

Greenwashing: CMA puts businesses on notice

- “Green Claims Code” is published today to help businesses comply with the law.
- CMA to carry out a full review of misleading green claims early next year and stands ready to take action against offending firms.

To help businesses understand how to communicate their green credentials while reducing the risk of misleading shoppers, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has published the Green Claims Code. This focuses on 6 principles which are based on existing consumer law. It is clear that firms making green claims “must not omit or hide important information” and “must consider the full life cycle of the product”.

The Code is part of a wider [awareness campaign](#) which the CMA has launched today ahead of COP26.

The CMA is concerned about people being misled by environmental claims and also wants to ensure that businesses feel confident navigating the law in this area.

Following an initial bedding-in period, the CMA will carry out a full review of misleading green claims, both on and offline (e.g. claims made in store or on labelling), at the start of 2022.

The CMA will prioritise which sectors to review in the coming months, which could include industries where consumers appear most concerned about misleading claims – textiles and fashion, travel and transport, and fast-moving consumer goods (food and beverages, beauty products and cleaning products). However, any sector where the CMA finds significant concerns could become a priority.

Where there is clear evidence of breaches of consumer law, the CMA may also take action before the formal review begins.

Andrea Coscelli, Chief Executive of the CMA, said:

“More people than ever are considering the environmental impact of a product before parting with their hard-earned money. We’re concerned that too many businesses are falsely taking credit for being green, while genuinely eco-friendly firms don’t get the recognition they deserve.

“The Green Claims Code has been written for all businesses – from fashion giants and supermarket chains to local shops.

“Any business that fails to comply with the law risks damaging its reputation with customers and could face action from the CMA.”

Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth, Greg Hands, said:

“Millions of UK households are rightly choosing to switch to green products as they look to reduce their carbon footprint. But it’s only right that this commitment is backed up by transparent claims from businesses.

“The competition regulator’s new code will help to ensure this with advice on how best to communicate and understand environmental claims.

“Government is also currently reviewing green energy tariffs to ensure consumers can be confident they are choosing companies that make a conscious choice to invest in renewable energy.”

Last year, the CMA announced that it was [investigating the impact of green marketing on consumers](#), in line with its annual plan commitment. Working alongside other global authorities, it found that [40% of green claims made online could be misleading](#) – suggesting that thousands of businesses could be breaking the law and risking their reputation.

The Green Claims Code has been published following [extensive consultation](#) with businesses of all sizes and consumer groups. Businesses should check their green claims against the Code and seek legal advice if they are unsure whether their claims comply with the law.

More information can be found on the [misleading environmental claims](#) case page.

Notes to editors

1. The key piece of consumer protection legislation relevant to the CMA’s guidance is the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008 (CPRs). The CPRs contain a general prohibition against unfair commercial practices and specific prohibitions against misleading actions and misleading omissions.
2. For relevant figures and statistics, please read the CMA’s [‘Making environmental claims: a literature review’](#).
3. Examples and case studies can be found in the CMA’s [The Green Claims Code: Environmental Claims on Goods and Services](#).
4. To read more about the CMA’s campaign, please visit: gov.uk/green-claims-code
5. Read more about how the CMA is supporting the transition to a low carbon economy in its [2021/22 Annual Plan](#).
6. Media enquiries should be directed to press@cma.gov.uk or 020 3738 6460.

[Foreign Sec Liz Truss to meet Iranian Foreign Minister to discuss detained](#)

British Nationals and nuclear deal

- She will press Iran on ongoing consular cases including the arbitrary detention of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe
- The Foreign Secretary will also call on Iran to return to the nuclear deal negotiating table before it is too late

The Foreign Secretary Liz Truss will meet a number of her international counterparts for the first time at the United Nations General Assembly in New York today (20 Sep) – including Iranian Foreign Minister Amir Abdollahian.

With the meeting coming within her first week in the role, Liz Truss will say that a reset of bilateral relations between our countries should be a shared interest, but Iran's continuing nuclear non-compliance and escalating nuclear programme is blocking important progress.

The Foreign Secretary will call for Iran to immediately release Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, Anoosheh Ashoori, Morad Tahbaz and all UK nationals unjustly trapped in Iran.

As the 2000th day of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe's arbitrary detention approaches this week, she will ask the Iranian Foreign Minister to end her suffering, allowing her to return home to be reunited with her daughter and husband in the UK.

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said:

I will be asking Iran to ensure the immediate and permanent release of all arbitrarily detained British nationals in Iran, and to begin working with us to mend our fractured relations.

The UK, US and our international partners are fully committed to a nuclear deal, but every day that Iran continues to delay talks whilst escalating its own nuclear programme means there is less space for diplomacy.

The Foreign Secretary will reiterate the US offer to lift sanctions in exchange for Iran returning to full compliance with its nuclear commitments. She will call on Iran to return to the Vienna talks over the nuclear deal (JCPOA), and once again return to compliance with its nuclear commitments, which is in the best interests of all parties.

Foreign Secretary Truss will also meet India's Foreign Minister Jaishankar at the UN General Assembly on Monday. The Ministers will take the opportunity to evaluate the 2030 Roadmap published earlier this year, as a vision of UK-India relations over the next ten years.

She will highlight our shared interests over Afghanistan, how the UK wants to work with India to prevent Afghanistan becoming a safe haven for terrorists,

and limit terrorist groups' access to resources.

