

25 Year Environment Plan

Tuesday 20 February 2018

Welcome



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"The team breaks everything down to understandable but cutting edge advice."

(Chambers & Partners, 2017)



LEADING FIRM

**Environment -
ranked:**

Band 1

**Environment -
ranked:**

Tier 1



25 Year Environment Plan



A comprehensive and long term approach to maintaining, enhancing and restoring the natural environment over the next 25 years

Key policy points



A goal to eliminate avoidable plastic waste by the end of 2042



Extend the 5p carrier bag charge to all retailers in England



A new environmental watchdog to hold government to account



Focus on using resources efficiently – with a target to double resource productivity by 2050

Key policy points



Focus on air quality – including ending the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040



A plan for a new chemicals strategy



Increasing woodland in England with a target of 12 per cent cover by 2060 (planting 180,000 hectares by end of 2042)



Introducing a principle of “environmental net gain” into planning decisions

What has happened so far?

Chemicals

- EAC inquiry on the future of chemicals regulation (closed October 2017) - recommended convergence on chemical regulations between the EU and UK
- Government will develop:
 - an overarching strategy to address the safe use and management of chemicals
 - an early warning system
- Defra is spending [£5.8 million](#) on IT to enable registration and regulation of chemicals placed on the UK market (a contingency plan for no deal)



Have your say

- Environmental Audit Committee - Inquiry to examine key decisions around the Plan's overall ambition and approach (deadline **28 February 2018**)
 - Ambition and Reporting
 - Implementation
 - Principles and oversight
- Further consultations on a new statutory environmental body, and on single use plastics are planned for 2018

Key criticisms

Not backed
by legislation

Delivery
mechanisms
are too
vague and
lack detail

25 year
timescale is
too long

Plans to
tackle plastic
waste don't
go far
enough

Criticism

“Whilst I’m glad the government have responded to my call to maintain environmental standards post-Brexit, today’s plan lacks the commitments or the pace of action required to deliver its ambitions.”



Introducing the panel

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**Helen
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Thank you

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