

# Legislation Outlook

November 2019

This monthly legislation briefing is a **supplement** to your Activ Comply service to help you to **plan ahead** for maintenance of your ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001/ISO 45001, ISO 50001 and ISO 27001 systems. In addition to giving you advance warning about important legislation that will affect your compliance with the standards, we'll provide news, newly-published guidance and government consultations that you might find useful, as well as any other significant legislation beyond the scope of the standards listed that we think may have an impact on your organisation. Unlike other services, we only report items of value: we don't waste your time on items such as an increase in administrative fees or changes that only affect enforcement agencies.

When legislative changes are announced with short notice (<1 month) they are not reported here. All changes are automatically delivered direct into your [Activ Comply](#) system as they come into effect so you can be confident that you are always 100% up to date.

In spite of consuming most of the government's time in October, Brexit has once again been deferred. We can expect little in the way of non-Brexit related legislation until the stalemate is resolved.

We stand ready to provide guidance on the legislative impacts of Brexit as soon as there is certainty.

## Upcoming Standard-Related Legislation

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There was no relevant standard-related legislation announced in October with an effective date of November onwards.

At Activ Comply we have been preparing for the anticipated surge in legislation associated with Brexit ever since Article 50 was triggered two and a half years ago. We are resourced and ready to analyse the increased volume of new legislation quickly to ensure that Activ Comply remains fully up-to-date at all times. As ever, your Activ Comply system will filter out all the noise and highlight only the specific changes that are relevant to your organisation. All you need to do to stay current is run a new legal compliance questionnaire; all relevant updates are delivered automatically.

**Remember: short-notice changes to legislation are not reported in this briefing; all changes are delivered direct into your Activ Comply system as they come into effect.**

### News

#### New Environment Bill Published

The UK government has introduced a new [Environment Bill](#) to provide a legal framework for environmental governance once the UK leaves the EU and make improvements to the environment, including measures on waste and resource efficiency, air quality and environmental recall, water, nature and biodiversity, and conservation covenants. The Bill also creates a new public body, the Office for Environmental Protection (OEP), the regulator responsible for taking action in relation to breaches of environmental law. However, the Bill has attracted criticism for not granting the OEP powers to fine the government for missing environmental targets.

### Guidance

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#### COSHH

The HSE has released a new [COSHH poster](#) highlighting best practice for handling chemicals and providing information on the hazardous signs found on chemical containers. Text is intentionally minimal, with illustrations being used to highlight how to safely store chemicals, how to use chemicals safely and how to protect access to chemicals by vulnerable people.

## Consultations

### Upper Limb Disorders

The HSE is seeking views on the updated guidance in its leaflet 'Managing upper limb disorders in the workplace: A brief guide (INDG171)' The revised leaflet now includes a simple filter to help you identify low-risk tasks which do not need further assessment. If you would like to take part in the consultation, you will need to email [MSDPPP@hse.gov.uk](mailto:MSDPPP@hse.gov.uk). The HSE will then send you a copy of the revised leaflet, along with a short questionnaire which needs to be returned by 25 November 2019.

### Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland

The Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs has launched a [consultation](#) seeking views in relation to whether the draft Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland will fulfil Northern Ireland's obligations under the Waste Framework Directive.

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