

for instance, by using uncomplicated Green Power Auction Markets to achieve the appropriate 'reference price' for the sector.

#### **4 Where can you register for incentives?**

The Feed-in Tariff and Renewables Obligation are both funded by the Levy Control Framework and so are both accessed via Ofgem's 'Renewables and CHP Register'. The first step

in applying to these schemes is to register with this register: [bit.ly/12orDpy](http://bit.ly/12orDpy)

The Ofgem website also features application FAQs for both the FIT ([bit.ly/12orPVV](http://bit.ly/12orPVV)) and the RO ([bit.ly/12orW3u](http://bit.ly/12orW3u)).

The RHI is tax-funded rather than levy-funded and so is administered via a separate area of Ofgem. To apply for accreditation to the RHI, visit: [bit.ly/12osaI4](http://bit.ly/12osaI4)

#### **5 Where can I find out more information?**

The REA's family of websites is a good place to start:

[www.r-e-a.net](http://www.r-e-a.net)

[www.biogas.org.uk](http://www.biogas.org.uk)

[www.organics-recycling.org.uk](http://www.organics-recycling.org.uk)

The Official Information Portal on Anaerobic Digestion, operated by REA member company NNFCC, is also a useful resource:

[www.biogas-info.co.uk](http://www.biogas-info.co.uk)



## **Gaynor Hartnell, chief executive of the Renewable Energy Association**

wide-ranging and often fast moving. Whilst in some ways that's exhilarating, it can be hard to concentrate. A common theme is negotiating a way through potential conflict and managing expectations.

#### **What is the most interesting aspect of your job?**

I'd rather say what is the most satisfying aspect – and that's getting poor policy proposals reversed. We've had a number of these to deal with recently, but I won't go into detail. I often use the technique of an open letter to the members to start the debate, and if not too sensitive they end up on the REA blog. Some battles are best fought privately, however, so you won't find them aired...

#### **What do you think are the biggest issues in organics recycling at the moment?**

The End of Waste regulations for biowaste, which are taking (a rather alarming) shape in Europe. In the UK we have pioneered the Biofertiliser

Certification Scheme for AD. If a biogas project passes the PAS 110 the digestate it produces is no longer deemed to be waste, and can instead be marketed as a product.

The current proposed regulations are drafted from the starting point that the feedstock into the process is not source segregated. While this may be appropriate for some biowaste streams, for AD plant which want to market the digestate, it's all wrong. If the digestate could plausibly contain anything, a great deal more testing would be required to demonstrate it is safe. Not only would this be cost-prohibitive, but it may jeopardise the confidence of users, farm assurance schemes and supermarkets and thereby not have an end market. There is a way to go yet, but we cannot let this move from Europe undermine the scheme.

#### **What are your hobbies outside work?**

The job leaves precious little time for other interests but I like to play

table-tennis and grow fruit and veg. With more time on my hands I would like to keep bees.

#### **What aspects of your job do you find most challenging?**

The membership is diverse, as is inevitable in a pan-technology trade body and it is impossible to keep all the members happy all the time. The only way to do this would be to either be so anodyne as to be not worth listening to, or to try to give every member whatever they ask for. This would result in the REA rapidly losing credibility with Government and the members. It's essential to have a set of core values and stick to them, like a limpet.

#### **What is your favourite place in the world?**

I've not done enough research to answer that question! It's hard to beat finding a fat crop of ceps when mushrooming in the woods. That's my answer for now, but I'd probably come up with something else tomorrow...

#### **How long have you been involved with the REA and what is your role?**

From the very beginning, if not before! Before the REA came about I coordinated the Confederation of Renewable Energy Associations, which you could say was the precursor to the REA. The confederation started in 1997, the REA in 2001 (originally as the Renewable Power Association), and three years ago I became the REA's chief executive.

#### **What is your background?**

My background is Environmental Science, in the School of Chemistry. I then did a Masters in Science Policy and have always had an interest in policy, regulation and innovation.

#### **What does your job involve day-to-day?**

My day-to-day work is