About – we’ve...

...Engaged with Government on behalf of industry

- Held our annual Parliamentary Reception: REsolution.
- REA and other Scottish waste industry representatives presented a paper with several asks to Scottish Government.
- Provided feedback and sought clarity from Defra regarding Simpler Recycling guidance.
- Provided info to Lord Blencartha following House of Lords Simpler Recycling debate to answer his questions on composting meat.

...Championed the value of the sector

- Jenny wrote an opinion piece for Let's Recycle: [Government needs to embrace a new approach to anaerobic digestion](#).
- Spoke at the Food Waste Conference on the importance of food waste infrastructure and the need for robust data.
- Supported Enrich the Earth's campaign promoting quality feedstocks and peat-free compost.

...Shared operational realities with regulators

- Sought clarity on technical requirements on behalf of members (e.g. waste codes, RPSs, topsoils, End of Waste, CO2 etc)
- Discussed T13 exemption for depackaging at the waste source.
- Reviewed SEPA's composting & landspreading guidance, provided extensive feedback & reflected operational realities not considered in the draft, which resulted in removal of a requirement to cover lagoons for composting site leachate.

...Shared expertise on compostable materials

- Participated in steering group meetings for the BB-REG-NET project, UCL's Comfort Loop project & the Compostable By Design Platform (CbDP), plus working group meetings for the first and third of these projects.
- Provided expertise during drafting of the CbDP's design guidance on compostables and WRAP review of its compostables guidance.

...Organised member events and training

- REA Organics and Events teams hosted the annual Organics Conference on 27th March 2025.
- Delivered training courses for industry on 'Understanding PAS 100 / PAS 110 in Full'

Behind the Scenes – we’ve...

- Conducted research on EA regulatory reform for forthcoming report
- Attended meetings of the Defra-led UK BAT Advisory Group
- Responded to various consultations to represent members’ views
- Attended meetings of the EA-led Regulated Business Forum and Biowaste Regulatory Forum
- Met with the Circular Economy Taskforce’s Agri-food team to discuss digestate and compost
- Submitted two proposals to REAL's Research Hub (REA's subsidiary)
- Joined a round-table on the Environment Improvement Plan with Toby Perkins MP, Chair of the Environment Audit Committee
- Continued having regular catch-ups with Defra’s Simpler Recycling team
- Provided input into the development of Nutrient Management Planning tools
- Held meetings with the Organics Steering Group

Looking ahead...

What we'll be working on in Q2

- Looking to develop new training & upskilling offerings for members
- Arranging a series of member meetings and site visits
- Publishing a report on EA regulatory reform and working with industry to develop recommendations
- Speaking at the All-Island Bioeconomy Summit in Ireland
- Contributing to projects shaping the future of Compostables
- Joining a Defra CE Taskforce panel discussion on the challenges of plastics contamination in food waste and digestates
- Continuing stakeholder representation with Government and other industry stakeholders

Get in touch – *For more information or to let us know any areas that are important to you, please contact any of the team: [Jenny](#), [Emily](#), [Megan](#) or any of the [Organics Steering Group](#)*