



What we have done for our members

Reducing regulation

We have:

- **Worked closely** with the Environment Agency and WRAP to revise PAS 100 and the Quality Protocol and develop the recently released PAS 110, the British Standards Institution's publically available specification for '*Whole digestate, separated liquor and separated fibre derived from the anaerobic digestion of source-segregated biodegradable materials*'
- **Sought to influence** the sector regulators, (primarily the Environment Agency and Animal Health) through dialogue to ensure proportionate and fair regulation of the bio-waste sector.
- **Placed** concerted pressure on Defra and the Environment Agency, in order that the use of 'shred and spread' as a means of treating organic wastes has been significantly reduced.
- **Working closely** with local authorities to reduce the level of contaminants received by biowaste facilities

Informing members

We have:

- **Organised a popular series of regional fora** which aim to disseminate information on developments in composting, anaerobic digestion and other biological treatment technologies and to give members a chance to engage with the Association on a local and personal basis
- **Run a recent study tour to Europe** which have enabled members to learn about leading-edge technology and to see for themselves how some of these technologies and ideas may be beneficial to the UK industry
- **Provided unparalleled networking** opportunities for members at our seminars and the newly revamped one day annual conference and exhibition
- **Kept you up to date** with the latest development affecting you via our quarterly journal, *Organics Recycling*, our regular fortnightly e-mails and our website (www.organics-recycling.org.uk)
- **Provided more than 400 hours of technical assistance** to members via our telephone helpline and responded to all enquiries within 24 hrs.
- **The production of the 2011/12 Member's Directory** which we distribute widely to third parties at events and conferences
- **Our website** provides a great deal of useful information with a bespoke members area where a range of technical information can be sourced
- **Launched** a home compostable certification scheme for the UK, in partnership with AIB-Vinçotte International S.A, which is aligned to their 'Program OK 2' criteria for home compostable packaging and plastics

Representing our industry

We have:

- **Met with MPs** to discuss the most concerning issues facing our industry currently and secured Lord Henley to speak at our 2011 Conference as key note speaker

- **Organised meetings and a round table dinner** with a number of constituency MPs in Whitehall to explain key industry problems so that they have a clearer understanding of the issues that the industry faces.
- **Helped to reduce the regulatory burden** on producers by working closely with stakeholders such as Defra, Animal Health and the Environment Agency
- Held bi-monthly meetings with the Environment Agency specifically to address issues of concern
- **Responded** on behalf of our members to numerous Government consultations such as the Environmental Permitting Programme (EPP), use of Compost Like Outputs (CLOs), the Standard Permit Review, Revision of the Quality Protocol for Compost, to name a few.
- **Representing** AfOR's views at a European level in respect to the revision of the Revised Waste Framework Directive and EU policy which has a direct influence at a National level. More recently we have been involved in End of Waste discussions in Brussels.
- **Promoting** Health and Safety through AfOR's working group. This group discusses relevant H&S issues of concern such as bioaerosols and this year we ran another successful H&S open day at a member's site.
- **Developed** a Special Interest Group looking specifically at contamination issues within feedstocks and issued two 'Call for Action' papers clarifying the key issues for industry, local authorities and the regulator. In addition we helped in the design of a flyer for use by local authorities who are stopping cardboard and paper collections co-mingled with green waste to distribute to householders.

Expanding member benefits

In addition, the Association has worked hard to expand the range of the benefits it provides to members. The most recent additions include agreements arranged with third-party providers Ellis Whittam to supply health and safety, legal and insurance services and healthcare cover to members at a discounted rate.



Nviro Insurance – our recommended Insurance Broker for members has a unique service proposition as the company spends 100% of its time, placing and servicing commercial insurances for business and organisations involved in the Renewable Energy, Recycling and Environmental sectors. Operating from its Midlands base, Nviro covers the whole of the UK and enjoys a good working relationship with all the major insurers which are active in these sectors. Nviro may be contacted at: www.nviroinsurance.co.uk by telephone: 01782 712224 or by email: enquires@nviroinsurance.co.uk



Westfield Health, provide this comprehensive healthcare service for employees through a recently launched scheme. www.westfieldhealth.com This scheme is designed to serve as an effective absence and risk management tool by providing money towards routine healthcare and access to valuable services to encourage proactive employee health.



ELLISWHITTAM

Ellis Whittam specialise in providing high quality Employment Law, HR and Health & Safety services to employers. They provide unlimited support for a fixed fee, delivered only by qualified professionals, who handle any query no matter how big or small and no matter how long it takes to resolve. Clients are given a named, single point of contact. The service operates 24/7 and they take care of all your documentation, handbooks and policies. For health and safety they act as your Competent Person and perform your General Risk Assessment. They also offer innovative health and safety e-learning.

Contact Jane Cuffin on 01244 687 240, email janecuffin@elliswhittam.com and quote Organics Recycling. www.elliswhittam.com

2011/12 activities

The Association for Organics Recycling exists for the benefit of its members. We aim to help you in many different ways. For example, Organics Recycling, the Association's flagship publication, is widely read by members and key stakeholders alike. Your membership gives you a direct outlet for news releases or case studies that you might like to publicise. We would be delighted to hear from you and to discuss any successes or future plans you might want to share with the readership. We can be contacted at Jeremy@organics-recycling.org.uk

We have been involved in the development of the Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Framework. This work involves a collaborative approach with Government and relevant third parties to place AD in context to the wider spectrum of waste management technologies.

AfOR has recently released a new Home Compostable Certification Scheme in collaboration with Vincotte, this scheme in addition to the current EN 13432 scheme which AfOR manages, will allow materials that meet the required criteria to be composted in home composting bins.

I hope that this gives you a flavour of some of the work we have undertaken over the last twelve months. If there is anything you would like to discuss with us regarding your membership or any way in which we can assist you, please do not hesitate to contact us

Thank you for your continued support

This is a list of some of the working groups in which we are involved:

Title	Attending	Frequency
SORP TEAG –Sustainable Organic Resources Partnership (Technical Expert Advisory Group)	KZ	Quarterly
AfOR Certification Scheme TAG	KZ, EN, JJ	Quarterly
CIWM BioSIG	KZ	Quarterly
BSI MI/2 Biobased products	GT	Quarterly
WISH- H&S	JJ	Quarterly
WRAP SSG – Biofertiliser matrix	KZ	As required

<i>& Digestate trials</i>		
Oxo biodegradable BSI group	EN	As required
UKRPG- Renewable / Recyclable Packaging (including ' <i>Compostable</i> ' packaging)	GT	Quarterly
Biofertiliser Certification Scheme - <i>Oversight Panel</i>	EN	Quarterly
PAS 111 TAG & Wood QP – <i>Waste Wood</i>	EN / JJ	Was bi-monthly
AfOR H&S Group	JJ	Quarterly
AfOR Feedstock Contamination SIG	JJ & KZ	Quarterly
EA SIG new feedstocks to composting, AD & biological treatment	JJ / KZ	Quarterly
BIO GROUP (CLOs)	JJ	Intermittent
European EoW Technical Advisory Group	EN	Bi-annually + correspondence
ECN working groups	KZ – Groups other than policy EN – Policy Working Group	Quarterly
AD framework	Directors / JJ	According to topic
RTAB – <i>Regional technical Advisory Board, Eastern</i>	JJ	Quarterly
Waste Protocols Advisory Board	JJ	Quarterly
EA/AfOR update meeting	JJ/EN/KZ	Bi-Monthly

Key:

JJ - Jeremy Jacobs

EN - Emily Nichols

KZ - Kiara Zennaro

GT - Gordon Thompson