

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Coventry, England (19 March 2019)

## Registration Opens for the 2019 Society for the Environment World Environment Day Awards and Lectures

**The custodians of the Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) and Registered Environmental Technician (REnvTech) registers, the Society for the Environment, are delighted to announce that Kew Gardens will host the Society's Annual World Environment Day Awards and Lectures – "A Spotlight On Net Gain" – on the 4th June 2019, the eve of World Environment Day.**

World Environment Day promotes environmental awareness and sustainability across the globe – a United Nations initiative held annually on the 5th June. It has highlighted important global issues since its origins in 1974 – including climate change, marine pollution and wildlife crime. This year's global theme focuses on the blight of air pollution. The Society has been championing World Environment Day for a number of years, and this year's registration launch follows the huge success of last year's event and awards, held at Arup, London.

The event, free to attend for current CEnv and REnvTech registrants, is a fantastic showcase for celebrating the work of environmental professionals, with a delegate list from across the Society's twenty-five [Licensed Professional Bodies](#). Aspiring CEnv and REnvTech registrants will also have the chance to network with current registrants and Society for the Environment staff to discover more about the benefits of registration.

On the 2019 agenda is a series of insightful expert lectures on the chosen topic of "Net Gain" - a topical choice, complementing the connected global World Environment Day theme of "Air Pollution". In his Spring Statement, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond announced mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain as a requirement for developments and the Government's Twenty-Five Year Environment Plan included a commitment to delivering a wider Environmental Net Gain. Among the speakers discussing this topic will be Nick Blyth CEnv, Policy and Engagement Lead at IEMA (Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment) and Claire Wansbury CEnv, Associate Director of Ecology at Atkins.

The event will also see Sir Graham Wynn HonFSE provide the annual HonFSE Lecture, and the presentation of the 2019 Environmental Professional of the Year Award – recognising the outstanding work of CEnv and REnvTech registrants. This prestigious award will contribute to an evening of celebrating and showcasing the achievements of those striving to protect and enhance the environment on a daily basis. Nominations will open in the coming days.

Vice Chair of the Society for the Environment and event Chair, Dougal Driver CEnv, said:

"Whether you are nervous of the threat or excited by the challenges that face the environment there is no doubt that we live in interesting times, with consistent focus upon the agendas we hold dear as registered environmental professionals. The concept and process of Net Gain has gathered common parlance in policy and professional circles; perhaps for the first time there is an environmental term that makes sense to all and can be deployed by sectors with or without a deep-rooted interest in the environment. It is simple and it is deliverable and so it is important on

marquee days like World Environment Day that we highlight the opportunity that Net Gain presents to all of us.

When better to recognise excellence in the environmental field than on World Environment Day and so it is exciting to see the Society announce new Honorary Fellows and of course this year's winner of the Environmental Professional of the Year award. I congratulate all of the award nominees in advance and urge them to use their success as fuel (renewable of course) to advocate Net Gain to all."

The event is of particular significance this year as it marks a 15 year milestone for the Society. Everyone is encouraged to attend to celebrate the anniversary, World Environment Day and the work of environmental professionals. Registration is free for CEnv and REnvTech registrants and a minimal £25 early bird price is available to other interested parties until the 31st March. Register your attendance today at [socenv.org.uk/event/WED2019](http://socenv.org.uk/event/WED2019) until 3 June.

- ENDS -

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**NOTES TO EDITOR:**

Photos of the venue, Kew Gardens, provided

**About the Society for the Environment**

The Society for the Environment (SocEnv) is comprised of 25 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) professional registrations globally. There are now over 7,000 environmental professionals currently registered who share a common vision of delivering sustainability through environmental professionalism. [www.socenv.org.uk](http://www.socenv.org.uk)

**About Dougal Driver CEnv, Vice Chair of the Society for the Environment**

Dougal Driver has extensive experience in the public, private and NGO sectors. After a successful career managing the Defence Estate Environment, he became a Defra Director and Ministerial advisor on environmental matters. He played a vital role in the first green infrastructure and natural capital policies and is an advisor to the Natural Capital Coalition. He set up both the New Forest and South Downs National Parks and is an expert in lowering the impact of powerboat racing in the marine environment.

Dougal is now a sought after Chairman, Director and advisor and is a board member for several environmentally focused organisations including Grown in Britain which has an aim to substitute unsustainable materials with home grown timber.

Dougal is passionate about the work of the Society and is our cabinet lead for World Environment Day.

**The 25 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)  
Nuclear Institute (NI)  
Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)  
Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)  
Society of Environmental Engineers (SEE)  
Society of Operations Engineers (SOE)