



Policy Briefing

H&V Summary April

2021

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INTRODUCTION

Dear BEAMA members

What a start to the year it has been! This policy briefing is evident of the change amounting from the transition to Net-Zero, as well as that presented to us following the UK transition from the EU and COVID19 recovery. The long list of government consultations and anticipated strategy documents this year present us with a great opportunity to represent a strong voice from our sector this year on policy areas that will be instrumental to our member's business -namely, low carbon heat, building regulations, building safety, plastic packaging, industrial decarbonization and net-zero.

With this briefing we are launching a new dedicated Net-Zero platform on the BEAMA website, through the existing Issues Forum tool, to help members keep up to date on policy and regulatory changes that will affect your business and progress in decarbonising your activities in the UK. We plan to grow this platform in coming months to provide a network for BEAMA members to share best practice and steer you through the wealth of information, standards and regulatory requirements that will evolve.

The journey for industry to decarbonise is further complicated by the pressures of EU exit and COVID 19 recovery, but never has the focus been more on the drive for green investment in the UK and BEAMA is working to ensure we are a leading voice of industry in the delivery of the UKs Industrial decarbonisation strategy and associated trade and investment negotiations. Most notably we have the Secretary of State for BEIS Kwasi Kwarteng MP joining the BEAMA Senior Sector Council meeting in May to discuss a way forward to support BEAMA sectors and drive increased investment.

As we review this quarters briefings and policy landscape we are acutely aware of the increasing scrutiny on supply chains, and the growing work for our members to track and source data from suppliers. We already see this through regulations including conflict minerals, bribery and corruption, REACH and we will see this increasing in other areas including Carbon Border Adjustment mechanisms, material efficiency and embedded carbon measures and requirements for products. We are continually reviewing how best we can support our members in light of this, and inevitably this will require more focused attention on helping members navigate the complexity of regulatory requirements evolving in our market.

The change to our working environments due to COVID-19 restrictions have led to a number of improvements in how we are engaging with our members. We are seeing a dramatic increase in the use of our online resources and tools including the BEAMA Issues Forum and UK Transition Site on the BEAMA website. We are pleased that the website now provides a great source of information for members and we have plans to improve this further this year.

Most notably we have introduced an online meeting for all members every other Wednesday afternoon, initially these were set up a year ago to manage the impact of COVID19, but we intend to continue these meetings to provide regular updates to members on the breadth of overarching policy agendas and ensure you are kept up to speed on key regulatory changes in the UK, of which we are anticipating many in the year to come.



Yselkla Farmer, Director Policy and Marketing



Simon Harpin, Policy Manager

UK TRANSITION

We continue to track post-EU membership developments in trade, policy and standardisation. We have been holding regular briefings for members with input from UK Government. We retain close ties with Orgalim and other European Trade Associations.

We are now seeing UK Government actively reviewing policy areas that previously resulted from EU initiatives. We are also seeing difference between UK and EU in the implementation of existing legislation, such as Energy Labelling. Input from members on the likely impact of changes on your businesses remains crucial.

You can keep in touch via our regular briefings, and also by visiting our members' website [here](#), which has a repository of information on post-EU UK Transition.

UK TRANSITION

BUSINESSES NEED TO TAKE ACTION!

The UK has left the EU, and the Brexit transition period has ended. There are new rules for businesses doing business with the EU from 1 January, and you need to take action now. All information on Brexit can be found at www.gov.uk/transition.

The below information was issued to BEAMA by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and provides the latest information for businesses.



- ✓ Check
- ✓ Change
- ✓ Go

Find out more ↗



Business Information



Trading with the EU



Moving Goods



Importing and Exporting

SUPPORTING OUR MEMBERS TO MEET NET-ZERO BY 2050

A new feature and platform to share best practice and follow the changing regulatory environment associated with Net-Zero

We know the Net-Zero by 2050 target will result in one of the most significant changes to our member's marketplace in the coming years. Here we are introducing a new regular feature in our policy briefings and a dedicated platform on the [BEAMA Issues Forum](#) supporting our ongoing work. We are continuing to support BEAMA members in setting and meeting their own emission reduction targets in support of the [overall sector commitment](#) BEAMA holds on behalf of our members to Net-Zero by 2050.

