



# ERCs

JUSTICE FOR PEOPLE  
AND THE ENVIRONMENT



ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS CENTRE FOR SCOTLAND

[www.ercs.scot](http://www.ercs.scot)





# We run Scotland's only free Advice Service on environmental law.

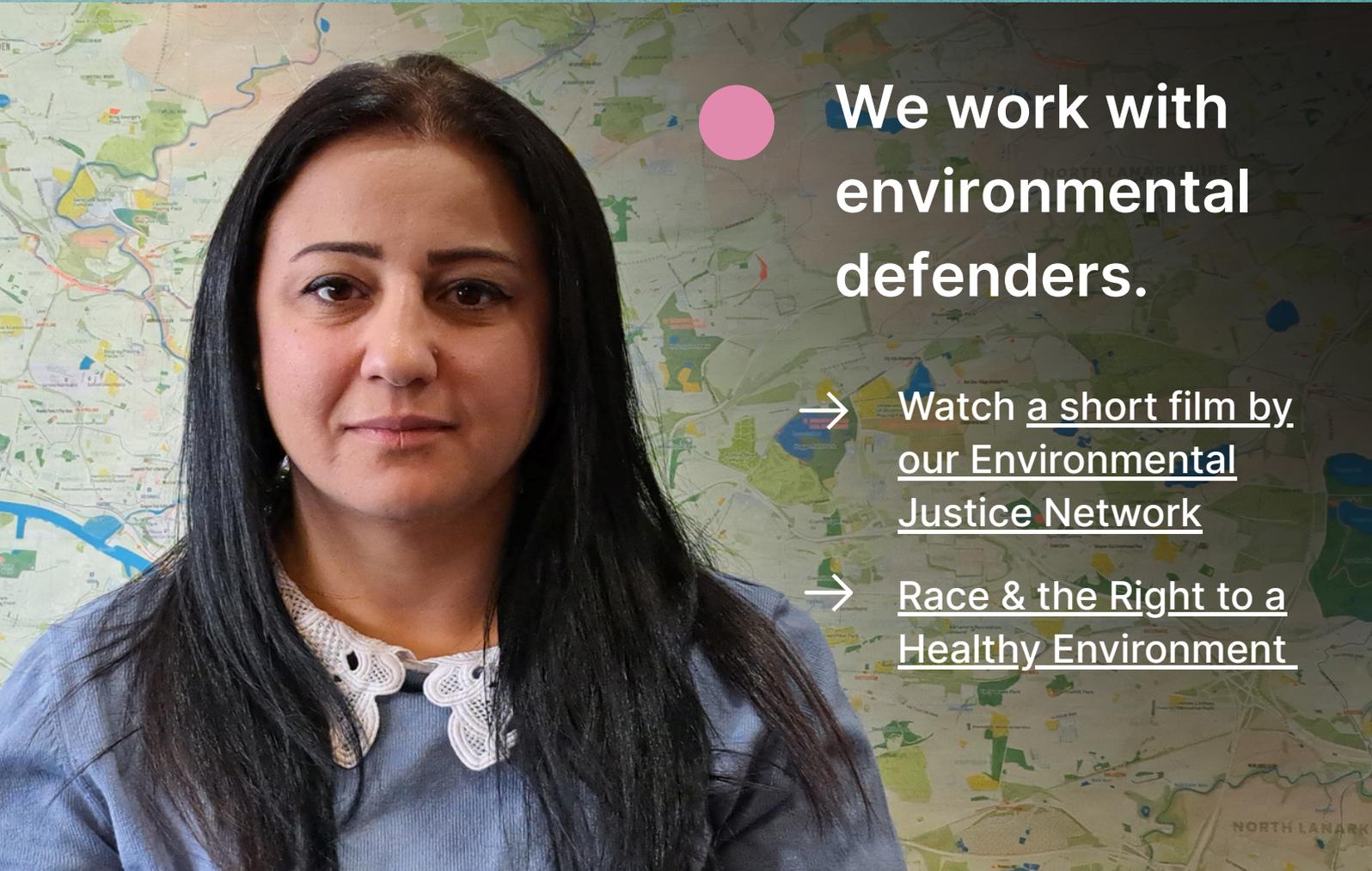
We have already responded to over 600 enquiries and run Scotland's only law centre for environmental justice.



[Our latest Advice Service snapshot](#)

## Voices for Justice

Read [accounts from our Advice Service clients](#) - like Mark, who challenged the pollution of his local forest.



## We work with environmental defenders.



Watch [a short film by our Environmental Justice Network](#)



[Race & the Right to a Healthy Environment](#)



## **We advocate for better laws.**

We are at the forefront of advancing an enforceable right to a healthy environment, improved access to justice, and the criminalisation of ecocide.

→ [Advocacy manifesto](#) → [Summary](#)



## **And when all else fails, we take legal action.**

Our strategic litigation cases include defending our right to participate in environmental law-making.

→ [Our cases](#)



# Explore our resource hub

See our free guides on environmental law, webinars with experts, briefings and more.

→ [Explore our resources](#)

## What are PFAS?

Per- or poly-fluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of over 4,700 synthetic chemicals.

**They are toxic to both humans and the environment, and the full extent of their harm is still unknown.**

PFAS are in many everyday products such as food packaging, waterproof textiles and cosmetics; and in several industrial products such as firefighting foams and pesticides.

The most common PFAS chemicals are PFOA, PFOS and PFHxS.

## Can it affect my health?

**Yes.** PFAS have been linked to cancers, thyroid disease, ulcerative colitis, liver damage, pregnancy-related illness and child development health risks.

Emerging evidence indicates that lower concentrations of PFAS

than previously understood can still impact human health.

## Am I at risk?

**Yes.** PFAS have been detected in human blood and breast milk.

They are present in drinking water and accumulate in food webs ending up on our plates.

PFAS have been found in Scotland's drinking water above levels deemed acceptable in the EU and US.

PFAS are forever chemicals because they do not break down in the environment. They accumulate in the air, water, soil and microorganisms.



# Get our newsletter

The easiest way to keep updated is to sign up for our newsletter, with a note on our latest work from our Chief Officer Shivali.

→ [Sign up to our mailing list](#)