

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release



24th July 2015

Positive change at the Society for the Environment with a newly elected Chair and the appointment of the Chief Executive

Professor Peter Matthews OBE has once again been appointed Chair of the Society, 10 years after leading its development and achieving a Royal Charter. Professor Matthews, who represents the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management on the SocEnv Council, was elected Chair at the Society's AGM on 14th July. The Society has also welcomed the appointment of a new Chief Executive Dr Emma Wilcox.

"I am absolutely thrilled to return to the Society as Chair. Fate has played a role! I used my experiences in forming the Society to help me with the successful creation of Natural Resources Wales and now, my experience in Wales is going to help me lead the Society into an even brighter future." As Professor Matthews' role in Wales draws to a close he said,

"My time in Wales has strengthened my already deep commitment to the very positive role that professional bodies contribute to environmental best practice through their diverse membership; and I look forward to working with them all... Diolch yn fawr."

Professor Peter Matthews OBE HonFSE – Chair Society for the Environment

The Society's new Chief Executive, Dr Emma Wilcox joins the Society from Energy and Utility Skills, where she was responsible for the strategic direction and delivery of the Energy & Efficiency Industrial Partnership. The Partnership is a collaboration of over 60 employers from across the energy and utility sector who are working together to drive a radical new approach to recruitment, skills and workforce development. Emma directed all aspects of the Partnership; strategy, employer and stakeholder engagement and governance.

"I am delighted to have been appointed as CEO at SocEnv. With the introduction of the new REnvTech qualification, new Constituent Bodies joining the Society and with Peter back as Chair it is an exciting time. I am looking forward to supporting the organisation and working together with all our partners to further increasing the impact of our Chartered Environmentalist and now Registered Environmental Technician qualifications."

Dr Emma Wilcox – CEO Society for the Environment

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More information and a photograph of Peter Matthews OBE HonFSE, contact the Society for the Environment, on 02476 796451 or email Kerry.geldart@socenv.org.uk

Note for editors:

- 1) The Society for the Environment is a leading independent, non-political umbrella organisation for environmental and sustainability professionals. Our purpose is to support and champion the role of environmental professionals everywhere in the pursuit of a sustainable future. The 24 institutions and learned societies that form our [membership](#) represent hundreds of thousands of practitioners, working across a broad spectrum of disciplines and sectors.
- 2) The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management is the leading Chartered Professional Body covering all aspects of water and environmental activity, sustaining the excellence of the professionals who protect, develop and care for our environment.
- 3) For further information on the work of the Society, see the website www.socenv.org.uk. Alternatively, contact Kerry Geldart, Deputy Chief Executive of the Society for the Environment: tel: 02476 796451 kerry.geldart@socenv.org.uk
- 4) The members and Constituent 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)

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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)