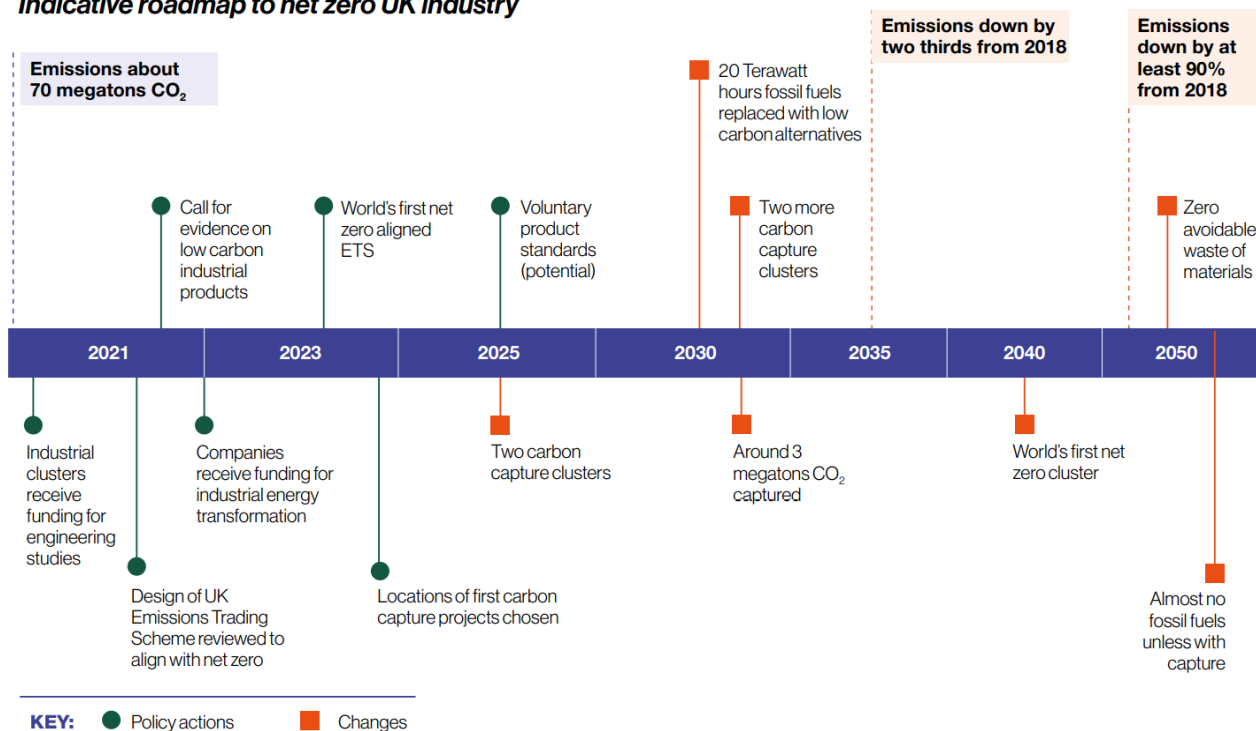
We are now working on a plan to re-publish our sector Net-Zero commitment this Autumn in support of the Race to Zero UNFCCC campaign alongside a report from BEAMA shining a light on the policy and regulatory environment and progress made to date on the UK's Net Zero target.

We hope our work in the coming months will ensure the achievements already being made in our sector to meeting this ambitious target can be promoted on the international stage at COP26 and through the Autumn green investment summit.

Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy

Published in March 2021 as a core to the UK's Net Zero Strategy expected later this year. Sets out ambitions and actions for a roadmap for decarbonising industry:

Indicative roadmap to net zero UK industry



BEAMA invites members to provide feedback to Yselkla.farmer@beama.org.uk. We will keep members informed via the dedicated part of the BEAMA Issues Forum [here](#).

Trade and Environment - the evolving picture

BEAMA will be working with our members on trade and product regulations as drivers to net-zero. As a first issue here we map the current landscape of work ongoing to establish a carbon price for the trade of goods in the EU and other associated areas of work.

CBAM – Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

The European Parliament have adopted a resolution on a WTO-compatible EU carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM). CBAM aims to ensure decarbonisation in the EU does not move emissions to non-EU countries that have looser rules. The announcement in March (press release [here](#)) supports a carbon price on certain goods imported from outside the EU. It is our understanding that the focus remains on clearly identifiable products such as raw materials, leaving complex products out of scope.

Sustainable Finance

EU Taxonomy Regulation

The Taxonomy Regulation was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 22 June 2020 and entered into force on 12 July 2020. It sets out conditions that an economic activity has to meet in order to qualify as environmentally sustainable, with an aim to influence investment decisions. The Commission is expected to adopt the final delegated act on 21 April. Click [here](#) for more.

ACCTS - the Agreement on Climate Change, Trade and Sustainability

Status

New Zealand, Costa Rica, Fiji, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland form the initial grouping of countries to negotiate ACCTS. The UK Government is deciding whether to join and has been consulting with BEAMA, and we are minded to support the UK joining.

ACCTS recommendations would mean:

