



## Latest updates from CCS

### Research Hub

We are in the process of setting up a Research HUB. The objectives of the HUB are to ensure the Schemes' documents remain up-to-date with the technical developments in the industry and to fund/support R&D projects. To revise/update the Compost Certification Scheme and Biofertiliser Certification Scheme documents (e.g. test methods), we need evidence from R&D projects to support the changes and funds to support the projects. A mechanism for achieving this is to charge operators an annual Research Fee based on input/throughput tpa. When we presented our proposals at the recent Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting, the initiative was widely supported and the proposed fees were considered reasonable. We will provide more information about the Research HUB on our website and to operators soon. However, please don't hesitate to let us know if you have any questions.

### Survey on compostable products

We have recently received a number of enquiries from suppliers of certified compostable products regarding which compost facilities will accept their products for processing. They are experiencing difficulty finding composters who will accept this as feedstock. Furthermore, the end users of their products are enquiring where it will be composted. We have devised a short survey for composters (10 predominantly multiple choice questions) to help us facilitate a discussion. We would be very grateful if you could take a few minutes to fill out the survey which can be accessed [here](#).

### PAS 100 requirements - audits and renewals

We have been made aware that some producers might be misinterpreting the requirements with regard to the number of representative samples taken and test results obtained prior to renewal. Over a given certification year, producers will need to have taken a certain number of representative samples in accordance with Table 2 (after validation) of PAS 100. However, they do not need to have achieved a certain number of passes prior to their renewal. If a sample(s) fail prior to renewal audit, producers will need to take action in response to this failure, investigate the cause(s) of the failure(s) and take further samples or if there are no batches ready to sample then producers must plan to take them.

### PAS 100 requirements - notifying CBs

At our last TAC meeting, we discussed the issues associated with producers deciding not to renew their certificate long in advance of their certificate expiry but continuing to produce certified compost. Please be advised that you should contact your certification body immediately to inform them that you will not be renewing your certificate in advance of the certificate expiry. This will ensure that the production of certified compost going forward is taken into consideration. We will consider other ways of addressing these potential issues but please ensure that the certification bodies are informed.

### Minutes from TAC

We have published the minutes from the last TAC meeting on our website [here](#). This meeting was well-attended and provided a platform for a wide range of discussions about compost, including on ash dieback disease. We will continue to address the key actions over the coming months and engage with

different stakeholder groups on projects including setting up and managing the Research HUB.

Thank you all.