

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**Society for the Environment Celebrates Two Milestones for Registrations in Less Than a Week**

Coventry, England (11 April 2017)

The Society for the Environment is celebrating a strong start to 2017, having registered its 9,000<sup>th</sup> Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) on Wednesday 5th April. Plus, in the first quarter of 2017, the Society found that females made up almost 58% (57.72%) of the new registrants, which is the highest percentage of female registrants to date.

Since the Society obtained its Royal Charter in 2004 it has seen fantastic growth in the numbers of people becoming Chartered Environmentalists. The Society aims to increase the visibility of environmental professionals through a range of events and activities geared towards promoting the significance of their knowledge and work.

This continued growth has also seen a consistent increase in the percentage of new registrants being female. The percentage peaked at 57.72% within the first quarter of 2017, the first time that females have represented over half of the new registrants in a quarterly period. The Society is optimistic that this trend of a near equal gender split will continue through quarter two and beyond.

Chair of the Society, and Chartered Environmentalist number 22, Dr Peter Matthews CBE OBE said, "I was present when the Society was first conceived and I am thrilled to have returned as Chair in 2015. I am pleased to see so many people believe in the importance of environmental professionalism and recognising the associated skills. I can't wait to welcome the next 9,000 Chartered Environmentalists, and Registered Environmental Technicians, to our register, as well as further increasing the overall percentage of female registrants."

Head of Licensing, Registration and Standards at the Society, Geoff Atkins, said, "I am pleased that we have passed 9,000 registrations over the course of our history. We are seeing some interesting trends, including the average age of new registrants dropping year on year and an increase in the number of women becoming Chartered Environmentalists. This shows it is a robust, respected and most importantly relevant professional registration to obtain. We strive to be an inclusive organisation."

The new registrants join existing registered environmental professionals from 68 countries and working within a wide spectrum of sectors, who all seek to apply environmental best practice to their daily work activities.

On World Environment Day (5<sup>th</sup> June), the Society will be hosting and promoting a series of events and activities to highlight the importance of environmental professionals and the critical work they do.

**END**

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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) qualifications 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](http://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.

**About Dr Emma Wilcox**

Emma has been CEO of the Society since July 2015 and since joining the organisation has led the development of a new five-year strategy increasing registrations and profile for Chartered Environmentalists and Registered Environmental Technicians.

Her career has spanned a number of disciplines including scientific research, knowledge and technology transfer, skills and education, programme and business management and stakeholder and relationship management. Emma's strong academic background is supported by an in-depth knowledge of both public and private sector landscapes.

**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)