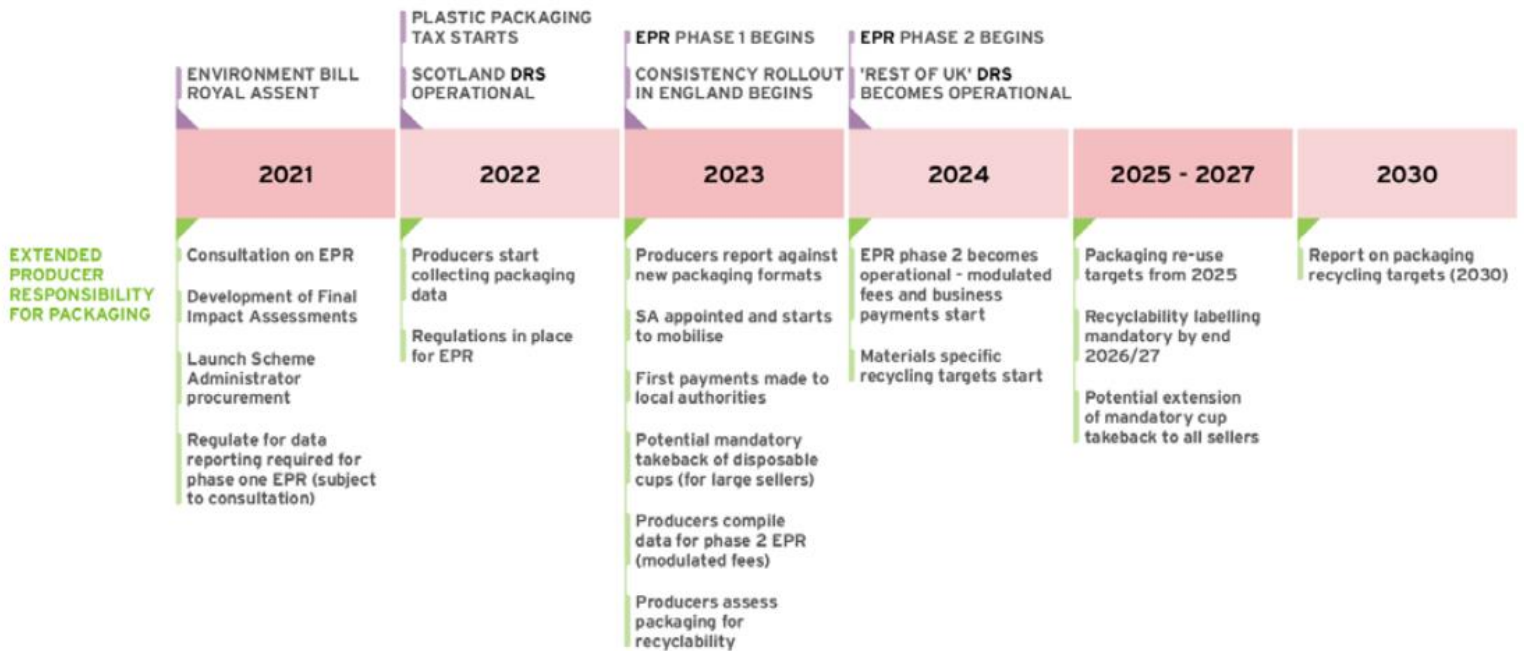
- The removal of MFN tariffs on designated “environmental goods” (potentially a number of those remaining tariffs post the UKGT);
- New commitments for environmental services;
- Disciplines to eliminate harmful fossil fuel subsidies;
- Guidelines on voluntary additional eco-labelling programmes and mechanisms.

See your full policy briefing for more details.

Consultation on Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging

This aims to incentivise producers to design packaging that is easy to recycle and ensure that they pay the full net cost. It seeks to encourage manufacturers to use more sustainable packaging including through modulated fees.

A timeline for implementation is as follows:



We will be holding a members' webinar briefing on this consultation around the end of April with a contact from Defra. The deadline for responses is 4th June 2021. You can find the consultation documents [here](#). Please send comments to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk.

Treasury Packaging Tax

Treasury has released more details on its tax that will apply at £200 per tonne for filled or unfilled packaging with less than 30% recycled plastic. The tax will take effect from 1 April 2022. This is separate from the Defra EPR proposals detailed above. Businesses involved in the manufacture, import or supply of plastic packaging should start familiarising themselves with PPT. They can do this by reading BEAMA briefings on the tax [here](#), the high-level details of the tax set out in the Summary of Responses to the policy consultation in 2020 on GOV.UK [here](#), as well as the primary legislation in Finance Bill 2021 linked above. We have asked Treasury to join a webinar to brief BEAMA members directly. Secondary legislation and guidance giving more detail will be available in due course and updated iteratively throughout the year to help businesses prepare for the introduction of the tax.

UK WEEE Review

We are now expecting a UK consultation on reforms to WEEE in Q2 2021. Key proposals under consideration are:

- Encouraging collections
- Encouraging reuse
- Tackling free-riding
- Eco-modulation
- Improving the B2B system

We have had some case studies and comments from members but would welcome more – please send to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk. Click [here](#) for more.

Additional UK WEEE updates

The WEEE Compliance Fee for 2020 has been confirmed. You can download the accepted proposal [here](#). You can access more information about WEEE [here](#).

On WEEE Collection Targets, [this paper](#) sets out draft targets Defra is considering setting. PLEASE NOTE Defra have said this can only be shared with Joint Trade Association members (which include BEAMA) so this is not for wider circulation. We will circulate the final paper when complete.

Consultation on Waste Prevention

This Defra consultation has a section on electrical and electronic products, but mainly asks questions about actions that have already been pledged (such as the upcoming WEEE review, due later this year, on which we have briefed members and engaged with Defra). The consultation is open until 10th June. We expect to build a response comments gathered previously from members on the topics covered. Please send any additional comments to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk. Click [here](#) for more details.

EU Sustainable Products Initiative

The consultation sets out the main policy options for a legislative initiative expected by the end of 2021:

- widen the scope of the Ecodesign Directive beyond energy-related products
- regulate the following sustainability aspects
- digital product passport
- Priority products include electronics, ICT and high-impact intermediary products such as steel, cement and chemicals. Further product groups are to be identified.

The deadline to respond to this consultation is 9 June 2021. You can find the consultation questionnaire from the Commission [here](#). Orgalim will respond to this consultation and BEAMA will continue to contribute to its response. Please send

comments to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk. Click here for [Orgalim comments and proactive recommendations on the Sustainable Products Initiative \(SPI\)](#) submitted to the Commission in November 2020.

