

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Join the Society for the Environment in Celebrating World Environment Day

Coventry, England (12 April 2017)

To highlight the significance of World Environment Day, the Society for the Environment is inviting environmental professionals to share and discuss examples of best practice and environmental protection via a number of platforms. This is an opportunity to showcase environmental expertise and demonstrate the contribution being made to sustainability across industry sectors during a globally recognised initiative.

Since its creation in 1974, World Environment Day has been the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. The Society is a champion for World Environment Day and aims to further promote what it stands for.

Together with its 24 Licensed Bodies, the Society is hosting an expert led conference on World Environment Day (5th June 2017), with an umbrella theme of 'Innovation, Partnership and the Value of Nature'. This is an opportunity to discuss current issues and share expert knowledge with an audience from multiple sectors. A series of specialist speakers will provide insight into their respective fields, highlighting how their work is contributing to the underlying principles of World Environment Day. Speakers include:

- Prof Carolyn Roberts – Vice President of the Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES)
- Dougal Driver – Fellow of Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF) and Vice Chair of the Society for the Environment
- David McHugh – Trustee of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM)
- Dr Stephanie Wray – President of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental (CIEEM)
- Dr Peter Matthews CBE OBE – Former President of Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) and Chair of Society for the Environment.

Kindly hosted by IMechE at [One Birdcage Walk](#), London, the conference is not only open to environmental professionals, but also welcomes aspiring environmental professionals looking to enhance their knowledge, with the added opportunity to discuss the routes available to becoming a Charter Environmentalist (CEnv) or Registered Environmental Technician (REnvTech).

Chair of the Society and Chartered Environmentalist, Dr Peter Matthews CBE OBE said, "the Society believes that all registered environmental professionals are key to protecting the environment both locally and globally. World Environment Day is a driver for establishing collective opportunities between these experts, providing a platform to influence environmental management on a wider scale and a great opportunity to demonstrate commitment to the understanding that mankind cannot be green by regulation alone. However, when considering the continued impact that we have on the environment across all sectors, the awareness of this highly pertinent UN initiative is still too low, which we aim to change."

As part of the World Environment Day celebrations, the Society is calling for its 24 Licensed Bodies to share information, news and knowledge in order to form a collective approach to tackling environmental issues and improving sustainability. The Licensed Bodies span a spectrum of industry sectors including forestry, engineering, waste management and agriculture, with registered

environmental professionals located across over 60 countries. Therefore, the scale of environmental expertise within our registrants is vast, and the opportunities to collaborate are clear.

The Society is requesting that environmental professionals join the conversation about World Environment Day and how they connect with the environment. The aim is to gain contributions from each of the 24 Licensed Bodies by producing at least one of the following:

1. **A blog post** on what you are doing in the next 12 months to help the environment.
2. **An article** for your licensed body newsletter / journal / magazine about how your work aligns with what World Environment Day stands for.
3. **Post a picture or short video** on Twitter of you at work to illustrate your connection with the environment.

The above options are flexible in content criteria, but should all relate to World Environment Day to result in a collection of relevant environmental topics to share with others. Input from multiple environmental professionals within each Licensed Body is not only welcome, but actively encouraged. All contributions will be shared on the Society's website and social media platforms using the hashtag #EnvProfsWED.

Free registration for the World Environment Day conference is now open via the [event listing](#) on the Society's website. For further information about the World Environment Day conference or the supporting conversations, please visit www.socenv.org.uk/WED2017 or contact their team.

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NOTES TO EDITOR:

The Society for the Environment, is comprised of 24 Licenced Bodies, with over 500,000 members between them. It received a Royal Charter in 2004, which empowers it to regulate the Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) and Registered Environmental Technician (REnvTech) registration in the UK. There are now over 7,000 environmental professionals currently registered who share a common vision of delivering sustainability through environmental professionalism. Further information can be found at www.socenv.org.uk.

About Dr Peter Matthews CBE OBE

Peter Matthews is a Chartered Environmentalist, Chartered Chemist, and Water and Environment Manager. He has held a variety of senior positions in the environmental field, in both the private and public sectors. After a career in the water industry spanning almost 35 years, he retired from Anglian Water International as Deputy Managing Director International in 1999. And after serving on the board of the Environment Agency and as Chair of the Northern Ireland Utility regulator, he was appointed in August 2012 as Founding Chair of the Welsh Government's new body for managing natural resources in Wales, Natural Resources Wales (NRW), a position he held until December 2015.

The Licensed Bodies of the Society for the Environment are:

Arboricultural Association (AA)
Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE)
Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT)
Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)
Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)
Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM)
Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM)
Energy Institute (EI)
Institute of Agricultural Management (IAgrM)
Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF)
Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)
Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM)
Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining (IOM3)
Institute of Water (IWater)
Institution of Agricultural Engineers (IAgrE)
Institution of Chemical Engineers (ICHEM)
Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)
Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES)
Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMECHE)
Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)
Society of Environmental Engineers (SEE)
Society of Operations Engineers (SOE)