Notes to editors:

- The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) participants (Iran, UK, France, Germany, Russia, China, the EU) and the US began negotiations in Vienna to restore the JCPOA on 6 April 2021.
 - There were six rounds of negotiations over ten weeks until Iran paused talks on 20 June, shortly after their Presidential election.
 - Iran has not committed to return to Vienna, although other JCPOA participants and the US have said many times they are ready to do so.
 - In parallel, Iran continues to escalate its nuclear programme. The latest International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reports confirm that Iran has produced uranium metal enriched up to 20% for the first time, and significantly increased its production capacity of uranium enriched up to 60%. Iran has never been this close to having the ability to develop nuclear weapons.
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[Iraq, call for bids: John Bunyan Fund for Freedom of Religion or Belief](#)

World news story

The British Embassy in Baghdad is pleased to announce a call for bids for the financial year 2021 to 2022 under the John Bunyan Fund for Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) Fund.



The purpose of this fund is to support British Embassy areas of interest mentioned below.

Specific areas of focus are:

Bidders should have significant understanding of religious persecution. An understanding of government programming would be an advantage. The organisation will be able to demonstrate a strong track record of financial management and internal governance.

We are looking for creative and original project ideas which could help us achieve any of the above goals.

Successful bids will be for innovative activities that will have the greatest impact and deliver real change on the FoRB agenda in Iraq. We are less interested in proposals which focus purely on seminars, workshops or the production of research reports that end in themselves. Instead, proposals should include action-oriented ideas which will bring about concrete outcomes.

Budget

Project activity must be completed before 31 March 2022. The total amount of funding available is 30,000 GBP. We are unable to fund multiple-year projects. The successful implementer is required to issue quarterly reports.

Projects not eligible for funding

Projects focused on service delivery or projects that support military, religious affairs, construction activities, capital costs, or mainly staff salaries are ineligible.

Assessment

Bids will be assessed against the following criteria:

- alignment with the above mentioned priorities and outcomes
- clear practical focus leading to tangible next steps
- outcomes are achievable within the funding period
- clear monitoring and evaluation procedures
- strong risk and financial management, including consideration of safeguarding risks
- overall value for money

How to apply

Interested implementers are invited to submit their Proposal and Activity Based Budget, with approximate expected value of fund, to the embassy by 03 October 2021.

For further information, write to: HRDP.Bids@fcdo.gov.uk.

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[British Embassy Bangkok Remembrance Service at The British Club Sunday 14th November 2021](#)

The British Embassy in Bangkok will be hosting this year's annual Remembrance Day Service at The British Club.

[British Embassy Bangkok Remembrance](#)

Service at The British Club Sunday 14th November 2021



Sunday 14th November 2021 – Bangkok

The annual Remembrance Day Service organised by the British Embassy in Bangkok will be held at The British Club commencing at 1050hrs on Sunday 14th November. The event will not only commemorate British, Commonwealth, and allied personnel, but all those who have been affected in all conflicts. It serves as a reminder that nations who fought so bitterly against each other can come together to promote peace and stability in the modern world.

If you would like to attend, please reply to remembrance.bangkok@fcdo.gov.uk with a completed [Response Form](#) (ODT, 6.78KB) , which is attached. If you are unable to attend in person, you may wish to consider sending a representative. We are able to offer 4 official seats per party. Others who are interested to attend are most welcome to do so. I would ask that they e-mail separately and attend in a private capacity.

Parking is very limited and will only be available for pre-registered VIPs but general parking will be available at the Narai Hotel.

VIP Address
The British Club
189 Suriwongse Road, Bangrak.

Public Address
The British Club
Silom Road Soi 18, Bangrak.

Wreaths will be laid at the War Memorial by Ambassadors or their representatives, by war veterans' organisations and by representatives from associations and societies in Bangkok. Those wishing to lay a wreath are asked to gather from 1030hrs. Wreaths are available from the British Embassy for a donation of 1500 THB each. Please indicate on your response form if you require one. All funds raised will go to the Royal British Legion Poppy

Appeal.

On arrival everyone will be temperature checked and pass through the security check process. Due to current regulations, it is mandatory for all guests to wear facemasks. To ensure access, please register your attendance in advance as there will be a maximum capacity permitted on the day. Following the service, light refreshments will be served on the back lawn.

Thursday 11th November 2021 – Kanchanaburi

As the Custodians of Remembrance within the UK, the Royal British Legion Thailand will hold a Service of Remembrance at Don Rak Cemetery, Kanchanaburi commencing at 1050hrs on the 11th November 2021. The Chairman would like to invite Ambassadors, Defence Attachés and members of Embassy staff to attend. Each Embassy is also invited to lay a wreath, which will be provided. You are kindly requested to inform the Royal British Legion Thailand of your availability and wreath requirement by e-mailing chonburi.secretary@rbl.community The service is also open to all members of the public. However, the service is obviously subject to any Covid 19 restrictions in place. Therefore, numbers maybe limited or the service subject to late cancellation.

(Updated on 1 November 2021)

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Last updated 1 November 2021 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 1 November 2021

Change in Registration for both Bangkok and Kanchanaburi

2. 22 October 2021

Edited details for event registration.

3. 20 September 2021

First published.