European Standards – Energy-related products - Material Efficiency Aspects for Ecodesign – M/543

M/543 'Standardisation request to the European standardisation organisations as regards ecodesign requirements on material efficiency aspects for energy-related products was issued by the European Commission to CEN and CENELEC on 2015-12-17 (C(2015) 9096) and accepted by CEN and CENELEC on 2016-01-08. We regularly update the Issues Forum [here](#). For more information on the Standards, please contact Raj.Vagdia@beama.org.uk.

International Standards – Circular Economy and Material Efficiency

Following the publication of the European Standards on material efficiency aspects, "IEC 63333 ED1 General method for assessing the proportion of reused components in products", based on EN 45556:2019, has been drafted as a new international standard. This document provides general methods for assessing the proportion of reused components in products. You can find the document [here](#). For more information, please contact Raj.Vagdia@beama.org.uk.

REACH

BEAMA will now be reporting on both EU and UK REACH, and tracking both regulatory frameworks through the BEAMA Issues Forum. BEAMA Director of Policy and Marketing, Yselkla Farmer is also taking on the chair role of the UK Cross Sector REACH group.

UK REACH

UK REACH, the UK's independent chemicals regulatory framework, came into force on 1st January 2021. Businesses which make, sell or distribute chemicals into Great Britain will need to follow the UK's new domestic chemicals regulations including UK REACH from tomorrow 1 Jan 2021. Guidance is available on how to comply with the EU and UK REACH chemical regulations when using, making, selling or importing chemicals in the UK and in the EU: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-comply-with-reach-chemical-regulations>

Detailed UK REACH guidance is also available on the [Health and Safety Executive website](#).

The '[Comply with UK REACH](#)' system can be used by business to fulfil their transitional provisions and create new registrations.

EU REACH updates

The EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability sets out a plan for the revision of the REACH regulation. You can find the document [here](#).

BEAMA provides regular updates on EU REACH authorisations and restrictions, available [here](#).

EU SCIP Database

Since 5 January 2021, companies are obliged to provide ECHA with information on articles containing substances listed in the REACH candidate list ("Substances of Very High Concern" (SVHC)) in a concentration above 0.1% weight by weight (w/w).

UK Government has decided not to implement an equivalent database in the UK for the time being, but this could have an impact on members in the EU. The implementation at EU level is subject to a legal challenge. Please keep us up to date with your experiences with complying, or send any questions to Yselkla.farmer@beama.org.uk. Click [here](#) for more.

Proposal to classify silver in CLH & REACH

CLH is the EU harmonised classification & labelling system for hazards of highest concern. A recent initial consultation proposed silver is classified by ECHA as reprotoxic category 1B. You can find further details [here](#). This process could result in listing of silver in REACH & authorisation. If members have any specific concerns, or wish to share with us any case studies of the possible impact of this development, please contact simon.harpin@beama.org.uk.

EU Chemicals Strategy

The European Commission published a [chemicals strategy for sustainability on 14 October 2020](#). In mid-March the European Council adopted their position on the EU Chemicals Strategy and called for the Commission to implement without delay. The new strategy will include targeted amendments to streamline EU chemicals legislation, substituting and minimising substances of concern and phasing out the most harmful chemical for non-essential societal uses. Click [here](#) for more.

Updated RoHS guidance

New guidance was published in February on how to apply for exemptions under the RoHS regulations in the UK. This can be downloaded [here](#). If you manufacture, import or distribute electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) for the Great Britain market you're responsible for ensuring that levels of certain hazardous substances and chemicals are not exceeded.

You can read a [list of restricted substances and find out how to comply with the rules](#). This guidance sets out how to apply for a new exemption to use a restricted substance provided it meets certain criteria.

OPSS Alert – RoHS – Typo for Cadmium concentration

There was a typo in UK RoHS regulation which determines the wrong concentration value for Cadmium. This is to be amended. The concentration value of Cadmium, currently given as 0.1% instead of 0.01% in Schedule A1 of SI 2020 No.1647, is a typographical error. A formal amendment to correct the error will be implemented shortly. You should, therefore, continue to work to the 0.01% threshold for Cadmium under the RoHS Regulations.

Proposal to list some chlorinated paraffins as persistent organic pollutants in the UK

Defra has stated it has evidence that some components of medium-chain chlorinated paraffins (MCCPs) have similar harmful properties and are considering submitting a proposal to list chlorinated paraffins with carbon chain lengths in the range C₁₄₋₁₇ and chlorination levels $\geq 45\%$ chlorine by weight to the Stockholm Convention this year. If accepted the process of further assessment, discussion and listing is likely to take 4 to 5 years. Click [here](#) for more details. Please contact simon.harpin@beama.org.uk if you have any concerns about this.

UK Energy-Related Products Ecodesign update

BEIS has been coordinating two aspects of review into the future of Ecodesign for the UK.

1. Commissioning consultants ICF to shortlist products that BEIS will consider as candidates for additional implementing measures on minimum standards, labelling or other policy levers.
2. A Call for evidence on the future framework, with a view on some specific products. We have previously briefed members on this and our response. BEIS has now released the summary of responses to the Call for Evidence.

The balance of responses was:

- Many agreed with not falling behind EU measures
- General support for additional measures for products on minimum energy performance standards and resource efficiency measures
- Enforcement of regulations appears to be ineffective
- Product efficiency measures alone are insufficient to make significant progress to net-zero

You can find the full BEAMA response to the call for evidence [here](#).

