

# Norfolk man given suspended jail term for illegal waste operation

On 4 November 2021, Colin Barnes of Podmore Lane, Scarning, Dereham, Norfolk returned to Norwich Magistrates' Court after an earlier appearance on 12 May 2021.

At this time he admitted storing end of life motor vehicles, car parts, gear boxes and suspension units illegally at his site in Podmore Lane. Magistrates deferred sentence for 6 months and warned Barnes that if he failed to clear the site he risked a prison sentence.

When officers returned to inspect the site in October 2021, they found little improvement and saw that new end of life vehicles had arrived.

Magistrates heard that despite the warnings given in May, Barnes had not cleared the site at Podmore Lane of stockpiled scrap vehicles. The stockpile contained pollutants such as fuel, brake fluid, batteries and tyres.

[Environment Agency](#) prosecutor, Sarah Dunne told the court that Barnes, had previous convictions for similar offences spanning a decade.

He had been given "chance after chance" to clear the waste and to work with the Environment Agency. However, the site remained a risk to the environment and undermined law-abiding competitors who operated within the law.

Sentencing Barnes to 16 weeks' imprisonment, the chair of the bench, Mr Nicholas Clarke, told Barnes that his "wilful refusal" made custody the only option.

He told Barnes that the prison sentence would be suspended for 2 years and made an order requiring Barnes to remediate the site by 17 January 2022. He warned Barnes that, if he failed to clear the waste and continued to stockpile waste, he would be brought back to court. He warned him that this is his, "final, final chance" and if he came back to court, he should, "bring a bag".

Mr Clarke said the bench's priority is to protect the environment and warned Barnes that the impact of his behaviour would contaminate the land for generations to come.

Barnes was ordered to pay costs of £8,289.79 and a victim surcharge of £150 within 28 days.

After hearing the verdict, Enforcement Team Leader for East Anglia Area Lesley Robertson said:

This case shows why we pursue offenders through the courts.  
Magistrates will not hesitate to impose a custodial sentence where

necessary.

Storing and treating waste illegally without an environmental permit meant that Mr Barnes operated at a commercial advantage, undermining legitimate business.

Owning a piece of land means accepting a responsibility to the surrounding area and all that resides there, be it business, homes or wildlife.

We urge anyone with information about waste crime to contact our hotline 0800 80 70 60 or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or on [their email](#)

### **Additional information**

Colin Barnes pleaded guilty to this charge:

Between 14 November 2019 and 30 January 2021 at CT Barnes Autos, Podmore Lane, Scarning, Dereham did operate a regulated facility, namely a waste operation for the deposit, treatment and storage of waste, except under and to the extent authorised by an environmental permit contrary to Regulations 12 and 38(1)(a) Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

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## **Government backs ground-breaking space technology to tackle climate change**

Press release

Trailblazing technology that will help tackle climate change and predict global disasters using satellites is receiving new funding from the UK Space Agency.



UK from space. Credit: ESA/NASA

Eleven UK organisations have been awarded a share of just under £7 million of government funding to put into action the latest advances in space innovation. The majority of the projects focus on climate change or environmental management, with others designed to secure our telecommunication systems and protect digital infrastructure against cyber-attacks.

Projects receiving the cash boost include Global Satellite Vu Ltd, which will build a compact high-resolution infrared camera for satellites to measure thermal emissions from our homes, schools and places of work, helping to improve energy efficiency. The Open University in Milton Keynes will develop the mission concept for "TreeView", a forestry and management tool that will support a nature-based solution to tackling climate change by monitoring the health of trees from space.

Science Minister George Freeman said:

Satellites in space are helping us solve some of the most significant challenges we face, from climate change to cyber attacks, and through the National Space Strategy we are putting the UK at the forefront of unleashing these innovations.

Whether it's monitoring greenhouse gas emissions or supporting increased tree planting, this new funding will take game-changing ideas from the UK space sector and our brilliant scientists, and turn them into reality.

