

AIC Policy Report

January 2024



Working in support of
a modern, sustainable
commercial, agriculture

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Summary

- As anticipated, Q4 in 2023 saw significant political change. A Cabinet reshuffle took place in November which saw Steve Barclay MP as the newly appointed Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and outgoing Defra Secretary Thérèse Coffey MP resign and return to the backbenches of the House of Commons. AIC wrote to the new Secretary of State, outlining AIC priorities for 2024.
- In November 2023, the AIC's annual conference saw the launch of an independent report "Powering Productivity for Sustainable UK Food Security". The report covered many areas relating to agricultural productivity and recommended that a statutory body be set up to provide oversight of agricultural productivity and food security. The report and its driving message have been received positively by Defra Ministers and actively endorsed by other farming unions and political stakeholders who have also provided their support, notably Tim Farron MP, Defra lead for the Liberal Democrats and the Environmental Audit Committee.
- 2024 will be a busy political year, with a likely General Election taking place. This will no doubt see different political parties jockeying for policy positions, and AIC will be actively meeting and supporting them as they do this. Engagement with AIC Committees over Q4 2023 has shown three clear areas for AIC's lobbying work in 2024:
 1. Addressing divergence in policy and technical standards between GB and the EU;
 2. A considered Government approach to UK food security and land use (using the AIC report);
 3. A consistent approach to sustainability reporting and metrics.

1. Animal Feed

1.1 Current state of UK soya conversation and AIC verified deforestation and conversion free (vDCF) soya standard

AIC Soya Supply Group has responded to the re-stated UK Soya Manifesto Group position on vDCF soya. The Manifesto Group has confirmed that it will not endorse the AIC standard given its interpretation of mass balance and the demand that any form of mass balance is not acceptable from the beginning of 2025. AIC Soya Supply Group has indicated that mass balance remains an important chain of custody model in delivering the transition to vDCF soya through to the end of 2025 at least. The AIC Soya Supply Group has also indicated that it is not possible for importers to 'align' with EU Deforestation Regulation on the grounds that the full requirements of the Regulation remain unknown and implementation across the EU is likely to be variable.

AIC Soya Supply Group has requested that the AIC Soya Standard Working Group convene to discuss the future development of the AIC standard and to consider if it could be used by participants as a means of demonstrating compliance with the UK Forest Risk Commodity Regulations (due diligence) for soya.

1.2 Availability of Organic Soya Expeller

Prior to Christmas 2023, Defra granted derogations on a mill-by-mill basis to feed businesses affected by the short-term lack of availability of organically certified soya expeller following AIC's collaboration with organic certification bodies such as the Soil Association, Organic Farmers and Growers and Irish Organic Association.

The issue has arisen from international shipping lines to re-routing their vessels away from the Suez Canal in order to avoid the risk of attack. The result is that vessels which were due to arrive in UK over the period

between Christmas and the first week of January will not now arrive until the third week of January. Currently, the majority of organic soya expeller used in animal feed is sourced from China, which uses the Suez supply route.

Feed companies have been required to supply, via their certification bodies, detailed information to Defra to secure derogations to use, for a limited period, non-GM soya expeller in their feeds. Similar information has been provided to DAFM by those UK-based mills that supply organic producers in the Republic of Ireland. UK importers have indicated that supplies will return to near normal towards the end of January 2024.

1.3 Update on 'Due Diligence' legislation on forest risk commodities in the UK

In December, the Government provided a long-awaited update on the next steps of the UK's "due diligence" legislation in the UK. The Government has now committed to implementing legislation in 2024 and confirmed that soy, palm oil, cattle products (excluding dairy) and cocoa will be in scope.

The main details of the UK policy announcement are:

- regulating **four critical forest-risk commodities** initially: soy, palm oil, cocoa and relevant cattle products (excluding dairy)
- regulating all relevant organisations with a **global annual turnover of over £50 million**
- allowing exemptions for organisations that use **500 tonnes or less of each regulated commodity** in the reporting period
- giving industry organisations a **grace period** to prepare for regulation
- The regulator will work in close partnership with other agencies and Devolved Administrations, with the **power to impose fines** on organisations found to be in breach of the regulation.