EU and UK Energy Labelling interpretation

A difference in interpretation between EU and UK has come to light in respect of using both UK and EU Energy Labels. The UK has stated that it would permit manufacturers to use both labels on products, whereas the EU has said this will not be permitted. For Northern Ireland, this means products will need to continue using the EU label as per the Northern Irish protocol, but as NI remains part of the UK it is within the UK's powers to allow both labels to be used. We are unsure as to how the EU interpretation would relate to labels supplied loose in a packaging box but not affixed to a product or packaging.

We are also engaged with European trade associations, one of which is seeking legal advice on the EU's interpretation. We will continue to brief members on any progress.

EU Ecodesign workplan timing updates

Publication of the preparatory study for the EU's Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Working Plan 2020-2024 is now postponed until the end of April 2021. This preparatory study was launched by the European Commission to inform and assist the Commission on individual product categories for the next years. Water decalcifiers and softeners and low temperature heat emitters have been considered for possible measures. More can be found [here](#).

Next steps:

- Q1 2021: Task 3 and 4 draft reports

- **Second half of March 2021:** 2nd Stakeholder meeting
- **End of April 2021:** end of study

Further information about the study can be found in our Issues Forum [here](#) and [on the study's website](#). If members have any comments or questions please contact simon.harpin@beama.org.uk.

Prime Minister's 10-point plan

Government announced a [10-point plan](#) for a 'green industrial revolution'. This sets out ambitions relevant to many BEAMA sectors. The plan has a view to creating jobs as well as making progress to net-zero emissions, but Government has acknowledged it is not a full solution for net-zero. There is little detail, but some issues were picked up in the Energy White Paper (see below), and we expect this will be built on by forthcoming publications Heat & Buildings Strategy and Transport Decarbonisation plan. We sent out comments out as a [press release](#).

Spending review and infrastructure strategy

In late November Government published a 12-month Spending Review, economic outlook, and new Infrastructure Strategy (which we will need to review in more detail in due course). Many of the spending pledges add detail to Prime Minister's Ten Point Plan published the previous week, meaning there are few funds not previously announced in key BEAMA sectors. You can find the Government documents [here](#) and [here](#), and a more detailed BEAMA summary [here](#).

Energy White Paper

The Government has published its long-awaited Energy White Paper. This sets out a vision for decarbonisation that has a boost to investment and protection for consumers as key principles. You can find the White Paper [here](#) and a host of other documents published [here](#) and a BEAMA summary [here](#).

Interim report on Treasury Net-Zero costs review

The Treasury published an interim report containing initial analysis, rather than policy recommendations, of the distribution of costs in reaching net-zero. You can find the interim report [here](#). The final report will be published next year. Government says that 'overall, in the context of the rest of the world decarbonising, the net impact of the transition on growth to 2050 is likely to be small compared to total growth over that period, and it could be slightly positive or slightly negative'. Click [here](#) for more.

CCC 6th Carbon Budget and policy recommendations, and new UK 2030 target

The Climate Change Committee published recommendations for meeting a new carbon budget in 2033-37 and making progress to net zero by 2050. You can find the documents [here](#). The recommended pathway requires a 78% reduction in UK territorial emissions between 1990 and 2035. Estimates of the cost of meeting the targets have improved - CCC's estimates of costs have fallen to less than 1% of GDP for the entirety of the period 2020 to 2050.

UK Government has agreed to a 2030 target of 68% reduction in carbon emissions compared to 1990 levels. The previous 2030 target was 53%. Click [here](#) for more.

New UK Centre for Greening Finance and Investment

From April 2021 Leeds and London will be home to a new UK centre for driving global green finance and investment, with £10 million in government investment. The UK Centre for Greening Finance and Investment (CGFI) will involve a consortium of major UK institutions, led by the University of Oxford. You can read more [here](#).

Select Committee critical appraisal of Govt net zero progress

The Public Accounts Select Committee of MPs has published a report criticising the Government's progress towards its net-zero requirement. You can download their report [here](#). It begins: "Government lacks a plan for how it will achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 despite setting the target almost two years ago. At present, there is no coordinated plan with clear milestones towards achieving the target, making it difficult for Parliament and the general public to understand or scrutinise how the country is doing in its efforts to achieve net zero emissions".

Industrial Energy Transformation Fund open for funding applications

Organisations can apply for a share of up to £40 million for grants to improve the energy efficiency of industrial processes, reducing energy bills and cutting carbon emissions. Heat pumps are an eligible technology in the fund that industrial businesses can use to reduce their emissions.

You must be an industrial business of any size to apply. Members interested in applying or finding out more before the 14 July deadline should visit the website [here](#).

ENISA (European Union Agency for Cybersecurity)

ENISA is now legally empowered by the European Commission, to develop European certifications schemes that can be harmonised. It is required to publish a rolling work programme and has been deciding on what to include in the first programme. The 2020-2022 Plan was published in June. Specific areas of interest to BEAMA members will be:

- Building knowledge on security of IoT
- Incident reporting in Europe

We are monitoring the activity of ENISA via our membership of the Orgalim Cyber Security TF. Click [here](#) for more.