The funding comes from the UK Space Agency's National Space Innovation Programme (NSIP) and has been announced today (9th November 2021) as the UK hosts the COP 26 climate talks in Glasgow. Space is playing an essential role in the fight against climate change, with satellites collecting half of the 56 types of data we need to measure and understand climate change.

This £7 million in funding is in addition to £7 million provided last year which was to support the projects through their development phase. The new funding ranges from between £157,000 and £1 million per project and will allow the organisations to take their projects to the next stage and implement their innovative ideas.

The government recently launched the National Space Strategy which outlines the long-term plans to grow the UK space sector and make Britain a science and technology superpower, including building on manufacturing and technology capacity, attracting investment and working internationally.

## **Projects in detail:**

### **Development of Novel High Resolution Infrared Sensor Payload for Heat Detection**

- Global Satellite Vu Ltd, Surrey
- £999,698
- Global Satellite Vu Ltd will develop and launch the world's first small satellite that will deliver high-quality thermal video and thermal still imagery of the Earth, initiating the design, build and integration of the infrared camera. By launching a small constellation of infrared satellites, this project will enable the measurement of thermal emissions from any structure on the planet. The technology will act as the Earth's thermometer to monitor energy efficiency, economic activity and carbon footprint.
- Consortium Partners: Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd and KISPE

### **TreeView: Precision Forestry to Tackle Climate Change**

- The Open University, Milton Keynes
- £477,456
- Trees are a natural carbon-sink and are vital to support diverse ecosystems. TreeView will enable precision forestry and management to be achieved remotely from space on a national and global scale, supporting a nature-based solution to climate change.
- Consortium Partners: In-Space, Beck Optronics Solutions, XCAM, Adiuvo Engineering, Teledyne e2v, 2Excel Geo, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Forest Research

### **Quantum Accelerometer Climate Explorer (Q-ACE)**

- Thales Alenia Space, Oxfordshire
- £345,032
- The Quantum Accelerometer Climate Explorer (Q-ACE) mission will bring together the University of Birmingham and Teledyne e2v's cold atom interferometry technology with Thales Alenia Space's new revolutionary Very Low Earth Orbit 'SkimSat' satellite platform. The work will help to develop the Q-ACE mission that will measure the density of the Earth's thermosphere and provide data that will help better understand climate predictions.
- Consortium Partners: Teledyne e2v, University of Birmingham, RAL Space, Fraunhofer UK Research Limited and the Met Office

### **High resolution thermal infrared space telescopes for globally monitoring the energy efficiency of buildings**

- University of Cambridge (Institute of Astronomy and Cambridge Zero)
- £726,978
- Thermal infrared telescopes in space can monitor the energy output of buildings which makes them a powerful tool for ensuring that governments, companies and even individuals are on track to meet internationally agreed carbon emission goals. The team will study how

the data can be used and develop prototypes for an innovative unfolding telescope as part of a nanosat constellation to accurately produce thermal images of buildings and infrastructure.

- Consortium Partners: Open Cosmos Ltd, S4 Limited and Durham University

### **ROKS payload flight model – implementation phase**

- Craft Prospect Limited, Glasgow
- £869,769
- The Responsive Operations for Key Services (ROKS) mission will demonstrate technologies for future secure telecommunication systems using Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) and supported by artificial intelligence. This implantation phase will incorporate progress since the discovery phase, through to flight model build, test, and finally delivery to demonstrate in-orbit operation by 2022.
- Consortium Partners: University of Strathclyde, University of Bristol, Fraunhofer Centre for Applied Photonics (CAP)

### **Global Lidar Altimetry MISsion: GLAMIS**

- University of Edinburgh
- £300,236
- The School of Geosciences at the University of Edinburgh, GLAMIS will bring together expertise from Scotland's growing space and photonics sectors to pioneer a new approach to space-borne lidar; a system capable of mapping global topography and above-ground structure and change detection. This phase will focus on increasing coverage through increasing laser wavelength stability and signal processing.
- Consortium Partners: Fraunhofer UK Research Ltd (Glasgow), UK Astronomy Tech Centre, Resilience Constellation Management Ltd and Space Flow Limited.

