

Only Nordic-style deal can protect trade and jobs

Nicola Sturgeon has called on the Prime Minister to defy Tory hardliners on Brexit, warning that only a Norway-style deal with the EU can deliver on the promise to protect trade and jobs.

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Author:

Green Party responds to Kirby Misperton fracking delay



Green Party

8 March 2018

The Green Party has responded to news that fracking in Kirby Misperton has been delayed until the Autumn [1].

Jonathan Bartley, co-leader of the Green Party, said:

“Fracking is dying and being kept on life support but the reality is that it is on its way out. The companies pursuing it are plagued by desperation and incompetence as with every day that passes fracking shows fewer and fewer signs that it can resurrect itself from its deathbed ever deliver what the country needs.

“For this Government to keep throwing money at this corpse of an industry when there are cheaper, cleaner, more effective alternatives defies common sense. Instead we should be investing in making Britain a world leader in the renewable energy of the future.”

Notes:

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/mar/07/fracking-delayed-north-yorkshire-site-autumn-third-energy>

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[News story: UK steps up cyber defence](#)

Part of a joint investment by the MOD and the National Cyber Security Programme, the School will address specialist skills and wider education in line with National Cyber Security Strategy objectives.

Armed Forces' Minister Mark Lancaster, who opened the school, said:

Cyber threats to the UK are constantly evolving and we take them very seriously. That's why the Defence Cyber School is so important. It's a state-of-the-art centre of excellence that will train more personnel across Defence and wider government in dealing with emerging threats.

With threats from hostile states changing at pace, the UK faces a deliberate attempt to destabilise secured peace and prosperity.

The 2016 National Cyber Security Strategy provided £1.9 billion of transformative investment in cyber, which is being used alongside more conventional land, maritime and air capabilities, to meet these threats head-on.

Now, building on current capabilities; which include the Global Operations and Security Control Centre at MOD Corsham; and the MOD Computer Emergency Response Team (MOD-CERT); Rapid Response Teams will be established from April.

Teams of specialist Incident Responders will be available to deploy to locations around the UK and overseas, to tackle malicious cyber activity.

Commander Joint Forces Command, General Sir Chris Deverell, said:

Defence has a number of very highly-trained military personnel on hand to deal with emerging and complex cyber threats. We are

reinforcing these capabilities with the creation of Rapid Response Teams. Our threat-hunters give us the ability to identify, isolate and respond to these threats, whenever and wherever they might arise.

The UK has advanced counter-cyber capabilities which can protect national interests from harm caused by adversaries. Furthermore, offensive cyber can be used to deal with serious threats to the UK.

Two companies fined after worker run over by a telehandler

Bellway Homes Ltd and A D Bly Construction Ltd have today been fined after a worker was struck by a telehandler.

Basildon Magistrates' Court heard how, on 14 July 2015, a grounds worker was run over by a telehandler whilst undertaking work in the middle of the construction site road. The grounds worker was fortunate that he passed under the body of the reversing telehandler, and not under the wheels, which would have likely resulted in his death. The resulting injuries include chipped vertebra, muscular and tendon damage and the worker has been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive found both the principal contractor, Bellway Homes, and subcontractor, A D Bly Construction failed in their duties to effectively plan, manage and monitor control measures to address the risks associated with construction site vehicles. The investigation also found they failed to manage and control the risk of persons being struck by a vehicle on their construction site.

A D Bly Construction Ltd of Nup End Business Centre, Old Knebworth pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 15(2) of Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 and has been fined £26,000 and ordered to pay costs of £5,271.38.

Bellway Homes Ltd of Seaton Burn House, Dudley Lane pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 13(1) of Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 and has been fined £31,500 and ordered to pay costs of £48,600.

Speaking after the case, HSE Inspector Ian Shearring said: "The risks associated with construction vehicles is well-known and both companies failed in their duties to address these. Both Bellway Homes as the principal contractor, and A D Bly as subcontractor, have today been held to account for failing to take adequate action to protect the health and safety of persons

working on their site.”

Notes to Editors:

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain’s national regulator for workplace health and safety. We prevent work-related death, injury and ill health through regulatory actions that range from influencing behaviours across whole industry sectors through to targeted interventions on individual businesses. These activities are supported by globally recognised scientific expertise. hse.gov.uk
2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: legislation.gov.uk/
3. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>

Journalists should approach HSE press office with any queries on regional press releases.

Transparency data: BIS: workforce management information, June 2016

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) publishes details about staff numbers and payroll costs for payroll and non-payroll staff on a monthly basis.