

# Cornwall skip hire boss ordered to pay £237,000

Hutton, 62, of Short Cross Road, Mount Hawke, Truro, pleaded guilty at Truro Crown Court in March 2020 to 2 charges of running the business, Skip It, without an environmental permit.

One charge related to deposit and storage of controlled waste on land at Mawla, Porthtowan and the other to the deposit and storage of controlled waste, on land adjacent to a Western Power Distribution sub-station, at Penwinnick Road, near St Agnes.

The Environment Agency went back to the court with a Proceeds of Crime application against Hutton and was awarded £198,000 on 28 October 2022. Hutton was also sentenced for the offences, fined a total of £10,000 and ordered to pay £29,000 in costs.

Hutton has a maximum of 6 months to pay up or face 18 months in prison if he fails to pay the £198,000 and 3 months imprisonment if he fails to pay the fines and costs.

Both sites being used for the business could have led to environmental harm, particularly the one close to an electricity sub-station, Judge Carr was told. The Mawla site had a bund erected around it to shield it from view by the public. Hutton had continued to operate the sites after being interviewed under caution by Environment Agency officers.

The court heard Hutton had a previous conviction for a similar offence from 2001. The judge told him: "Regulations are there for a reason. You gained a competitive advantage over others by not being licenced or permitted. You were given warnings and chances but failed to comply."

Stephen Clark of the Environment Agency said:

Craig Hutton deliberately operated the business without the required permits, threatening the environment and earning thousands of pounds from customers.

The Environment Agency will vigorously pursue those who flout the law in this way, and who undermine legitimate businesses.

## **Background**

Craig Hutton was charged with:

Between 22 November 2018 and 22 February 2019 Craig Hutton [and Stuart Hutton] operated a Regulated Facility, namely a waste operation including the deposit and storage of controlled waste, on land close to Mount Pleasant Eco

Park, Mawla, Porthtowan, Cornwall, in respect of which no environmental permit was in force. Contrary to regulations 38(1)(a) and 12(1)(a) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

Between 5 December 2018 and 7 November 2019 Craig Hutton, operated a Regulated Facility, namely a waste operation including the deposit and storage of controlled waste, on land adjacent to Western Power Distribution sub-station, Penwinnick Road, near St Agnes, Cornwall, in respect of which no environmental permit was in force. Contrary to regulations 38(1)(a) and 12(1)(a) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

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## **Call for bids: Romania's roadmap to a greener financial system**

Deadline for submitting project bids is 20 November 2022.

### **Background**

British Embassy Bucharest is inviting project proposals to deliver a report (White Paper) on sustainable finance in Romania. The report should:

- analyse the current financial market
- inform about the challenges in addressing climate-related financial risks
- highlight potential areas for reform and further policy design

The report will inform the debate during the Embassy's Sustainable Finance conference, which will be held in the first quarter of 2023.

This project is part of a wider portfolio of projects across Europe which seek to advance UK's green finance expertise and support the international transition to a net-zero financial system. Overall, our regional effort calls for awareness about greenwashing practices, advancing the regulatory framework for sovereign green bonds and ultimately, building industry-wide capabilities.

Complementary to other regional activities, this White Paper will help inform UK experts about specific areas for cooperation and sharing of international best practice in Romania.

### **Objectives**

The White Paper aims to:

- conduct a market analysis of the financial sector in Romania
- outline the sector's challenges (e.g., the lack of standardized criteria, methodological challenges, data availability, lack of both capacity and human resources) of local commercial banks, pension funds, insurers, investment funds and non-banking financial institutions, in meeting the requirements for the transition to a net zero financial system (e.g., regulatory, financial disclosure, corporate governance)
- identify what does Romania's financial services market need in terms of international best practice and how the UK's expertise can support meeting those needs

It is aimed at fostering transparency and establishing a shared understanding amongst market participants and policy makers alike.

## **Deliverables**

Tailored to Romania's domestic context, the White Paper (which should be no longer than 20 pages) aims to:

- identify the major drivers of sustainable investing and determine the risks that market participants face due to environmental and social trends in Romania;
- inform on UK's best practice on measuring and managing climate-related risks (physical and net zero transition risks)
- provide key recommendations to policymakers on how to mitigate greenwashing practices
- set out common practices and recommendations on strengthening corporate governance principles

This is not an exhaustive list and the British Embassy remains open to other suggestions that support the delivery of the project.