This legislation will operate separately from the EU's deforestation legislation, however, AIC is mindful of how the two will interact, given interconnected EU and UK supply chains. UK proposals apply to all businesses in a supply chain handling specified products (subject to minimum turnover and tonnage of product), and EU proposals apply to those placing goods on the market only.

Whereas UK proposals are based upon the *legality* of commodities produced at source, EU proposals appear to require absence of association with 'legal' and 'illegal' deforestation. AIC will seek to provide a webinar in February explaining both UK and EU legislation and how they could interact.

2. Arable Marketing

2.1 Digital Passport for Combinable Crops (DP)

The Business Case for a Digital Passport (Combinable Crops), previously referred to as a Digital Grain Passport, has now been published. An industry-wide consultation on the Business Case will now run until 2 February 2024. AIC has worked with the industry to clarify the proposal, having collated and relayed a large number of questions from Members late last year. As part of the consultation phase, AHDB has provided AIC with answers to each of these Member questions.

The Business Case sets out how the Digital Passport (Combinable Crops) system would operate as an upgrade of the existing paper system, ensuring the continuation of feed and food safety. It also lays out the industry Leadership Group's proposals for a single universal digital passport system enhancing supply chain competitiveness by transforming data sharing between trading businesses and how this could be achieved as well as the benefits and costs of such a system. The system is expected to cost £500,000 to build. Annual running costs are estimated at £396,000 gross.

2.2 AHDB levy fee increase

AHDB has sought an increase in its levy, as outlined in prior policy reports. Following responses from members, AIC has stated that whilst a levy increase is understandable given no increase for some time, a clearer businesses case needs to be provided as to what the additional levy will support. The proposals, which were published by the Sector Councils in October, have now been put to Government Ministers and Devolved Administrations for them to make a decision, expected in the first quarter of 2024.

2.3 Renewable Energy Directive (RED) II

Since summer 2023, AIC has been working with other voluntary schemes, industry and the Government to resolve the potential loss of the UK's biofuels assurance status with the European Commission. Through liaison with voluntary schemes in other countries, it became apparent that all were experiencing difficulty in meeting the Commission's demands.

On 12 December, AIC and other voluntary schemes received a communication from the European Commission. This decision by the European Commission removes the potential for UK voluntary scheme recognition to be withdrawn in the near future, maintaining access to the EU market as a valuable outlet for biofuels under the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) II. AIC is yet to see the draft EU regulation so it is not immediately clear for how long the postponement of implementation of Article 11(1) of the Implementing Regulation on certification will be.

2.4 Footnote 1 regulation

AIC continues to engage with FEAC and COCERAL on Footnote Regulations. In late 2023, the European Commission has stated that it has allowed Member States to work on a guidance document to harmonise its use at an EU level, without banning it. The Netherlands is the candidate member state to start this process that will also cover risk assessment. AIC will continue to follow this in 2024.

3. Seeds

3.1 Seed Treatments

The Plant Protection Products (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2023 has completed the passage through the House of Commons and the House of Lords unamended. This means that the Statutory Instrument has been signed into law and entered into force on 31 December 2023. The legislation allows seeds treated with plant protection products authorised for use in an EU or EEA Member State to be imported, marketed and used in GB until 1 July 2027.

This gives much-needed reassurance to seed importers and distributors of seed that seed imported with a seed treatment (approved for use in an EU or EEA Member State) can be used in GB after 31 December 2023. The emergency authorisations (EAs) for the use of Korit, Redigo M and Force seed treatments on maize were approved for England, Scotland and Wales in the autumn. With the entry into force of the Plant Protection Products (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2023, Emergency Authorisations will not be required.

3.2 Spring oat derogation

Following requests from some Member companies, AIC has consulted Members on the possible need for spring oat seed derogation to meet market demand this coming season. Following this, a derogation request has been submitted to Defra. Subsequently, a derogation request has been submitted to Defra.

In order to assess the scale of the problem with the germination rates of spring seed, AIC asked Members to submit details to establish whether there is a requirement, with a view to making a possible case to Defra to apply for a derogation on behalf of the UK certified seed sector.

3.3 NI Windsor framework

The Northern Ireland Plant Health Label (NIPHL) scheme is now live, allowing Member businesses to move plants for planting (including seed), seed potatoes and used agricultural machinery. Members can find further information, including on how to get authorisation to issue a NIPHL on the related guidance pages of GOV.UK. Defra continues to run information and training sessions, including on how to create a general certificate and how to move plants.