### **Faraday Digital**

- In-Space Missions Limited, Hampshire
- £157,366
- Faraday Digital will provide a global LEO ultra-wideband communications and processing infrastructure which can be used by third parties to develop, test and deploy a substantial range of applications and services. This activity will de-risk the remaining technology elements in preparation for a flight demonstration in 2023. Ultimately, the disruptive Faraday Digital service will provide a ubiquitous, in-orbit infrastructure which can underpin the new space revolution and provide the ability to upload and deliver new services from space on timescales of weeks instead of the traditional three-five years.
- Consortium Partners: Subcos Wave RF Ltd

### **Laser Communications for CubeSats**

- University of Northumbria at Newcastle
- £644,617
- The aim of the project is to replace the existing low-speed radio

frequency transceiver used in CubeSats with the high-speed, light weight and lower power free-space optical transceivers, enabling a step-change in our approach to communications constellations and space science missions. By the end of this project, a test-bed design will have been developed together with a mission design study for future testing of the system in space.

- Consortium Partners: SMS Electronics Limited, Durham University and e2E Group

### **Hyperspectral Microwave Sounder Constellation of Nanosatellites for Climate change And Mitigation (HYMS CONCAM)**

- STFC RAL Space, Oxfordshire
- £814,129
- As average global temperatures rise, hazards such as heatwaves and floods grow in frequency and severity, and chronic hazards intensify, such as drought and rising sea levels. Improved observations of our weather systems and more accurate forecasts are essential for our understanding, planning, and mitigation of extreme events. STFC RAL Space is developing a new small satellite observation system using microwave sensors that will enhance our ability to monitor our planet's increasing weather variability. These observations will support meteorological services to deliver accurate and timely weather forecasts that will enhance our ability to react to climate change.
- Consortium Partners: NanoAvionics UK, STAR Dundee UK and UK Met Office

### **GHGWatch**

- Geospatial Insight, Birmingham
- £324,812
- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions are the critical factor driving climate change and temperature increase, but detection and monitoring of locations where emissions are occurring is problematic and expensive using current technologies. Building on the successful outcomes of their discover project, Geospatial Insight aims to deliver a space-based operational solution to detect, quantify and monitor point source plume emitters of Greenhouse Gases, focusing initially on methane – this project will focus on developing a service targeted at commercial users in the Oil & Gas and “Green” Finance sectors.
- Consortium Partner: University of Leicester

### **Towards a Federated Satellite Quantum Key Distribution System**

- Arqit Ltd, London
- Our digital economy is at the mercy of advances in quantum computing which could threaten our encryption services. Arqit supplies a unique quantum encryption Platform-as-a-Service, QuantumCloud™, which makes the communications links of any networked device secure against current and future forms of attack – even from a quantum computer. Arqit's Federated Quantum System enables private instances of its QuantumCloud™ product to be provided to customers that want control of their cryptographic infrastructure.

- Consortium Partners: STFC RAL Space, QinetiQ Group plc, Honeywell (COM DEV Ltd), Heriot-Watt University, Virgin Orbit UK Limited.

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## [New laws and code to resolve remaining COVID-19 commercial rent debts](#)

- New laws to be introduced to provide a legally-binding process to resolve the remaining commercial rent debts
- a new Code of Practice published to guide landlords and tenants in how to negotiate a way forward
- changes will protect tenants from rent debt claims against them and help market return to normality

New laws and a Code of Practice are being introduced to resolve the remaining commercial rent debts accrued because of the pandemic, Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng has announced today (Tuesday 9 November 2021).

Commercial tenants are protected from eviction until 25 March 2022, thanks to government action last year to provide firms with breathing space and help protect jobs when certain businesses had to close in full or in part during the pandemic. This provides time for landlords and tenants to negotiate how to share the cost of commercial rent debts caused by the pandemic.

From today, these negotiations will be underpinned by a new Code of Practice, providing landlords and tenants with a clear process for settling outstanding debts before the new arbitration process comes into force.

