

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 50th Annual General Meeting of the Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES) will be held online at 12.30pm BST on Wednesday 19th April 2023 to consider and, if thought fit, pass the following resolutions which will be proposed as ordinary or special resolutions as indicated below. The AGM will last approximately 45 minutes.

Ordinary Resolutions

1. To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st April 2022
2. To receive and adopt the 2022 Annual Report
3. To receive and adopt the accounts for the year ending 30th June 2022
4. To authorise the Council to appoint accountants for the fiscal year ending 30th June 2023

Elections

5. To elect members of Council (Articles 26-30)
Chris Rush

Voting is online through the [Members' Area](#) of the IES website.



Adam Donnan

CEO [By Order of the Board]

March 2023

Relevant Documents

- (a) Minutes of 49th Annual General Meeting (p.2)
- (b) [2022 Annual report](#)
- (c) [2021-22 Accounts](#) (pdf)
- (d) [Biographies of candidates standing for election 2023](#) (pdf)

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Governing Document: Articles of Association (2019)



Minutes of the AGM held at Noon, 21st April 2022, Online Zoom Meeting

Adam Donnan (AD) explained that the AGM was being held online again to maximise engagement from members. He encouraged any members who had not voted yet, to do so through the voting tool in the Members' Area.

Chair's Review of the Year

AD introduced Julie Hill (JH), who was elected as IES Chair after the 2021 AGM. JH reflected on the challenging circumstances of the last few years: the consequences of an EU exit, a pandemic, and now a war in Europe. She highlighted three aspects of how the IES could help members: supporting the profession to enhance equality, diversity and inclusion; our joint responsibilities to speak truth to power; and the maintenance of optimism in the face of challenges. She thanked members for their contributions to the IES, noted the efforts of staff during challenging times, and thanked her fellow Council members, Vice Presidents and our supporters. JH looked forward to an exciting – if possibly unpredictable – year where we all play our part in fulfilling the mission of the organisation.

CEO's Reflections on 2021

AD reviewed the work of the IES in 2021. It was a challenging year, with the stop-start nature of Covid regulations making strategic planning and service delivery difficult. He looked back with immense pride that the staff team were able to deliver a record number of webinars and policy outputs and a strong set of publications. 2021 saw the launch of our latest three-year strategy. He outlined some of the journals and reports from 2021 and thanked Danielle Kopecky, Publications Lead, and all the authors, working groups and guest editors who contributed. He highlighted some events throughout the year, including the in-person delivery of three events in Q4 and thanked Katherine Karr, Events & Marketing Lead, for her fortitude in a trying year for events delivery.

The IES's STAGES work in the build-up to COP26 provided a thematic thread for the year, culminating with staff attendance at COP26 and the launch of our Manifesto for Transformative Change. AD thanked the staff and members who contributed to this work, and highlighted the leading role of Joseph Lewis, Policy Lead, in the work. He outlined recent expansions in our communities' work and thanked our Communities & Partnership Lead, Ethny Childs, for her able support of these communities.

He concluded this section by thanking members for their commitment to the IES in 2021. The year had seen our highest ever membership retention rate, which contributed to an 8% growth in membership. He thanked the huge number of volunteers who sit on committees, assess applications, and provide content for our webinars, events and journals, underlining that the work of the IES would not be possible without their contribution.

AD closed the online voting.

Treasurer's Update

Ian Byrne (IB), the IES Treasurer, gave a review of the 2020-21 accounts. He highlighted that it was a strong year financially for the Institution, despite the headwinds. He praised the trustees and staff team for their close attention to expenditure and income. Income increased 9% from the previous financial year, largely driven by membership growth. He highlighted that voluntary income appeared for the first time that represented grant income the IES have received during the year. The income was matched by a 9 percent increase in expenditure. He highlighted that there had been some staff turnover in the year, resulting in lower than planned expenditure, and paid tribute to the staff for delivering strong outcomes, despite this.

IB displayed graphs showing the longer-term trends in income/expenditure and reserves over the past five years. These showed a steady increase. An illustrative example was that income had increased from £289k in 2016 up to £510k in 2021, largely due to increases in membership. Expenditure had remained a slight distance behind income meaning cash reserves had increased, to provide security for the organisation as it grows.

Plans for 2022

AD looked forward to the coming year. He highlighted that the IES was increasingly able to access grant funding, which allowed the IES to expand its mission, whilst keeping membership fee increases low. Over the past few years, the IES had got better at articulating the impact that the Institution has on wider society. We are in the process of underpinning our strategy with a theory of change to understand this further. He highlighted that we had several promising applications in with grant funders and he is hoping to make positive announcements later this year. The IES had undertaken a comprehensive gap analysis against the policy recommendations in our Manifesto for Transformative Change. He highlighted the importance of the report, 'A Challenging Environment: experiences of ethnic minorities in the environment sector', launched in March 2022. There will be a number of new ED&I initiatives in the year that the IES will be either supporting or leading.

The theme for the year will be risk, showcasing the systems approach that environmental scientists take to dealing with risk. The Institution will also be updating its visual identity. 2022 is the Institution's 50th anniversary and we will be marking this throughout the year.

The meeting moved onto the resolutions. Voting took place entirely through the Members' Area of the website.

1. To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20th April 2021

Proposed Eleni Antoniadou, Seconded Rebecca Jessup | 86 votes for, 10 abstentions, 0 against | Minutes approved.

2. To receive and adopt the 2021 Annual Report

Proposed Jonathan Atkinson, Seconded John Baines | 92 votes for, 4 abstentions, 1 against | Report adopted.

3. To adopt the audited accounts for the year ending 30th June 2021

Proposed Oliver Puddle, Seconded Eleni Antoniadou | 84 votes for, 12 abstentions, 0 against | Accounts adopted.

4. To authorise the Council to appoint Accountants for the year ending 30th June 2022

Proposed Iain Hossack, Seconded Jackie Rogers | 91 votes for, 5 abstentions, 1 against | Council authorised to appoint accountants.

5. To elect members of Council (Articles 26-30)

The following Council members were elected: Bernard Devereux, Ed Hill, Rebecca Jessup, Elizabeth Mullings-Smith, Nicola Parker.

JH thanked everyone who had stood for election and the outgoing Council members.

The AGM concluded at 12:30.