10 things we have done for members in 2020



1

We secured 'Key Worker' status for the industry during the Covid-19 pandemic

ESA made formal representations to Government to ensure that waste collection and treatment workers were included on the list of key workers to enable them to continue performing their essential roles.



2

We challenged the Environment Agency to improve its Permitting Service

ESA showed that permitting delays were blocking industry investment and hindering the sector's important role in delivering a green recovery, leading to the EA directing significant additional resource to this vital function.



3

We established a Climate Change Working Group to drive the decarbonisation of our sector

ESA launched a Climate Change Working Group to develop a net-zero strategy that sets out the essential actions required to get the UK's resources and waste management to net-zero, ahead of COP 26.



4

We re-affirmed our commitment to health and safety

ESA launched a new Health & Safety Strategy setting out the Association's high level commitment to improve health and safety over the next five years, and established new working groups to take forward each of the Strategy's priorities.



5

We helped secure the continued recycling of IBAA in construction projects

With our IBA reprocessing members, ESA helped secure an extension to the Environment Agency's regulatory position statement enabling the ongoing reuse of IBAA in construction projects, as well as continuing to work to develop more appropriate regulation of the use of IBAA.



6

We raised awareness of the threats that Li-Ion batteries pose to the sector

ESA successfully launched the "Take Charge" campaign in a bid to tackle the growing number of fires caused by dead batteries which have been thrown away carelessly.



7

We published analysis showing flaws in assessments of the climate impacts of EfW in Scotland

We commissioned a short rebuttal paper and a more detailed review of the ZWS report on "The climate change impacts of burning municipal waste in Scotland", as well as raising the industry's concerns with the Scotlish Government.



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We worked with UK regulators to inform the implementation of the WI BREF

ESA worked with all the UK regulators to inform their position on how the Waste Incineration

BREF revision should be implemented in practice, highlighting its practicability for the EfW industry.



We demonstrated the value for money from outsourced municipal collections

ESA commissioned research which showed that outsourcing municipal collections leads to higher recycling rates and better value for money for councils than the in-house alternative.



We published our annual report showing the value of the sector in tough economic times

The report sets out the organisation's strategy for 2021 and beyond, while also reflecting on a pivotal year for the industry in 2019/20.