The Code sets out that, in the first instance, tenants unable to pay in full should negotiate with their landlord in the expectation that the landlord waives some or all rent arrears where they are able to do so.

From 25 March 2022, new laws introduced in the Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill, being introduced in Parliament today, will establish a legally-binding arbitration process for commercial landlords and tenants who have not already reached an agreement, following the principles in the Code of Practice. Subject to Parliamentary passage, this will come into force next year.

The Bill will apply to commercial rent debts related to the mandated closure of certain businesses such as pubs, gyms and restaurants during the pandemic. Debts accrued at other times will not be in scope.

These laws will come into force in England and Wales, and Northern Ireland will have a power in the Bill to introduce similar legislation.

The result of the arbitration process will be a legally-binding agreement the landlord and tenant must adhere to, resolving rent arrears disputes and helping the market return to normal as quickly as possible.

From today, the government is also protecting commercial tenants from debt claims, including County Court Judgements (CCJs), High Court Judgements (HCJs) and bankruptcy petitions, issued against them in relation to rent arrears accrued during the pandemic.

This measure will provide further protection to businesses which had to close and accumulated debts during the pandemic, while protections from forfeiture for business tenancies are in place under the [Coronavirus Act 2020](#).

Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng said:

Today's measures provide commercial landlords and tenants with the clarity and certainty > they need to plan ahead and recover from the pandemic.

We encourage landlords and tenants to keep working together to reach their own agreements ahead of the new laws coming into place, and we expect tenants capable of paying rent to do so.

UK Hospitality CEO Kate Nicholls OBE said:

We welcome the publication of the updated Code of Practice. Vitally important is the emphasis on ongoing negotiation to share the burden of the impact of lockdowns and restrictions that prevented hospitality businesses from trading for so much of the last 18 months. It is in the long-term interests of landlords and tenants to come together and find solutions that ensure business survival and that do not undermine the economic recovery.

We share government's view that arbitration should be a last resort and this process must take into account the exceptional and existential level of pain that hospitality businesses have faced over the last 18 months. It must not impact this industry's ability to rapidly recover and create jobs throughout the country.

Helen Dickinson OBE, Chief Executive of the British Retail Consortium, said:

The overwhelming majority of retailers with stores just want the breathing space to trade their way out of the debt unavoidably built up during the pandemic and a constructive agreement with their landlord.

While we support the principle of compulsory arbitration, the devil will be in the detail on issues around what tenant viability really



means in practice and the power of arbitrators. We will engage closely and constructively with government to help ensure their proposals protect otherwise viable businesses, secure the recovery, and protect jobs.

British Property Federation CEO Melanie Leech said:

Property owners and their tenants should be wholly focused on working together to continue the economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. The majority have already reached agreement on the treatment of Covid-related rent arrears, with millions of pounds of support being provided by property owners to tenants in distress.

The publication of an updated Code of Practice is a clear signal and framework for the minority who have not yet done so, to come together, reach agreement and look to the future.

Survey data from the British Property Federation indicates that agreement has been reached on the treatment of rent arrears in the vast majority of cases – more than 80% – since the start of the pandemic.

Today's announcement follows the Autumn Budget which included further measures to support commercial landlords and tenants. This includes reducing the burden of business rates in England by freezing the business rates multiplier for a further year – a tax cut worth £4.6 billion over 5 years – and introducing a 50% business rates discount for the retail, hospitality, and leisure sectors in England.

- the Code of Practice applies across the UK. The legislation will apply to England and Wales, with a delegated power for Northern Ireland. Scotland has adopted an alternative approach to commercial evictions since the start of the pandemic, due to different property legislation and market conditions
- the intention is for the new legal arbitration process to come into force from 25 March 2022, subject to Parliamentary passage of the Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Bill that has been introduced today
- the laws will apply to businesses which were mandated to close, in full or in part, from March 2020 until the date restrictions ended for their sector. Debts accrued at other times will not be in scope
- for those tenancies that fall within scope of the Bill and have failed to reach agreement, either party can apply for arbitration unilaterally, as a backstop after negotiations have failed. Parties are free to continue to negotiate outside of the legal arbitration process once it comes into force. The Code signposts tenants and landlords to forms of alternative dispute resolution, such as mediation, if they wish to pursue this
- the government encourages landlords and tenants to negotiate their own agreement where possible instead of resorting to the arbitration process

