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## Latest Update on the CCS

- **CCS Producers' Forum**
- **Reminder for SQCS Workshop**
- **REA's ORG Conference**

### CCS Producers' Forum

The next meeting of the CCS Producers' Forum is being held on the **4th of May from 12-3pm**. This meeting will be held in person at The Trinity Centre in Cambridge, but with an option to join virtually to allow as many producers to attend as possible. The address for the venue is The Trinity Centre, 24 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 0FN and lunch will be served. The minutes from the previous meeting can be found on our website [here](#).

If you are interested in attending the Forum, you can register interest and confirm attendance by contacting Emma Laws at [emma@realschemes.org.uk](mailto:emma@realschemes.org.uk). Please also inform us should you have any dietary requirements. If you are not able to attend this meeting but you would like to have an issue raised on your behalf, please contact Gregor Keenan, the CCS Producers' Representative, using [gregor@keenanrecycling.co.uk](mailto:gregor@keenanrecycling.co.uk).

The Forum consists of representatives of compost producers who are either certified or working towards certification under the Scheme. The Forum provides producers with the opportunity to raise and discuss issues they may be experiencing in relation to certification under the Scheme and where appropriate other issues that may impact on the Scheme as a whole. We welcome as many producers as possible and no matter the scale of operation or production, all views are considered and given equal weighting.

A few words from Georgina Smith, a producer and regular attendee of the forums:

*"When possible, we attend the producer forums. The meetings offer useful interaction with not only other producers on the scheme but producers who are members of the REA, and the REAL CCS team. The agenda items are discussed with timely consideration, and you are given the opportunity to express your views. The virtual forums have been easy to access and have saved a journey away from the office. Interaction with other producers and professionals allows further understanding of the waste industry and the realisation that others may have similar experiences or issues is reassuring!"*

A few words from Scottish producer and CCS Producers' Representative, Gregor Keenan:

*"The Producers' Forum is a great opportunity to meet other PAS 100 producers, discuss issues as well as keeping up to speed with scheme rules and developments. Meetings are relatively informal and are intended to not only inform producers but also to gather feedback on the scheme. Although most producers are very busy it is worth taking a bit of time out to learn more about the scheme that is so important to our industry. REAL provide information regarding the scheme and are on hand to answer producers' questions. This interaction is invaluable and can help producers gain a deeper understanding of PAS 100 requirements which will benefit day-to-day operations and potentially reduce the likelihood of non-conformances at annual audit."*

### Reminder for SQCS Workshop

We are holding our next workshop on the Safety and Quality Control System (SQCS) requirements in PAS 100:2018 next Thursday on **24th March 2022 at 9:30 am to 12 pm**.

The SQCS workshops provides a platform for discussion around the implementation of the SQCS and compliance with HACCP requirements, comprised of interactive sessions and individual exercises. They are held by REAL and delivered online by a HACCP expert.

The price per individual is £50 + VAT and there is limit on capacity to ensure effective discussion. We still have a few places available. If you would like to attend or find out more information, please email Emma at

emma@realschemes.org.uk before close of play this Friday, the 18th of March.

### REA's ORG Conference

The REA are hosting their next organics recycling conference, exhibition, and dinner on the **31st of March**, celebrating their 25th anniversary.

This year's event offers an opportunity to get up to speed with changes, challenges, and opportunities, in the sector, including the Government's Waste and Resource Strategy which will introduce requirements for all food and garden waste to be separately collected, as well as a wide range of regulatory changes such as the new Farming Rules for Water and the Quality Protocol.

REAL will be attending and we are looking forward to seeing people in person again!

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