

The Chemical Compliance Team (CCT)

Our enforcement approach is intelligence-lead, utilising a variety of desk-top research methods to deliver compliance campaigns on specific chemicals.

Regulations we enforce

The CCT's regulatory remit covers:

- REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and restriction of Chemicals) Regulation 2006 and REACH Enforcement Regulations 2008;
- Environmental Protection (Disposal of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and other dangerous substances) England and Wales) Regulations 2000;
- Persistent Organic Pollutants Regulations 2007.

Campaign Format

Selection of priority chemicals is risk-based; seeking to address those which the Environment Agency deems to be of the most immediate concern. The aim of each campaign is to raise awareness of restrictions across industry sectors that are likely to be affected, and to undertake direct enforcement where risk-based targeting indicates potential for non-compliance.

Targeted companies are sent a campaign pack, which includes an Information Notice requiring them to provide details about their company's involvement with the chemical of concern. We aim to support businesses whilst maintaining the Environment Agency's regulatory responsibilities. We respond with proportionate enforcement action where non-compliance is identified, and co-ordinate our activities with area staff, site inspectors and other enforcing authorities.

In addition to the direct enforcement activity, our campaigns also utilise a variety of external communications routes to increase awareness of restrictions across the relevant industry audience.

Working together with stakeholders

The CCT's approach to enforcement adopts the Better Regulation principles - seeking to minimise undue burden on industry, focussing regulatory effort on high-risk areas and pursuing proportionate enforcement action where required. Industry associations and other stakeholders may be asked to provide us with advice and support when the team is preparing and publishing guidance – this means we can produce guidance that is fit for purpose and make sure it is delivered to the appropriate audiences within the supply-chain.

During the course of campaigns, the team can gather information about the use of chemicals or the activities of particular industry sectors. These findings can be shared with other authorities to help inform future policy development.

Further information

The CCT publishes an Annual Enforcement Report which is available for download from our website (www.environment-agency.gov.uk). To access the most recent report, and further information about the Environment Agency's role in REACH enforcement, go to our website and search for 'REACH'.

For information about Persistent Organic Pollutants, visit our website and search for 'POPs'.

If you have any questions about specific chemical restrictions, or general enquiries about the work of the Chemical Compliance Team, please contact us by e-mail:

chemicalrestrictions@environment-agency.gov.uk

The Chemical Compliance Team is part of the Waste and Industry Regulatory Service (WIRS). To contact the team by post, please write to:

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