



**CHEMTrust**

Protecting humans and wildlife  
from harmful chemicals

# Pollution, chemicals and health

## From inaction to action?

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EEB 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
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## About CHEM Trust

- **A charity that works at UK, EU & International levels to protect humans and wildlife from harmful chemicals**
- **Working with science, technical processes and decision makers, in partnership with other civil society groups**
- **We particularly focus on endocrine disrupting chemicals**
- **See our blog & twitter accounts for more**



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# Environment

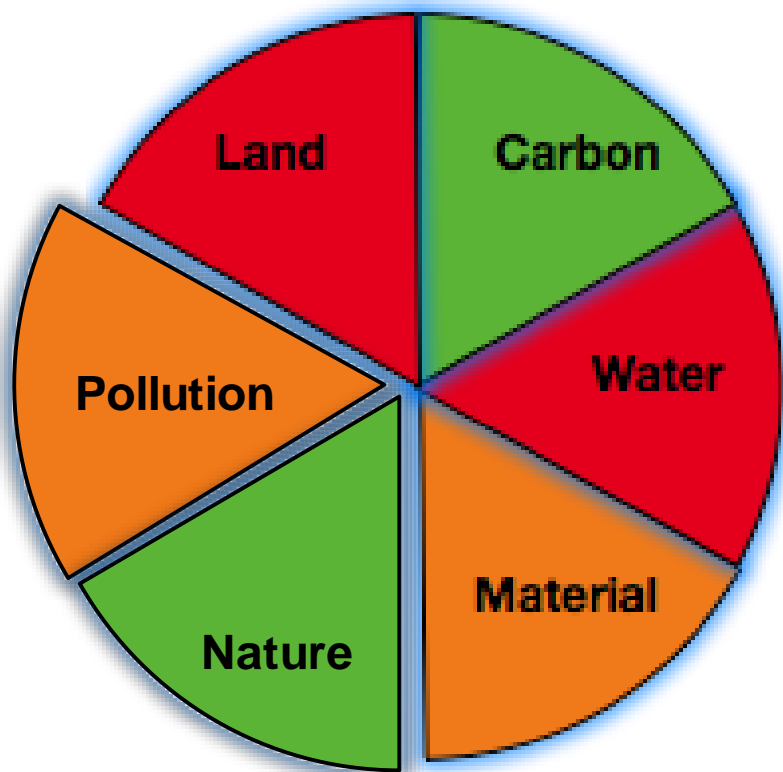
- **We need to return to a full view of the environment**
  - Not just low carbon & resource efficient, biodiversity
- **We must get pollution back into the environmental agenda**
  - Whether from chemicals, air pollution...
- **Minimising pollution must be part of the Green Economy agenda**
  - In products, supply chains, operations



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# Environment is not just low carbon & resource efficient!





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# Sustainability

- **Sustainability is vital**
  - It is about jobs – and growth (in wellbeing)
- **It's about innovation to better approaches**
  - If Europe doesn't, others will
- **It's not about protecting vested interests (who are making the money now) & their old, dirty, technologies**
  - E.g. Proposed authorisation of DEHP in PVC
- **It's time to stop evidence-free, vested-interest driven, anti-regulatory rubbish**



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# Science

- **Science is a vital tool**
  - But often hard or impossible to find definitive answers
  - Many decisions – to do something or not do something (*still a decision*) – are made with uncertain knowledge
- **Strong pro-inaction campaigns from producers, e.g. on hormone disrupting chemicals**
  - Have learnt from tobacco & climate debates
  - Strategy is to create doubt, delaying action
- **Need a faster, more balanced approach**
  - **Decisions need to be made with available evidence**
  - **We need active scientists to be more visible (as climate)**



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# Summary

- **Pollution – including chemicals - must be re-integrated into the environmental narrative.**
  - and be part of green economy plans
- **We need to re-focus on sustainability - including jobs and growth - in wellbeing.**
  - Ignore evidence-free, vested-interest driven, anti-regulatory rubbish
  - Promoting innovation to safer chemicals
- **Science must be used to establish balanced case for action vs inaction**
  - Use available evidence & get the active scientists out!