4. Crop Protection and Agronomy

4.1 Publication of the National Action Plan (for the Sustainable Use of Pesticides)

The publication of the National Action Plan (NAP) has been delayed beyond the expected end of 2023 publication date due to the appointment of a new Secretary of State for Defra, who is reviewing the content. When the NAP is published (expected early 2024), AIC will pay keen attention to the measures for promoting and rolling out of IPM, supply of professional PPPs to non-professional users from internet websites and the development of the GB plant protection product (PPP) regime which AIC has been advised will go hand in hand with NAP content.

4.2 Withdrawal of EAMUs on major crops

CRD undertook a review of the Extension of Authorisation for Minor Uses (EAMU) database, identifying EAMUs issued for crops that fell outside of the UK's definition of a minor use. CRD advised stakeholders that these EAMUs would not be re-issued at product renewal. The process was not widely known by industry stakeholders and as many of the EAMUs expired in spring 2023, AIC alerted industry stakeholders to the changes in product use.

AIC Members were asked to identify where gaps for weed, pest and disease control would exist and contacted the various approval holders to understand if an on-label use of the product was planned or if the approval holder would be willing to support an Emergency Authorisation (EA) for that use. The most critical gap identified was the withdrawal of diflufenican and flufenacet mixes on winter oats for control of grass weeds. This meant that there was no product to control grass weeds in winter oats drilled in 2023.

AIC liaised with stakeholders to understand if an EAMU for a minor weed in oats was feasible, however decided that this was not a viable way forward. AIC is pleased to say that following meetings with Bayer Crop Science (the approval holder for a diflufenican and flufenacet mix) and CRD, Bayer is working to deliver a solution for grass weed control in winter oats for autumn 2024.

4.3 Renewal of approval of glyphosate in EU / NI

A vote at the [Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed](#) (SCoPAFF) Appeal Committee failed to reach a decision on whether to renew or reject the approval of glyphosate in the European Union. In line with EU legislation the Commission made a decision to renew the approval of glyphosate for 10 years. There are restrictions attached to the renewal of approval including the prohibition of pre-harvest use as a desiccant and the need for certain measures to protect non-target organisms.

Member States are responsible for national authorisation of plant protection products (PPPs) containing glyphosate and have autonomy to restrict PPP use at national and regional levels if they consider this

necessary based on the outcome of risk assessments, particularly factoring in the need to protect biodiversity. This decision applied to Northern Ireland, however the GB expiry of approval of glyphosate is 15 December 2025.

5. Fertilisers

5.1 Urea

The deadline for the abatement of urea fertilisers arrives in April 2024. AIC Members, with other industry participants, have recently completed a national audit conducted by Defra to determine the level of the existing market by the industry for abated urea fertilisers. Despite a doubling of the amount of solid urea being delivered due to the availability issues associated with the nitrogen market, abated sales by AIC Members are ahead of any imposition of the requirement to use inhibitors, representing 33% of the total AIC market.

5.2 Production

Gas prices remain unstable and volatility and high costs relative to elsewhere in the world are making ongoing production of nitrogen fertilisers in the European theatre challenging. Several major manufacturers have posted large losses and the market continues to turn to imported ammonia as a feedstock, particularly from the US where capacity is being rapidly expanded to provide Blue Ammonia (made by Carbon Capture and Storage – CCS) from natural gas feed stock). It is anticipated that the market globally will focus on continued manufacture of nitrogen fertilisers from natural gas in the medium term, with CCS ammonia becoming the feedstock of choice in Europe, until such time as cheap green energy becomes available.

5.3 Regulation

The Government's intention to consult on a new fertiliser regulation has (again) been postponed and is now anticipated in Q1 of 2024. The fertiliser sector has formed a sector expert working group to formulate and make recommendations for a strategy and technical input into any forthcoming consultation and has provisionally agreed with Defra officials to meet and workshop the output as an initial drafting exercise for the mineral fertiliser part of any new regulation.

