

Compliance & Risk

Volume 6, Issue 2

March/April 2017

Headlines

- Lords call for new UK environmental regulator, p.14
- Uber drivers guilty of breach, p.16
- Trend for substantial fines for health and safety breaches continues, p.17
- Ofcom fines Plusnet £880,000 for overcharging, p.18

Contents

Let's take this online: Antitrust enforcement in e-commerce 2

ISO 37001 Part 2: risk assessments and anti-bribery 6

Are you treating your vulnerable customers fairly? 10

News & Views 14

UK to fight global human rights abuse with Magnitsky legislation

The UK is to put in place its own version of the US Magnitsky Act, with measures allowing the government to freeze the assets of human rights violators from anywhere in the world.

The Criminal Finances Bill, which was prompted by the case of Russian whistleblower Mr Magnitsky, is designed to turn the UK into a "hostile environment" for organised criminals and so-called 'kleptocrats'.

The Bill was voted through the House of Commons on 21 February 2017, and includes

measures which will give the UK government the right to freeze the assets of foreign officials who abuse anti-corruption and human rights activists.

The measures extend the current definition of unlawful conduct to include human rights abuses, and to encompass anyone who financially profited from, or materially assisted in, such abuses.

Russian lawyer Sergei Magnitsky, legal adviser for London-based Hermitage Capital Management (HCM), was allegedly beaten to death in a Moscow jail in November

2009 after exposing a \$230m fraud from the state budget involving a criminal gang and corrupt officials. He had been jailed after being accused of committing fraud himself.

Since Mr Magnitsky's death, HCM's founder, William Browder, has campaigned to bring to justice those he believes are responsible for what happened to the lawyer.

Mr Browder welcomed the third reading of the UK Bill in the Commons as a "huge triumph" that would

[\(Continued on page 14\)](#)

Thames Water fined record £20.3m for raw sewage dump in Thames

A record fine of £20.3 million has been handed down to Britain's biggest water company, Thames Water, after the company permitted huge amounts of untreated sewage to enter the Thames at six sites in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire in 2013-14.

At one site, prosecutors at the Environment Agency said, up to 32m litres of waste flowed into the Thames each day, leaving

people and animals ill and killing thousands of fish.

The fine is 10 times the previous record penalty of £2 million, which was paid in December 2016 by Southern Water for flooding beaches in Kent with raw sewage, an action that left the beaches closed to the public for nine days.

As he announced the penalty at Aylesbury

Crown Court on 22 March 2017, Judge Francis Sheridan called the incident "a shocking and disgraceful state of affairs", and added that "It should not be cheaper to offend than to take appropriate precautions." Thames Water has 21 days to pay the fine.

Chief Executive of Thames Water, Steve Robertson, said the

[\(Continued on page 14\)](#)