

Planned next release of NIFAIS for Monday 12 June 2023 postponed

The latest stage of DAERA's new Northern Ireland Food Animal Information System (NIFAIS) will be postponed for a number of months to facilitate further testing and integration with industry IT systems.

Chief Vet urges vigilance on Avian Influenza

Northern Ireland's Chief Vet, Dr. Robert Huey, has called on all bird and poultry keepers to immediately step up their biosecurity measures and remain vigilant against the latest threat of Avian Influenza (AI).

Greens call for tighter windfall tax on oil and gas companies



Green Party

9 June 2023

Responding to Chancellor Jeremy Hunt's plans to weaken the windfall tax on oil and gas producers, Green Co-leader Adrian Ramsay said:

"It is beyond comprehension that the government seems happy to allow these huge corporations to not only wreck the climate but to profit off the back of the cost-of-living crisis which they themselves have contributed to.

"The windfall tax was supposed to be designed to help cover the cost of

government support to ordinary people facing rocketing heating bills over the winter, but because of existing loopholes has only raised, at £2.8 billion, a small proportion of what was expected. [1]

“Now the Chancellor wants to weaken it further by giving companies a free pass when energy prices fall and to further encourage investment in damaging new fossil fuel extraction.

“Instead, the government should be tightening the tax, closing the loopholes and ensuring the money raised helps people through the cost-of-living crisis and funds the sustainable green energy jobs in the renewable sector we urgently need as our dependence on fossil fuels reduces.

“Our ‘dirty profits tax’ [2] would force the biggest polluters to pay for the damage they cause while protecting everyone else as we transition to a carbon-free future.

“We would make the tax a stepping stone towards a permanent carbon tax on polluting industries.”

NOTES

[1]

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2023/jun/09/north-sea-oil-and-gas-industry-offered-get-out-clause-on-windfall-tax>

[2]

<https://greenparty.org.uk/news/2022/02/08/greens-call-for-dirty-profits-tax/>

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[OECD Ministerial Council Statement and Outcomes](#)

08/06/2023 – Ministers have issued a joint statement at the conclusion of this week’s Council meeting at Ministerial level. Under the Chairmanship of the United Kingdom, with Costa Rica and New Zealand as Vice-Chairs, Members met for discussions around the theme “Securing a Resilient Future: Shared Values and Global Partnerships.”

[Read the 2023 Ministerial Council statement.](#)

The Ministerial Council Meeting (MCM) is the OECD’s highest-level forum, attended by Ministers of Finance, Economy, Foreign Affairs, Trade and other

government departments from OECD Member and Partner countries, and by representatives of International Organisations.

This year's MCM was opened by OECD Secretary-General Mathias Cormann, United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs James Cleverly, Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal, Costa Rican Minister of Foreign Trade Manuel Tovar, New Zealand Minister of Trade and Export Growth Damien O'Connor, Indonesian Minister of Finance Sri Mulyani Indrawati, and Indian G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant.

During the two-day meeting, Ministers welcomed the launch of the Ukraine Country Programme and welcomed the adoption of a new OECD Strategic Framework for the Indo-Pacific. Additionally, they welcomed:

- the OECD's Contribution to Promoting Gender Equality, the proposed Flagship Report on Gender Equality, the OECD Dashboard on Gender Gaps, the new Gender Data Initiative, and looked forward to the development of gender policy reviews and the establishment of a Gender Equality Forum to embed best practice;
- the updated OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct;
- progress made on the OECD-Africa Partnership;
- progress made with the inaugural meeting and growing membership of the Inclusive Forum on Carbon Mitigation Approaches (IFCMA) and encouraged broad membership, including large emitters;
- an Accession Progress Update for Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Peru and Romania,
- the approval of the OECD's Contribution to Promoting Open Markets and a Rules-Based International Trading System in Good Working Order; and
- the creation of the Global Forum on Technology and the OECD Global Forum on Building Trust and Reinforcing Democracy.

Ministers also welcomed the Annual Update on OECD Standard-Setting and adopted the following new or updated OECD legal instruments:

- *Recommendation on Environmental Compliance Assurance*
- *Recommendation on Fighting Bid Rigging in Public Procurement*
- *Recommendation on Improving the Gender Balance in the Nuclear Sector*
- *Recommendation on Intellectual Property Rights and Competition*
- *Revised Recommendation on Principles of Corporate Governance*
- *Recommendation on Regional Development Policy*
- *Recommendation on SME Financing*
- *Recommendation on the Governance of Digital Identity*
- *Revised Recommendation on the International Standards for Automatic Exchange of Information in Tax Matters*
- *Decision-Recommendation concerning Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response*
- *Revised Decision on the Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct*

More detailed information and supporting documents on meeting outcomes and key issues will be available on the Ministerial Council Meeting website

at <http://www.oecd.org/mcm/>.

Additional background is also available across the OECD platform:

Working with over 100 countries, the OECD is a global policy forum that promotes policies to preserve individual liberty and improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world.

[Caroline Lucas will not re-stand in next General Election – Green Party statement](#)



Green Party

8 June 2023

Caroline Lucas announced this morning that she does not intend to re-stand as a candidate for parliament in the next General Election [1].

Lucas has held the seat in Brighton Pavilion since being elected in 2010 and has increased her majority at every subsequent election.

Commenting on the news, Co-leader Carla Denyer said: “Caroline’s impact on politics in this country cannot be overstated: she truly is a force of nature and has been an extraordinary servant of the people of Brighton Pavilion as well as the Green Party. We are so proud of her achievements.

“Whether securing significant policy changes, shaping the conversation, or modelling a different way of doing politics – Caroline demonstrates how essential it is to have Green voices in UK politics. I’ve learnt so much from her, she is an inspiration to me and to many people inside and outside the Green Party who want to see positive change in politics .”

Co-leader Adrian Ramsay said: “Caroline’s contribution to our national life has been something to behold for the more than two decades we’ve known one another. Very few politicians can claim to have changed the course of the national debate in the way Caroline has. She has brought so much to us as a

party, shown real integrity in her work and added a crucial dimension to our democracy in this country.

“Having MPs who are genuinely dedicated to standing up for the climate and nature could not be more important than it is right now and that’s why we are striving to get more Green MPs elected at the next General Election so that we can build on Caroline’s achievements.”

ENDS

Notes

1

<https://twitter.com/CarolineLucas/status/1666675402775883778>

For more information or to arrange an interview contact the press office on press@greenparty.org.uk or call 0203 691 9401

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