

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **Air pollution crisis 'plagues' UK, finds UN human rights expert:** 'Silent pandemic' of air pollution affects UK children and there is no indication protection against toxic waste will be retained after Brexit. (theguardian.com 13/01/2017)
- **New London parking surcharge for diesel drivers predicted to spread to rest of UK:** Although it will be deeply unpopular with many motorists, the scheme is expected to be highly lucrative for the council. (thetelegraph.co.uk 28/01/2017)
- **New 'super yield' GM wheat trial gets go-ahead:** The planting of a new experimental crop of genetically modified (GM) wheat will take place this spring after the UK government gave the final go ahead. (bbc.co.uk 01/02/2017)
- **Scottish Government launches fracking consultation:** Scottish residents' views sought on unconventional oil and gas extraction ahead of MSP vote later this year. (businessgreen.com 01/02/2017)
- **Action is needed to make stagnant CO2 emissions fall:** 2016 marked the third year in a row when global carbon dioxide emissions remained relatively flat, but actual declines won't materialize without advances in carbon capture and storage technology and sustained growth in renewables. (sciencedaily.com 30/01/2017)
- **Fukushima nuclear reactor radiation at highest level since 2011 meltdown:** Extraordinary readings pile pressure on operator Tepco in its efforts to decommission nuclear power station. (theguardian.com 03/02/2017)
- **Over 400 Whales Have Been Stranded on a New Zealand Beach and Most Have Died:** One of the worst whale beachings in New Zealand's history occurred Friday morning after more than 400 pilot whales got stuck in the sand. (time.com 10/02/2017)

And finally...

- **Lettuce 'black market' emerges amid national salad shortage:** Supermarkets rationing salad and vegetables has led to the emergence of a new "black market", as experts urge shoppers to buy more seasonal British produce. (telegraph.co.uk 03/02/2017)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

The Government published its response this week to the consultation on anaerobic digestion in the Feed-in Tariff (FIT). See the full response here [BEIS Consultation on AD](#). Aardvark was pleased to see the Govt set a higher tariff following consultation responses & that they confirmed sustainability criteria proposals would be aligned with the #RHI scheme. For all the Aardvark news go to www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