## **Scope of work**

The White Paper's target audience will be policy makers, regulators, banks and listed companies' representatives, asset managers, insurers, investment analysts, risk-management specialists, academia.

## Project approach

Bidders should submit a project proposal which will be approved by the British Embassy Bucharest and will form the basis for project planning. The proposal should set out how the implementing partner will deliver activities to support the objectives set out above with an implementation plan and supporting activity-based budget.

## How to bid

Our process will consist of a one-stage full bid proposal.

Bids should be completed in English. You will need to complete and submit the following documents:

Email these documents to [bucharest.projects@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:bucharest.projects@fcdo.gov.uk) and [corina.petrea@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:corina.petrea@fcdo.gov.uk). The subject of the email should be: Name of implementing organisation and title of the project.

The project sponsors reserve the right to request additional information from bidders before making a decision.

Activity based budgets should list the activities needed to deliver the outcomes (results) of the project.

All costs should be in Romanian New Lei (RON).

Deadline for submitting project bids is 20 November 2022.

## Reporting

The reports to be produced during the course of this project are to be delivered in English:

- an inception note detailing approach and proposed activities. This should also set out key stakeholders who will be engaged, a proposed schedule of activities, risks, safeguarding approach and any additional details, including a communications plan
- a mid-term interim progress report by 16 December 2022
- monthly financial reports
- following a facilitated process of commenting, the final report by 13 January 2023

## **Composition of the project teams**

British Embassy Bucharest will nominate a Project Director, (Goran Mandic, 1st Secretary) and a Project Manager, (Corina Petrea, Senior Economics Officer) to oversee the project delivery.

Project proposals should demonstrate that the implementing partner's staffing levels are appropriate to deliver the aims of the project and that the staff have relevant financial expertise and experience.

## **Timing and scope of input**

The bidding round is an open and competitive process, assessed by the British Embassy in Bucharest. Results will be issued within 10 working days. Once a bid is approved, and due diligence procedures are completed, a Grant Agreement will be signed with the successful bidder.

Your organisation will be expected to sign the contract within one week of the funds being awarded. Failure to do so may result in the funds being re-allocated. The implementing organisation will be required to submit report updates and a final evaluation of the project. .

The British Embassy expects the project to be delivered by 13 January 2023.

## **Budget**

Grant applications must include an estimated budget of up to 58,285 RON.

Depending on the quality of the proposals, British Embassy Bucharest reserves the right not to grant all or part of the available funds. The Embassy also reserves the right to award a grant of less than the amount requested by the applicants. In such a case, applicants will be asked to increase the amount that they co-finance, to propose other co-financing means or to decrease the total costs without altering the substance of the proposal.

Note that there are no pre-payments. Reimbursements will be completed once activities have taken place and all receipts submitted. Implementing organisations will request repayments using an invoice (including receipts and a financial report of spend) and the repayments will be carried out during those dates agreed upon in the respective contract.

The budget should be presented in Romanian New Lei (RON). All payments will be made in RON to a bank account held in Romania.

Please send any questions regarding the call for bids to [corina.petrea@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:corina.petrea@fcdo.gov.uk).

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# First set of changes from Charities Act 2022 come into force

Press release

The first set of provisions from the Charities Act 2022 are now in force.



Today (Monday 31st October 2022), the first set of changes being introduced by the Charities Act 2022 come into force, introducing a range of provisions including new powers for trustees.

These provisions include:

- An extended power for charities to [pay trustees for providing goods to the charity](#) under certain circumstances (in addition to services, and goods connected to services)
- A reduction in the administrative complexities surrounding [fundraising appeals](#) that do not reach, or exceed, fundraising targets (often known as 'failed appeals').
- A new statutory power for [Royal Charter charities](#) to change sections of their Royal Charter which they could not previously change, with the approval of the Privy Council.

**Aarti Thakor, Director of Legal & Accounting Services at the Charity Commission said:**

The Charities Act 2022 is designed to make a positive, practical difference to charities and where possible, to make things easier for trustees.

Today, a number of changes have come into effect, with more to follow next year. We have updated our guidance to reflect the first set of changes so that trustees can understand what this means for them and the charities they serve.

Since the Charities Act gained Royal Assent earlier this year, the Commission has been working towards making necessary changes to support the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's [implementation plan](#), which has been put in place to gradually introduce provisions of the Act. This work includes reviewing and updating guidance for trustees and providing training to staff. The Commission is also amending some key digital services on its website.