5.4 Trade

According to Eurostat, in the last six months, the EU imported over 7.8 thousand tonnes of urea from Belarus, worth €3.7 million. Eurostat are unsighted to how much was exported from Grodno Azot, the Belarusian sanctioned manufacturer.

5.5 Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)

The Treasury announced a UK Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (UK-CBAM) on 18 December, confirming that fertilisers will be in scope. A levy will have to be paid by 2027 for products (exact list to be defined) imported into the UK with a lower or no carbon price. The design and delivery of UK-CBAM will be subject to further consultation in 2024, including the precise list of products in scope.

6. AIC Scotland

6.1 Agricultural Policy

The Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill has now been laid before the Scottish Parliament. Initial legislative scrutiny by the Rural Affairs & Islands committee has commenced with a call for views to which AIC has submitted a response. Along with other key stakeholders such as NFUS, AIC has cautiously welcomed the Bill noting the pros and cons associated with this framework piece of legislation. AIC has noted the need for further detail on the associated secondary legislation which will contain the detail of proposed support schemes which is needed to enable AIC Members to understand the opportunities and threats which the new support regime may create. Importantly the legislation includes a requirement to publish a 5 year 'Rural Support Plan' setting out support and spending priorities, this longer-term approach is welcomed.

6.2 Net Zero

As set out in the programme for Government, it is anticipated that an updated climate change plan will be published by the end of 2023. For agriculture, there is currently a target of 30% reduction in emissions by 2032. The Government is also consulting on [establishing a range of nature recovery targets](#) which may be contained within the proposed natural environment bill. Proposals include a target of 30% of Scottish land with protected status by 2030. AIC has through the Scottish Red Meat Resilience group submitted a response to this on behalf of the livestock sector and associated supply chains.

6.3 Fertiliser

The work on the development of a voluntary code of best practice to reduce ammonia emissions from agriculture continues. The most recent chapter focusses on inorganic fertilisers. AIC has provided feedback in a number of areas of importance to the fertiliser sector. Once finalised the voluntary code chapters will be hosted on the [Farming and Water Scotland website](#).

6.4 Pesticides/VI

The most recent meeting of the Pesticide Stakeholder Group was held on 8 November, this continues to be a useful forum to raise industry concerns with Scottish officials and is attended by the Minister with portfolio responsibility (Lorna Slater MSP). The group discussed the Plant Health Centre [report on the impact of insecticide withdrawals](#).

6.5 Precision breeding

The Scottish Government position on precision breeding technology remains unchanged. However, there is a recognition of the direction of travel in terms of EU policy and the implications of this given the Scottish Government policy of dynamic EU alignment. Therefore, the Government may change policy positioning and reconsider opposition to GE, but for the current administration any change is unlikely to occur during this parliamentary term which runs until May 2026. AIC continues to highlight the positive sustainability and productivity benefits for Scottish agriculture whilst also highlighting Member concerns on disruption to trade flows which would result from a policy divergence in this area.

6.6 Key Trends in Scottish Agriculture.

The latest Scottish agricultural census has been published by the Scottish Government, giving a comprehensive breakdown of key trends across the agricultural industry, providing an invaluable source of information for Members, [full details can be found here](#).

6.7 Political Engagement

AIC continues to have good levels of engagement with Scottish politicians. Cabinet Secretary Mairi Gougeon along with senior officials attended the AIC Conference in Peterborough in November, where the Minister gave an overview of Scottish agricultural policy and fielded questions on key topics including precision breeding. Key politicians and ministers across the political spectrum, at both Holyrood and Westminster have been circulated copies of the updated briefing on gene editing and the development of associated regulation in England, going forward this will be the basis of further policy work to try and move the debate forward in Scotland.

7. AIC Cymru

7.1 Development of AIC Cymru

Dates for AIC Cymru meetings are all set for 2024. To keep the momentum again four meetings are planned. The first will be in January 2024 where we will discuss the addition of two more committee Members.

7.2 Wales Future Policy

The final consultation on the Sustainable Farming Scheme SFS was released in December. Despite no financial details, the expectation of universal actions, first rollout phase, of which 17 are identified are clear in terms of expectation and timelines will be set. The 10% tree cover requirement remains but is amended regarding the area of the farm unit not included in the baseline calculation and the timeline to achieve the 10% tree cover is extended to 2030. What is also clear is that it is the aim of Welsh Government is to get as many entrants into the scheme as quickly as possible using a single-entry application form and a self-assessment process.

