Notice: ME6 5AX, Smurfit Kappa UK Limited: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

• Operator name: Smurfit Kappa UK Limited

• Installation name: Snodland Paper Mill

• Permit number: EPR/BJ7433IQ/V006

Notice: BB1 5UD, Pets Choice Limited: environmental permit application advertisement

The Environment Agency consults the public on certain applications for waste operations, mining waste operations, installations, water discharge and groundwater activities. The arrangements are explained in its Public Participation Statement

These notices explain:

- what the application is about
- how you can view the application documents
- when you need to comment by

The Environment Agency will decide:

- whether to grant or refuse the application
- what conditions to include in the permit (if granted)

News story: United Nations Day 2017

Message from Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson:

UN Day video message from the Foreign Secretary

Minister for the UN, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon said:

Today is a day of celebration, marking the anniversary of the founding document of the United Nations, the UN Charter coming into force.

As Minister responsible for the United Nations, I am pleased to mark UN Day with a renewal of our pledge to remain a strong and committed supporter of the United Nations.

The UK recognises the enormous challenge Member States were responding to when they agreed in the preamble of the Charter, "to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security" and "to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours".

The UN's work to uphold universal values is as significant to the world today as when the UN charter first came into force 72 years ago.

Nowhere is this more visible than the UN coming together to bring Daesh to justice. Through UN Security Council Resolution 2379, the international community has united to ensure that Daesh will be held accountable for the crimes that is has committed, and that reconciliation work will help to heal the sectarian divides that Daesh has exploited and inflamed.

Today I also want to welcome the determination of UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, to reform and refresh the UN, whether this be in the areas of peace and security, development and humanitarian or management reform, in order to render it fit and able to meet the complex challenges of the 21st Century.

The UK is proud to have been a strong supporter of the UN since its inception and a permanent member of the Security Council, and as we look ahead, our commitment remains resolute, both to the UN and to the universal values that it works to uphold.

Open consultation: Proposed catch limits for November 2017

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) sets monthly catch limits for quota species to ensure the UK stays within the overall limit set by the EU. These limits apply to all under 10 meter vessels and the over 10 meter vessels that are not in a co-operative (Producer Organisation).

Please contact the MMO if you have any comment to make about the suggested catch limits which will be put into force on 1 November 2017.

Comments to be received no later than 5pm 30 October 2017.

Telephone 0208 0 269 097

<u>Press release: Highways England and conservation volunteers pick up top environmental award</u>

Highways England and a group of environmental volunteers have picked up a major award after transforming land alongside the A30 in Devon into a hotspot for wildlife.

The Big Biodiversity Challenge — Maintenance and Management Award was won by Highways England and the Sticklepath and Okehampton Conservation Group (STOC) for an innovative scheme at Blackhall Farm enhancing habitats and creating stepping stones for wildlife species to move across the area.

The land, owned by Highways England, had already been identified as having potential and benefits for habitat connectivity but funding needed to be identified to take the project forward.

With the help of StOC volunteers, labour costs were kept to a minimum and just £1400 was spent on materials and the hire of a mini digger.

Over a three year period a wetland area has been created, new hedges laid and woodland has been looked after and actively managed at the 1.5 hectare site.

Highways England ecologist Leo Gubert, said:

I am delighted for all of us that we have won this CIRIA award. It is a perfect example of how community involvement can result in wonderful benefits for biodiversity on the land we manage while providing a real sense of achievement for everyone involved.

The hard working volunteers from StOC kept working under all weather conditions with a never fading enthusiasm. It has been a real pleasure to work with them.

The new approach of Highways England ecologists working alongside volunteers has seen numerous benefits at Blackhall Farm, including:

- An explosion in wild flower species providing foraging habitat for pollinators
- A large woodland area thinned and coppiced and hedges laid providing

habitat for dormice, birds, invertebrates and other small mammals
• Habitat created for aquatic species, including a rare local damselfly

StOC group coordinator Mike Watson said:

The group has thoroughly enjoyed taking part in this project with Highways England and Kier and it's wonderful the work has been recognised by this award.

It feels good to know that we have made a difference and achieved so much in the three years we have been involved. We are looking forward to getting back to the site and continuing the good work.

The project will continue for the foreseeable future and plans include installing a bee bank using soil from a nearby construction scheme and planting woodland bulbs in the coppiced area.

General enquiries

Members of the public should contact the Highways England customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

Media enquiries

Journalists should contact the Highways England press office on 0844 693 1448 and use the menu to speak to the most appropriate press officer.