Other provisions of the Act now in force:

- confirm that the Commission's scheme-making powers include making schemes for charitable companies
- confer trust corporation status automatically to existing and future corporate charities in respect of any charitable trust of which the corporation is (or, in the future, becomes) a trustee
- update provisions relating to giving public notice to written consents and orders of the Charity Commission under various sections of the Charities Act 2011
- mean that when a charity changes its governing document by parliamentary scheme, under section 73 of the Charities Act 2011, the scheme will by default always be under a lighter touch parliamentary process (known as the negative parliamentary procedure)

The next set of provisions are expected to come into force in Spring 2023.

#### Notes to editors:

1. The Charities Act 2022 gained Royal Assent on 24th February 2022.
2. The full Charities Act 2022 can be found [here](#)
3. Explanation of the Charities Act 2022 implementation plan is available on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)
4. The Charity Commission has an [information page on phase 1 changes](#)
5. The Charity Commission is the independent, non-ministerial government department that registers and regulates charities in England and Wales.

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## [Government to take no further action under the National Security and Investment Act \(2021\) on Royal Mail share acquisition](#)

News story

The government has today (Monday 31 October) decided to take no further action under its national security powers on the proposed increase in shareholdings by Vesa Equity Investment in Royal Mail.



The proposed acquisition of increased shareholdings in Royal Mail by Vesa Equity Investment was called in for a full national security assessment by the previous Business Secretary on 25 August 2022.

The government has powers under the National Security and Investment Act (2021) to scrutinise and, if necessary, intervene in qualifying acquisitions on national security grounds.

Following careful consideration, the government will take no further action on the acquisition of increased shareholdings by Vesa Equity Investment in Royal Mail and a Final Notification has been issued to parties.

The government will not hesitate to act to prevent risks to the UK's national security where we judge action is necessary. Under the National Security and Investment Act (2021) acquisitions are assessed on a case-by-case basis, so any future acquisition could be subject to a separate assessment under the Act if deemed necessary.

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## [\*\*NDA invests £7million into the Industrial Solutions Hub at Cleator Moor\*\*](#)

Industrial Solutions Hub (iSH), based at Cleator Moor, in West Cumbria, is a new initiative developed by Copeland Borough Council with support from the NDA and Sellafield Ltd.

The NDA are committed to investing in those communities where it is



progressing its nuclear decommissioning mission and this funding, which will be used to develop the new iSH campus, aims to unlock millions more from government as part of the £22.5million Cleator Moor Town Deal.

The campus will create around 700 new job opportunities and is set to generate an additional £40million per year of revenue for local businesses.

Sellafield Limited have also provided crucial funding from the inception of the project through the social impact multiplied programme. Funding of £4.2million has been invested to date with further financial support through the Cleator Moor Town Deal.

The campus will create a place where businesses and industry can come together to collaborate, problem solve and develop innovative solutions that bring benefits, both locally and across the UK.

NDA Chief Executive, David Peattie, said: "We work with our communities to invest in projects that deliver a positive and long-lasting legacy, providing significant social and economic benefits.

"The iSH will create jobs and opportunities for generations to come and provide a space for organisations to collaborate and come up with solutions to global industry challenges.

"Working with Sellafield Ltd and Copeland Borough Council, our investment aims to leverage in millions more than we could provide alone, helping to maximise the benefit of our mission to the West Cumbrian community."

John Maddison, Managing Director of iSH, said: "We thank those in the NDA, along with those in Copeland Borough Council and Sellafield, who have given our programme their support and this vital financial backing.

"iSH is an initiative of regional, national and international significance which will create jobs, enable collaboration, enhance skills, provide access to business support, and bring a range of economic, environmental and social benefits to the community.

"We will build on the industry excellence of the NDA, Sellafield and its supply chain and through collaboration will turn that into opportunities for businesses and organisations to grow and create more skills, training and employment, making a positive difference to people's lives, the community and the environment."

Working with and through its operating companies, the NDA has invested over £70million in socio-economic initiatives in communities around its sites over the last five years, leveraging millions more of funding in the process.

The NDA socio-economic programme co-creates effective economic interventions with community stakeholders using independently produced economic assessments which guide where investments can achieve the greatest impact.

To date, this has seen the delivery of new schools, jobs, skills, and training facilities in the communities in which we operate.