A transitional payment scheme from 2025 – 2029 is confirmed. With no payment details. Nevertheless, the intention is welcomed by the industry. Those who enter the SFS programme must abide by the scheme rules. Those who remain initially with a presumed declining BPS (Basic Payment Scheme) payment have to remain with Cross Compliance rules. The SFS has a strong element of training and continuous development.

Regarding budget, the current Welsh Government budgetary financial challenges has resulted in an announcement of a 10.5% reduction in the rural affairs budget. Where these reductions will land are yet not clear. At the same time, it was announced that the BPS payments for **only 2024** would remain unchanged at 100% of the pre-Brexit level at £238m. This is welcome news for known financial planning as Welsh farmers move rapidly to a new SFS policy environment.

8. Northern Ireland

8.1 Ammonia

The NI Environment Agency recently issued a statement confirming they will no longer use the published Ammonia Standing Advice as the basis for statutory advice on planning applications and will instead provide site-specific advice, until a new ammonia strategy and updated standing advice have been agreed and are in place. NIGTA supported the industry response to the Call for Evidence on the Operational Protocol to assess ammonia at the end of October. There has been no indication from DAERA how long it will take them to review the CFE responses or follow up on the Draft Ammonia Strategy consultation which closed in March. NIGTA has also been supporting an Economic Impact Assessment of the CFE proposals which is due to be completed soon and will be submitted to DAERA.

8.2 Carbon Steering Group

The Department of Finance has approved the business case, and a public procurement exercise is to be carried out to determine which calculator will be used.

8.3 College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) dairy sector advice

CAFRE organised a webinar with a bank representative for NIGTA Members in October to outline measures to alleviate financial pressures in the dairy sector, which was followed up with two farmer events. Future farmer focused webinars are planned for January. NIGTA's November Feed Forum article focused on the importance of cash flow planning.

8.4 Dairy Demonstrator

DAERA's eagerly anticipated Livestock Dietary Emission Challenge Fund is on hold with the recent launch of DEFRA's Dairy Demonstrator, which contains a specific NI component. NIGTA is continuing to liaise with the Dairy Council for NI and AFBI on this project.

8.5 Winter Fair

NIGTA was delighted to have the support of AIC at this year's Winter Fair with a stand promoting the benefits and activities of FAR to attending Members and industry stakeholders. NIGTA sits on the steering group of the NI Agri-Rural Health Forum and was pleased to support its launch of a campaign encouraging farmers to get their blood pressure checked at the Winter Fair with Members displaying the information leaflets on their stands.

9. Cross Sector Policy

9.1 Political Update

As anticipated, Q4 in 2023 saw significant political change. Mostly notably, a Cabinet reshuffle took place in November which saw Steve Barclay MP as the newly appointed Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and outgoing Defra Secretary Thérèse Coffey MP resign and return to the backbenches of the House of Commons. AIC wrote to the new Secretary of State, outlining AIC priorities for 2024. In addition, Trudy Harrison MP stepped down as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, replaced by Robbie Moore MP. Mr Moore is a Nuffield scholar and has a strong agricultural background. The Rt Hon. The Lord Douglas-Miller was also appointed as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare. The Rt Hon. Mark Spencer MP (Minister of State for Food, Farming and Fisheries), The Rt Hon. The Lord Benyon PC (Minister of State for Climate, Environment and Energy) and Rebecca Pow MP (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Nature) retained their roles and make up the rest of the Defra Ministerial team.

9.2 Trade

Government policy has started to shift away from signing new 'out and out' Free Trade Agreements and instead has pivoted to improve existing trade agreements with other countries. Priority has been placed on bilateral trade agreements with Egypt, Morocco and Turkey, and AIC received considerable feedback from Members on existing barriers to trade and existing trade flows that are valued.

In November, AIC was asked provide evidence to the [EFRA Select Committee on UK trade policy](#) in relation to agricultural goods. AIC's Robert Sheasby outlined to the committee the importance of better data from HMRC,

further investment in UK trade representatives around the world, the importance of developing a trade strategy in parallel with industry and joining it together with a land use strategy.

