

## **News story: Sellafield incident report – powder spillage (14 June 2017)**

While carrying out analysis work in a Sellafield site laboratory, a worker spilled approximately 1kg of depleted uranium trioxide powder while moving a container.

The material is not harmful unless ingested or inhaled.

The correct safety procedures were followed and the immediate area was evacuated before returning to normal service on the same day.

Health checks confirmed the worker suffered no ill effects.

An internal investigation is being carried out.

The event has been rated 1 (anomaly) on the [International Nuclear Events Scale](#)

Sellafield is regulated by the [Office for Nuclear Regulation](#) and the [Environment Agency](#)

[See details of incidents at Sellafield before 1 August 2017](#)

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## **Corporate report: Coal Authority sustainability report 2016-17**

The Coal Authority's vision to be a 'world leader in resolving the impacts of mining' requires them to operate both sustainably and responsibly. This report provides details of their performance over the past 12 months and their responsibilities as a global citizen for the long term sustainability of our planet and future generations.

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## **Research and analysis: Impact of catch and release angling practices on**

# survival of salmon

This report is an independent literature review undertaken by the Hull International Fisheries Institute to identify measures to maximise the survival of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) caught and released by anglers.

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## News story: Companies House announces new Chief Executive

Louise Smyth has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of Companies House and The Registrar of Companies for England and Wales.

Louise Smyth has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of Companies House and The Registrar of Companies for England and Wales. She will take up leadership of the organisation in September 2017 and joins Companies House from a long career at the Intellectual Property Office, including roles as Director of IT, Director of Corporate Services and latterly as Chief Operating Officer.

Lesley Cowley, Companies House Chair said:

“I am delighted to announce Louise Smyth’s appointment as the next Chief Executive of Companies House. We are at the forefront of the Government’s agenda for economic growth by making it easy to start a company, simple to maintain company information and easy and quick for everyone to access company information. Louise will be tasked with leading the successful implementation of our challenging business plans, in order to make our vision of becoming the best registry in the world a reality”.

Louise Smyth said:

“I am absolutely delighted to be given the opportunity to be Chief Executive of Companies House. I am very much looking forward to working with the team to build upon the great reputation of Companies House and to deliver exemplary services and operations for all our customers”.

### **Notes**

- The appointment of Louise Smyth follows an open competition overseen by the Civil Service Commission.
- Louise will take up her post in September. She replaces Ann Lewis, who has been Interim Chief Executive and Registrar since the previous Chief Executive and Registrar, Tim Moss left the organisation in April this

year.

- Louise is currently Chief Operating Officer of the Intellectual Property Office.
- Companies House can trace its origins to 1844, when the first Register of Joint Stock Companies was created. Louise will be the 33rd Registrar.

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## **News story: Hexavalent 6-in-1 vaccine to be made available to newborn babies**

All babies born on or after 1 August 2017 will be offered protection against hepatitis B as part of our universal childhood immunisation programme, Public Health England has announced. This is in addition to continued protection against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio and Hib.

The hexavalent vaccine replaces the existing 5-in-1 vaccine that children routinely receive. It is already widely used with around 150 million doses having been given in 97 countries in Europe and across the world.

There has been no change to the immunisation schedule or to the number of injections and children will continue to be immunised at the ages of 8, 12 and 16 weeks as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule. The only change is to the components of the vaccine itself, which now provides extra protection for hepatitis B.

Mary Ramsay, Head of Immunisation at Public Health England said:

Until today, only children at high risk of hepatitis B would be immunised. The introduction of hexavalent vaccine means that all children will now be routinely protected against this serious infection, which is a major cause of cirrhosis and liver cancer in later life. The hexavalent vaccine has been extensively tested and shown to be safe and is widely used internationally with millions of doses being given around the world.

The UK government has signed up to the WHO global hepatitis strategy to work towards elimination of viral hepatitis as a major public health threat by 2030. People with hepatitis B infection may not be aware that they are infected as chronic infection mostly has no symptoms. As adults are the majority of infected individuals, vaccinating children will protect them in childhood from potential exposure to infected household or family members. Vaccinating infants will essentially reduce the risk of infection and will provide longer term protection against future exposure risks.