

CAVENDISH

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Weekly Monitoring
Friday 12th April



EIA Update

The EIA this week has been promoting the launch of our SASIE 2023 report. The report demonstrates a positive year for many of our members and we are looking forward to upcoming engagement with political stakeholders and demonstrating the importance of our sector to the UK economy.

Political Update

This week was the last week of Easter Recess before Parliament returns on Monday 15th April.

William Wragg resigned as Tory whip following his admission that he leaked MP numbers in the Westminster honey trap scandal. The Labour Party has come under scrutiny this week with an investigation being opened into Deputy Leader Angela Rayner over the sale of her council house. The investigation has been prompted by a complaint from Tory deputy chairman James Daly.

Meanwhile, the Treasury confirmed the commencement of many financial packages announced during the Spring Budget, such as an increase in Childcare support for those on Universal Credit, increase to the state pension, and an expansion of Universal Credit. The second reading of the Finance Bill is scheduled for Wednesday 17th April in which further Budget measures will be discussed.

News

[Labour Party: Growth and Skills Levy Open letter](#)

The Labour Party have invited people to sign their open letter on changing the Apprenticeships Levy to a Growth and Skills Levy. The letter outlines some of the issues with the current Levy including a drop of apprentice starts by a third and money being left unused due to restrictive Levy rules. Labour have said that the change will allow greater flexibility of the levy's use and allow it to be spent on training everyone not just new starters.

Rachel Reeves Plans to tackle tax avoiders

Shadow Chancellor, Rachel Reeves, has set up an advisory panel on how to tackle tax avoidance, with claims cracking down on cases will help restore £5bn to the Government purse. Following Jeremy Hunt's announcement of scrapping the non-dom status and cutting National Insurance levels at his Spring Budget, the Shadow Chancellor was left short to be able to cost her own plans if Labour are elected to Government, with the new move intended to help fill this hole.

Festivals in Belfast have a positive economic impact on Belfast

A new report has demonstrated that, Belsonic and Emerge, Belfast's two largest outdoor festivals, contributed £30 million to Northern Ireland's economy in 2023 and created 6,000 jobs. The events attracted people from across the globe to attend. Chris Carey, chief economist at Live and a consultant at London's O2 and live entertainment consultant Tim Chambers conducted the study.

AI and LiDAR technology used to improve crowd safety

Defence and Security Accelerator has announced that Createc's LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) crowd control monitoring system has been bought by the Network Rail. LiDAR cameras can capture and contextualise crowd data including crowd size and speed without identifying individuals and when there are changes in patterns the system is able to alert staff members.

Createc created a crowd monitoring system using LiDAR which has undergone year long trials at Euston Station and Luton Airport and a month long trial at Waterloo Station. After the successful trial Network Rail bought the technology for use at Waterloo.

Parliament

House of Parliament

Culture, Media and Sport Committee report highlighted precarious pay rates for those in creative industries

The committee report has called for the Government to take action to ensure that those working in creative industries are compensated by people copying or moving content

across their devices. This is due to a lack of private copying scheme. Further in the report, they suggest that a Freelancers' Commissioner should work with Departments and be able to advocate for freelancers and self-employed, who are the majority of the creative industries workforce.

**For any queries regarding this round-up
please get in touch today.**

Get in touch

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cavendishconsulting.com