- the window to apply for arbitration will be 6 months from the date legislation comes into force, with a maximum time frame to repay of 24 months
  - the new Code of Practice replaces the 'Code of Practice for commercial property relationships' originally published on 19 June 2020 and updated in April 2021
  - the legal arbitration process will be delivered by private arbitrators in accordance with guidelines set out in the legislation, and they will have to go through an approval process to demonstrate their impartiality and competency to supply dispute resolution services. BEIS will publish a list of approved bodies in due course, and landlords and tenants within scope will be able to apply directly to any approved arbitration body for their dispute resolution if negotiations have failed
  - landlords are encouraged to attempt to reach a negotiated agreement with tenants rather than pursue a CCJ. Where a CCJ is issued, this can be considered within the legal arbitration process when this comes into effect.
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## [Foreign Secretary arrives in Thailand for talks on deepening economic and security ties](#)



Foreign Secretary Liz Truss will meet Prime Minister Chan-o-cha and Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai. On the agenda will be boosting partnerships on digital and tech, as well as driving investment and security collaboration.

The UK and Thailand currently have two-way trade of around £4.7 billion, with more than 5,000 UK businesses exporting to Thailand.

Foreign Secretary, Liz Truss said:

We want to step up our relationship with Thailand and take it to the next level in areas including tech, trade and investment.

We need a deeper relationship that reflects Thailand's growing economy and positions Britain at the heart of the fastest growing parts of the world".

Liz Truss will formally open the new British Embassy in Bangkok and visit the Triumph Motorcycle factory to promote British businesses in the region.

The Foreign Secretary will also host a business roundtable with leading British and Thai companies on Building Back Better and sustainable investment.

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## [UK boost to advance gender equality in climate action](#)

- Two new programmes to boost women's climate leadership and support those most vulnerable to climate change.
- Ministers and representatives from private sector and civil society from across the world will meet at Gender Day at COP26 to announce new commitments which address the links between climate action and gender equality.

At its COP26 Gender Day on Tuesday 9 November, the UK will announce £165 million to tackle climate change while addressing the inequalities that make women and girls more vulnerable to climate change and empowering them to take climate action.

Around the world, the UN has found that women are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change than men, in part because they constitute a large majority of the world's poor and often depend on small-scale farming for a livelihood, which is particularly vulnerable to climate change. Women and children can comprise 80% of those displaced by climate-related disaster. But

addressing gender inequality has also been proven to advance efforts to tackle climate change.

£165 million in UK funding will drive forward these aims:

- up to £45 million to help empower local communities and grassroots women's groups in Asia and the Pacific to challenge gender inequalities and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- £120 million to build resilience, prevent pollution, protect biodiversity, strengthen renewable energy and better manage waste, while also supporting women's leadership, access to finance, education and skills in Bangladesh.

The chair of the flagship Gender Day event, UK International Champion on Adaptation and Resilience for the COP26 Presidency, Anne-Marie Trevelyan, said:

It is women, girls and those who are already most marginalised, that will be most severely impacted by climate change. But they also have a critical role to play to address the climate crisis.

The UK is committed to addressing this dual challenge head on, committing new funding to empower communities and women's groups to take locally-led adaptation action, to build local, national and global resilience. I urge more countries to make commitments to implement the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan and deliver the goals of the Feminist Action for Climate Justice.

Through its COP26 Presidency, the UK has been urging countries around the world to put gender equality at the heart of climate action, and will today convene ministers and other actors to discuss new action to tackle gender and climate change. A number of countries and stakeholders will also announce bold new gender and climate commitments today.

The UK will jointly launch a toolkit on gender-smart climate finance. Co-led by CDC, the UK's Development Finance Institution, the toolkit will improve understanding on the opportunities of gender-sensitive climate investment by providing guidance to the finance community on how to deliver climate outcomes while promoting gender equality and women's economic opportunities.

