

The next government's first 100 days in office

REA Strategic Pillar: Circular Bioresources

REA Objective: Ensure resources and waste policy prioritises the collection of biodegradable wastes, to enable them to be sustainably recycled and to maximise their value.

These are the immediate steps the next Government will need to take to achieve this:

1. Support quality organics recycling by funding support for high-performing food and garden waste collections.

The next Government should commit to funding Local Authorities to deliver local targeted education and communications to drive public behaviour change for food and garden waste collections, as well as funding centralised campaigns to deliver high performing collections.

2. Ensure environmental regulators are adequately resourced.

The next Government should immediately ensure the environmental regulators, including the Environment Agency, are adequately resourced to address the considerable existing backlog of applications and issues. This would enable regulations to be consistently enforced and drive out waste crime.

3. Make soil health a priority.

The next Government should prioritise improving and maintaining the soil health of agricultural land in the UK by acknowledging and supporting the benefits of using composts and digestates, and mandating and standardising soil health metrics in the Environment Land Management Scheme.

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4. Mandate "industrially compostable" packaging and non-packaging products for specific applications.

The next Government should mandate that all bags and liners used for food waste, tea bags and fruit and vegetable stickers are certified as at least industrially compostable.

5. Incentivise investment in organics recycling facilities.

The next Government should announce how it will incentivise investment in waste facilities that can biodegrade a wide range of feedstocks so that nothing goes to landfill in 2030.

6. Implement peat ban for amateur horticulture.

The next Government should preserve the biodiversity and carbon stores within peat bogs by banning the sale and import of peat to the amateur horticulture sector.



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About the REA

The REA is working towards a future built on renewable energy and clean technology. We represent over 500 member companies from across the renewable energy, recycling, energy storage and electric vehicle sectors. We influence and inform whilst we champion and empower our members; so they are profitable, sustainable commercial businesses. Together we are decarbonising the economy.

Get in touch

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Our manifesto is live. Read it here.

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