9.3 Food Security and AIC report

In November, at the AIC's annual conference, AIC announced the launch and publication of an independent report "[Powering Productivity for Sustainable UK Food Security](#)". The report covered several areas relating to agricultural productivity and recommended that a statutory body be set up to provide oversight of agricultural productivity and food security. Commissioned by AIC on its 20th anniversary, the report was independently written by Dr Marcus Bellett-Travers of Anglia Ruskin University. The report, and its driving message has been received positively by Defra Ministers and actively endorsed by other farming unions. Political stakeholders have also provided their support, notably Tim Farron MP, Defra lead for the Liberal Democrats and the [Environmental Audit Committee](#). AIC will continue to promote the report in 2024 as part of our political engagement.

9.4 Defra Land Use Strategy

The publication of Defra's much anticipated Land Use Framework had been expected before the end of 2023 to meet the Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 commitments. Publication has been delayed due to the appointment of the new Secretary of State, and AIC will continue to lobby on.

9.5 Precision Breeding Act (Gene Editing) and FSA consultation

In November, FSA released its consultation on implementing gene editing (precision-bred organisms, PBOs) in England. The consultation effectively addresses the practical measures required to implement the Act, with FSA recommending a move away from the lengthy regulated products process currently applied to GMOs, opting instead for a more streamlined process. The consultation closed in early January and Members have been encouraged to respond. [AIC has produced a detailed Member briefing on the wider policy issues, EU approaches and outstanding challenges, which can be found here.](#)

9.6 Government Red Tape Review

In late 2023, Government ran a review into all regulators across the country, seeking to ensure regulators are working efficiently and delivering on reforms needed to help grow the economy. The call for evidence sought views of businesses, to establish areas that are working well as well as where regulators could improve. AIC produced a questionnaire to help inform a response to the review, which received a good response. Given the responses to the questionnaire, AIC will also use it to help inform longer term lobbying work.

9.7 Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) 2023 and Wider ELMS Involvement including Test and Trial

The Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) 2023 launched back in the summer with 32 new actions that farmers could be paid for undertaking, including soils, IPM, nutrient management, improved and low input grassland, and hedgerows. Having opened the application window with a controlled rollout requiring farmers to make expressions of interest, this has now been lifted for all but those farming on Common Land. In the region of 2,500 agreements are now live with approximately 250 applications being received each week.

AIC understands that the promised Autumn announcement regarding the 2024 iteration of SFI has been delayed and will likely now be made in early January 2024. AIC involvement with the development of future actions to be included within the scheme is ongoing, including those around No Till, Grasslands and Precision Farming. AIC has submitted an expression of interest to undertake a further Test and Trial to assist Defra in answering Policy Questions where they have identified a gap in their knowledge; in this instance "What do farmers look for to identify quality advice?" and "What considerations are there around farmers accessing chargeable advice?"

9.8 Sustainability Self-Assessment Framework and Introduction to Sustainability for the Agri-Supply Industry training

Despite enthusiasm and interest being shown in the Sustainability Self-Assessment Framework at all Committee meetings, registration and completion rates remain low with 9 Members registered, 2 completed, 6 in progress, 1 not started. Feedback will be sought at the Sustainability Liaison Group meeting at the end of January with a view to identifying options for increasing uptake.

9.9 Food Data Transparency Partnership (FDTP)

AIC continues to contribute to the Eco Working Group and Data Task and Finish Group through Angela Gibson and Nick Major respectively. Discussions are ongoing between those representing the farming and agri-supply industries due to concerns the scope and timescales are being too heavily influenced by the retailers. The Defra team is taking feedback on board with an initial roadmap being published in early 2024.

9.10 EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)

The European Union has introduced a new sustainability reporting framework to support the EU's Green Deal to deliver net-zero emissions by 2050. The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) replaces the Non-Financial Reporting Directive (NFRD). It covers businesses who reported under NFRD, and will expand over 5 years to eventually cover eligible non-EU companies who will be required to report from 2029 for the fiscal year starting on or after 1st January 2028. To meet the non-EU eligibility criteria companies must have a net revenue of at least €150m annually in the EU and/or: at least one subsidiary in the EU and greater than €40m in net revenue or at least one subsidiary that is a large company or listed SME. It is expected that around 1000 UK businesses will be in scope.

ENDS.

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