



AARDVARK NEWS BRIEFING – 10 Jan 2005

Welcome to the latest edition of Aardvarks News briefing, in the news this week.

Latest Environment News

- **Villagers told flood unlikely to strike Boscastle again** – The flooding of the Cornish village of Boscastle was of such magnitude that there is only a one in 400 chance of it recurring in any one year. ([Environment Agency 12/01/05](#))
- **Fairview Homes fined for pollution** – A developer was fined £2,000 on Tuesday December 21 for polluting a tributary of the River Lee by washing silt-laden water into the surface water drainage system, in Welwyn Garden City ([Environment Agency 07/01/05](#))
- **Air quality estimates for 2004 published** Air quality in 2004 returned to the low-pollution level of recent years following last year's peaks caused by the summer heat wave, according to latest estimates. Defra's provisional annual Air Quality Headline Indicator (published 13 January) shows that in 2004 there was an average of 22 days of moderate or higher air pollution in urban areas and 41 days in rural areas. ([DEFRA 13/01/05](#))
- **Controversy clouds formal start to emissions trading** The European Union Emissions Trading System officially began this week on January 1st 2005, amid threats of legal action from the UK over its watered-down final draft allocation plan, and allegations that the World Bank is using its size to crowd out private sector players of projects.

Latest Legislation News

- **Right of access to the countryside – new appeals process for landowners** – Owners or occupiers of land covered by the new right of access may appeal to the Secretary of State if served with a notice requiring a means of access for walkers under new regulations which come into force today ([DEFRA 06/01/05](#))
- **Wildlife & Countryside Act to be updated** – The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Welsh Assembly Government are consulting, in England and Wales, on a comprehensive review of Part I of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 ([DEFRA 04/01/05](#))

Latest News From The Aardvark Team

- **Better Buildings, Better Business** – We are delighted to announce that Nick has passed his BREEAM Assessors course; Aardvark will seek accreditation this year and be undertaking BREEAM assessments on office developments throughout the UK.
- **Tax Credits for contaminated land clean up** – Aardvark have formed a joint initiative with the Taunton based accountancy firm, Albert Goodman to provide advice to develop on the tax benefits of cleaning up contaminated land.
- **Aardvark team up to full strength** – The team is now up to full strength with Jo Clayton's return to the office to undertake ecology based work and Helen Lawrie joining us to provide important hydrogeology expertise.
- **Visit www.aardvarkem.co.uk for all the latest news from the team.**