Fatou Jeng, Founder, Clean Earth Gambia and Co-Lead YOUNGO Women and Gender working group, said:

Gender inequality creates additional burdens and barriers for women and girls during times of conflict and climate-related crisis which increases their risks of hunger, food insecurity and violence. But

women play fundamental roles in local food systems and are carers and activists, which make them uniquely placed to drive longer term climate resilience.

Women should be involved in the policy making, project planning and implementation of climate adaptation projects, and gender equality should be a key portion in climate financing. If gender equality is not taken as a serious issue in our climate decision-making, climate financing and climate adaptation processes, it will undermine opportunities for women in vulnerable communities to drive effective climate change adaptation and mitigation approaches that meet their needs.

COP26 President Alok Sharma and Anne-Marie Trevelyan will host the UK's Presidency Gender Day event accompanied by Little Amal, the 3.5 metre puppet travelling 8,000km in support of refugees, and Brianna Fruean, a Samoan Climate Change activist.

The First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, will speak along with youth advocate Fatou Jeng, UN Women Deputy Executive Director Asa Regner and Indigenous activist Tarcila Rivera Zea, for a discussion on how to enable gender equality through climate actions. The Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, will also address the event.

Minister for Europe and the Americas, Wendy Morton, will also announce the UK's new commitment to develop a FCD0 girls' education and climate policy to help secure concerted global action on climate change in the education sector, to prevent climate change disrupting girls' education and empowering girls to take climate action.

This follows COP26 Youth and Public Empowerment Day last week, where the Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Girls' Education Helen Grant announced support for girls' education in the face of climate change. This includes an £85,000 research grant to support the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre. The Centre will produce better information on the education needs of refugee children to enable a more effective international response.

New UK funding will address the dual challenge of gender inequality and climate change, including:

- up to £45 million funding for the Community Resilience Partnership Programme (CRPP) to help empower local communities and grassroots women's groups in Asia and the Pacific to challenge gender inequalities, and adapt to the impacts of climate change. This funding is part of the UK's Climate Action for a Resilient Asia (CARA) programme (up to £274 million), [announced at yesterday's \(Monday 8 November\) Adaptation, Loss and Damage Day](#). The UK is the largest donor to [CRPP, which is managed by the Asian Development Bank](#).
- £120million funding for the Bangladesh Climate and Environment Programme

to build resilience, prevent pollution, protect biodiversity, strengthen renewable energy and better manage waste, while also supporting women's access to finance, education and skills in Bangladesh.

The UK has been urging countries around the world to put gender equality at the heart of climate action in line with the Gender Action Plan COP25 agreed in 2019, with a focus on new commitments made under the priority actions of the Generation Equality Forum action coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice (FACJ) which the UK joined in June.

Under the 2X Collaborative the 2X Climate Finance Taskforce is launching a toolkit and guidance notes on gender-smart climate finance. The taskforce is led by CDC, the UK's Development Finance Institution, together with the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and will support the finance community to make climate finance investments which close gender gaps across different sectors. These tools will improve understanding on the opportunities of applying a gender-lens to climate investments and so mobilise additional capital that delivers both climate outcomes and promotes gender equality and women's economic opportunities.

The climate crisis is a major threat to girls' education, as climate-related disasters disrupt nearly 40 million children's education every year. But ensuring that girls can access 12 years of quality education supports them to be more resilient to climate shocks and empowers them to lead change, including to help address the climate crisis. Driving progress against the G7-endorsed global targets to get 40 million more girls into school and 20 million more girls reading by 2026 is crucial to the global climate response.

[Little Amal](#) is a giant 3.5 metre-tall puppet created by a young Syrian refugee child. In 2021 she will walk 8,000 km across Turkey, Greece, Italy, France, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium and the UK to focus attention on the urgent needs of young refugees. Little Amal will be joining this event to shed light not only on the ways in which young women and girls are disproportionately impacted by climate change, but also the important role they have to play as agents of change in climate action.