NIS 2

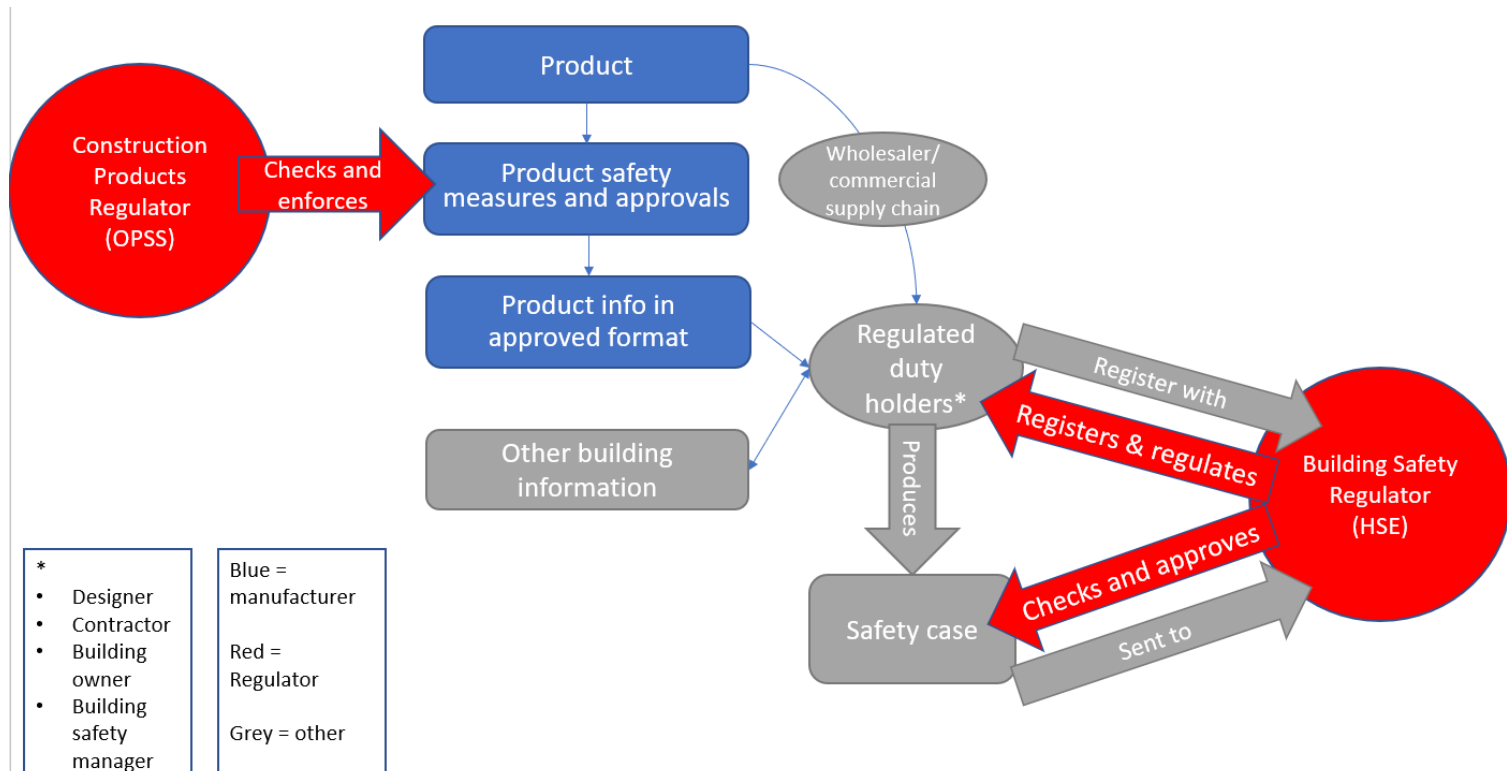
The European Commission has brought forward proposals for a revised Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems (NIS2) Directive. These are significant in their extent and potential impact and, as currently written, would affect many BEAMA members. As a Directive, Member States are given some freedom in how they will implement NIS2 and the Commission is reportedly relying on this to soften some of the more objectionably measures. Click [here](#) for more.

Building Safety Programme update

We are learning more about the sequence of milestones required before the new regulatory system is fully up and running:

1. Building Safety Bill (framework legislation) to gain assent – expected back in Parliament in May 2021, with final Assent in January 2022
2. Secondary legislation will determine details such as the information required under the Golden Thread – expected in March 2022 – plus guidance
3. Construction Products Regulator to engage with industry and make decisions on product scope and policy details – not expected before January 2022
4. Lead-in time following legislation before new system begins to be enforced

This diagram gives an approximation of the relationships that will be established between manufacturers, regulators and other bodies when the new regime is implemented:



We now have confirmation of the new regulators:

- a. The [Building Safety Regulator](#) (overseeing the whole system) will be the Health and Safety Executive.
- b. The [Construction Products Safety Regulator](#) will be separate. This is being established under OPSS.
- c. Trading Standards will continue to work on product safety enforcement.
- d. MHCLG will continue to make key policy decisions and take Ministerial responsibility.

We continue to work with Government to understand the likely impact across the range of products within BEAMA's scope.

Before the consultation, we worked with members to agree an initial position on how 'safety-critical' members believed their products to be in the context of the Government's proposals. We will revisit this position and ensure that members remain happy with the initial positions when we have more clarity on the decision makers and processes for implementing these decisions; these are expected later in 2021.

We also have contacts in the MHCLG Policy Team, Golden Thread team and OPSS so will keep members fully aware of all the latest developments.

You can find a reminder of the major proposals and Government's response to the consultation [here](#), and a members' Q&A [here](#).

Heat & Energy in buildings

Future Buildings Standard consultation for England & BEAMA response

Status

On the 19th January MHCLG published the following for England:

1. Proposals for a **Future Buildings Standard** providing a pathway for highly efficient non-domestic buildings which are zero carbon ready, better for the environment and fit for the future.
3. Consultations on changes to Part L and Part F for **Non-domestic buildings**
4. Consultations on changes to Part L and Part F for **Existing dwellings**
5. Proposals to mitigate against **overheating** in residential buildings

The consultations close on 13th April. BEAMA has developed a draft response which you can find [here](#). Please send any comments to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk. You can find the consultation document and draft Approved Documents for reference [here](#).

The timings of the overall review programme for Building Regulations is as follows:

KEY:		Buildings Fit for the Future				
		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
New Homes	Included in previous consultation	Part L & F uplift				Future Homes Standard
	Included in this consultation	FEES ¹ Overheating				
Existing Homes		Part L & F uplift				
Existing Non-Domestic		Part L & F uplift				
New Non-domestic		Part L & F uplift				Future Buildings Standard

Government response to Future Homes Standard consultation

MHCLG has responded to its Future Homes Standard consultation, to which BEAMA provided a comprehensive response, announcing decisions on its policy proposals. You can find the documents [here](#). The majority of the consultation proposals have been taken forward.

Welsh Government has also published a similar response confirming the majority of its own proposals will be taken forward, and making these very similar to the Regulations for England – further details [here](#).

Government closes consumer Green Homes Grant to new applications from 31st March

BEIS has announced that the Green Homes Grant will not continue as planned from April 2021-March 2022. The funding pledged for 2021/22, in the region of £300m, will be given to supplement the Local Authority delivery programme and Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Demonstrator which opened at the same time as the consumer incentive scheme. Click [here](#) for more details.

BEAMA is [pushing for](#) a longer term support for low carbon heat and energy efficiency improvements.

Scotland's draft Heat in Buildings strategy & consultation

Scottish Government has issued a very interesting consultation on a draft Heat in Buildings strategy. It states: "the changes we need to see by 2045 must be delivered in the 2020s".

Click [here](#) for a BEAMA summary and response form covering:

- Targets and regulations
- Funding for work on existing buildings
- Comments on technologies
- Changes to EPCs
- Consumers, fuel poverty and prices
- Skills & supply chains
- Networks

Please send comments to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk by 26th April using the list of questions accessible [here](#).

EPC Action Plan

You can find the full EPC action plan and summary of responses [here](#), and the BEAMA summary of the documents [here](#).

The Action Plan is more a schedule of intentions and work than an announcement of confirmed policy changes. As such we will continue to engage with our contacts in MHCLG as they consider and implement changes to the EPC system and its applications.

Sustainable Warmth - a new fuel poverty strategy for England

Sustainable Warmth, the updated Fuel Poverty Strategy for England, sets out how Government will tackle fuel poverty, while at the same time decarbonising buildings.

The Government's updated fuel poverty strategy sets out some targets and commitments for addressing fuel poverty in England. These include:

- A Home Upgrade Grant focused on the worst performing off-gas grid homes
- The next iteration of the Energy Company Obligation, ECO4, will run from 2022-26 with an increase in funding from £640m to £1bn per year
- A new definition for fuel poverty

Click [here](#) for more.

Scotland's Housing to 2040 vision

Scottish Government has issued a vision document called 'Housing to 2040' which you can download [here](#). This sets out actions to improve Scotland's stock of new and existing homes. Recently Scotland has also issued consultations on zero direct emissions in new build homes and a plan for existing homes to have zero direct emissions heating when replacing a system. Click [here](#) for more.

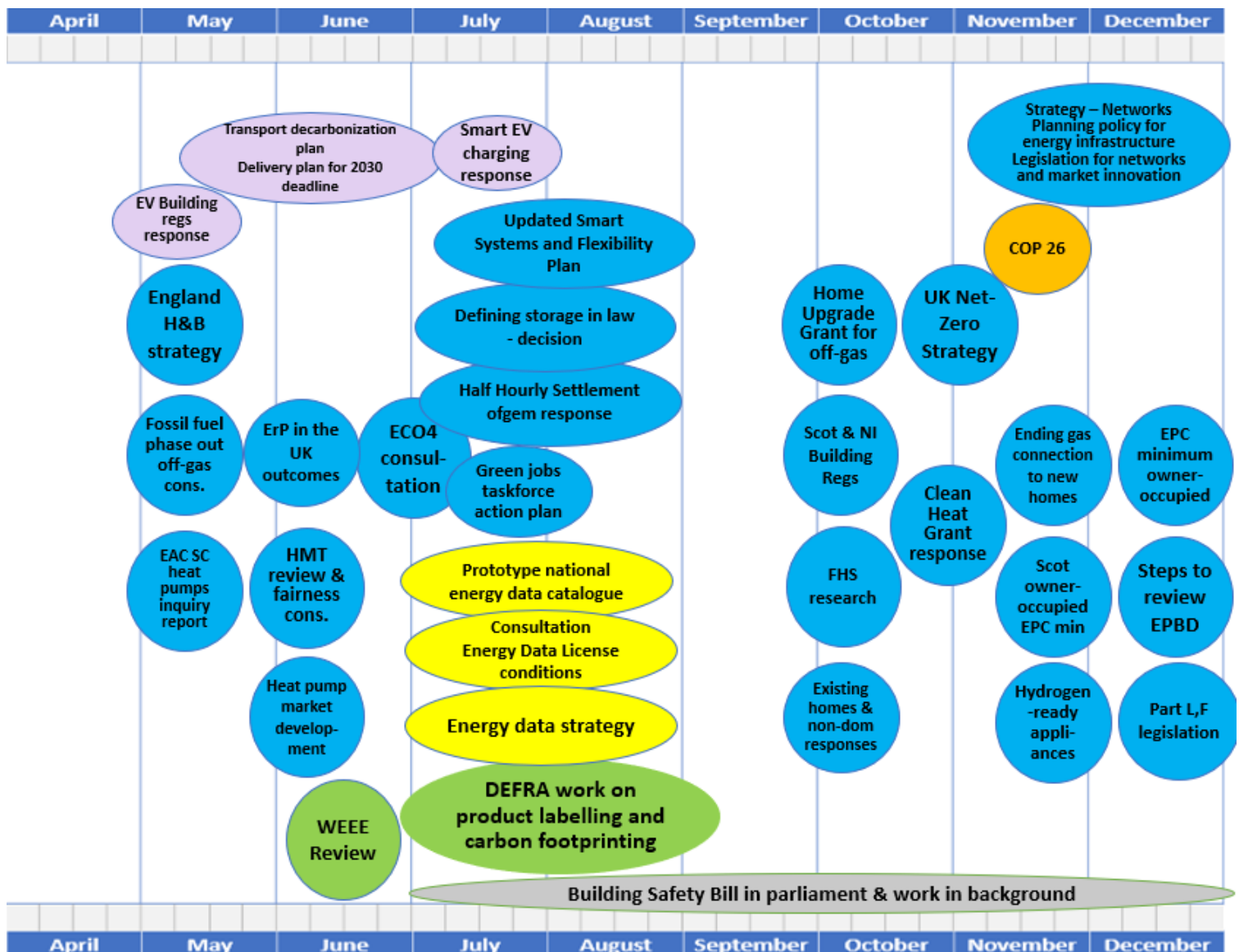
EU's Initial ideas for review of the EPBD

The EU Commission has published proposals in advance of a planned consultation on the review of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive that is due in Q2 2021. You can access the document [here](#). In the most ambitious option considered, the EPBD would make progress in its renovation wave. Click [here](#) for more details. Please send any initial comments to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk.

Policy Outlook

Here we have provided an outlook of major items we are expecting in what is expected to be a very busy year in terms of policy and regulatory changes across our industry. We have indicated where Government has stated to us when we should expect certain publications, but as ever these times are subject to change.

Estimated timeline for items pledged this year by Government



Blue = energy & heat. Green = environment. Grey = safety. Pink = transport. Yellow = data. Orange = events.

Consultation Tracker

Live consultations – priority consultations covered in more detail below

[Welsh Building Safety proposals](#) – deadline for comments 12th April; please send to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk or straight to Welsh Government [here](#).

[Future Buildings Standard](#) (Building Regs for non-domestic buildings and existing homes) – deadline for comments 12th April to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

[Scotland's draft Heat in Buildings Strategy](#) – deadline for comments 26th April to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

[Scotland's Skills needs for Net-zero](#) – deadline for comments 26th April to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

[Local Authorities' role in meeting net-zero](#) – deadline for comments 26th April to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

[Domestic RHI – ensuring a stable scheme before closure](#) – deadline for comments 30th April to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk and chris.stammers@beama.org.uk

[EU Sustainable Products Initiative](#) – Orgalim is asking for comments by mid-May – please send to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

[Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging](#) – deadline for comments 14th May to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

[Waste prevention strategy](#) – deadline for comments 14th May to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

[EPC Standards for rented non-domestic buildings](#) – deadline for comments 21st May to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

[Energy policy for large commercial buildings](#) – deadline for comments 21st May to simon.harpin@beama.org.uk

Closed consultations – recently responded to by BEAMA

[Ecodesign requirements for electronic displays \(UK\)](#) – implementing changes that the UK previously agreed to at EU level. We supported matching EU measures.

[EAC inquiry on heat pump barriers](#) – Select Committee inquiry resulting in a [letter to BEIS Ministers](#) urging longer term support. BEAMA CEO Howard Porter participated in a Committee session as a witness, fielding questions from MPs.

[BEIS Select Committee inquiry on decarbonising heat](#) – led to a [letter to BEIS Ministers](#) focusing on a critique of the Green Homes Grant.

[Improving the energy performance of Privately Rented Homes](#) – proposed that all PRHs would need to be EPC Band C by 2025 for new tenancies and by 2028 for all other PRHs.

[Scotland's initial proposals for zero direct emissions heating in new homes](#) – early stage consultation to inform more details on Scotland's version of the Future Homes Standard, which would launch in 2024.

[Welsh Building Regulations for non-domestic buildings and existing homes](#) – this consultation was more limited than the current consultation covering the same building types for England, focusing mainly on adherence to EPBD measures.