# Candidates standing for election 2024

Biographies





### **Kerry Dinsmore**

Kerry is a Principal Science Advisor within the Scottish Government, advising Ministers and policy teams on a broad range of subject areas from agriculture and greenhouse gas emissions to circular economy and waste. She has a background in biogeochemistry, with a strong publication record focusing on carbon and greenhouse gas cycling through peatland and tundra ecosystems. During her research career, Kerry managed multiple international research projects, supervised successful PhD students, was secretariat to the Royal Society's Global

Environment Research Committee, and sat on the leadership committee for a NERC doctoral training partnership.

Kerry then moved to environmental charity, Fidra, where she led the development of a chemical pollution programme. By sharing scientific expertise and a passion for environmental improvement, she worked with UK supermarkets and suppliers to initiate a phase-out of PFAS from food packaging, developed investor initiatives to encourage responsible chemical management, and fed into multiple forums on post-Brexit UK chemicals policy. Kerry is also a strong science communicator, having spoken across multiple popular media outlets (Channel 4 News, Costing the Earth), investor platforms (Environmental Funders Network) and expert panels (pre-screening and promotional events for the Dark Waters movie).



### Luke Douglas-Home

Luke is a CEnv who has been featured widely in the UK and International media, having designed and started 'The Coastline Runner' initiative (www.thecoastlinerunner.com) in 2021. This is an 'A Future without Rubbish' Community Interest Company initiative, working with schools, councils, and businesses to reduce the plastic pollution of our ocean.

Luke has run a series of environmental debates, titled 'Environmental Frontline', which investigates some of the big environmental challenges of our time – from EfW (or incineration),

to plastics, to oceans. He is a social entrepreneur, environmental campaigner, and experienced executive leader with a strong ability to effectively mobilise and drive positive change across organisations and public/private sector domains. His experience and passion lie largely in the arenas of waste reduction, environmental sustainability, education, and the environment. He has an extensive network and access to influential individuals at local council, community, civil servant, and ministerial levels.

He was educated at Edinburgh University and Cambridge University's Institute of Sustainability Leadership.



#### ain McLellan

lain is a Chartered Environmentalist and sits on the IES's Application Review Panel. With over 30 peer-reviewed publications and conference presentations, Iain is currently the Associate Dean: Learning & Teaching at the University of the West of Scotland (UWS). Prior to his time in academia, Iain worked for the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, and UK and Scottish third sector organisations advancing environmental policy. Iain brings experience of strategic development, governance, and leadership through his roles as Trustee of three Scottish

Charities: Environmental Protection Scotland (2015-present), University of the West of Scotland (2020-23), and Ayr Amateur Opera Company (2020-22).

As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, Iain has a focus on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), and is currently an EDI Champion at UWS, where he also sat on their LGBT+ Staff Group as well as the Athena Swan Self-Assessment Team. Iain is keen to see the widening participation of under-represented groups within STEM and will play an active role in taking forward IES' commitment to EDI within their Theory of Change.

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### **Denise Adaoyibo Okpala**

Denise is a Chartered Scientist and Chartered Marine Scientist. She has worked with the Economic Community of West African States for over 13 years on a variety of projects including the West African Biodiversity and Climate Change Project and the Agro-Hydro- Meteorological (AGHRYMET) Committee, where she worked on policy making. Before this, she worked in the Oil and Gas Division of the Federal Ministry of Environment and the National Institution for Oceanographic and Marine Research, both in Nigeria. She is an Expert Reviewer of the IPCC and an Application Review Panel Member for the IES. She is passionate about EDI.

Denise has a Bachelors degree in Marine Sciences from the University of Lagos and a Masters degree in Environmental Planning and Management from Johns Hopkins University. She is currently carrying out her doctoral research at University College London, where her research explores advancing sustainability initiatives in the health sector to reduce carbon emissions. Denise seeks to apply her crosscutting, interdisciplinary experience to achieving the IES goals in line with its Theory of Change.

#### **Uchenna Onyeizu**

Uchenna is a Chartered Environmentalist with a thorough understanding of environmental legislation, policies, and practices. Over the past 20 years, he has successfully implemented and managed numerous environmental projects across sectors. He holds a PhD in Forest Ecology, an Environmental Management MSc, and Applied Community Change MA.

In his role as a university Senior Lecturer, Uchenna has taught, supervised, and mentored postgraduate and undergraduate students. Through this experience, he has gained valuable

insights into emerging environmental issues and recognises the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration. Uchenna actively promotes critical thinking, innovative problem-solving, and the development of future leaders in Environmental Management.

Additionally, as a Project Coordinator within a rural-based organisation, Uchenna has honed his leadership, communication, and organisational skills. He excels in managing multidisciplinary teams, overseeing budgets, and ensuring the successful completion of projects within tight timelines.

Uchenna is motivated to stand for Council by a desire to contribute his expertise in environmental science, policy development, and education. With extensive work experience in developing countries, he aims to influence the strategic direction of the organisation.



#### **Lucy Parkin**

Lucy is an accomplished environmental professional with over two decades of experience in the field. Lucy previously served on professional body committees for the Institutes of Air Quality Management (IAQM) and Physics, and is an active School Governor.

As a Co-Founder and Director of Environmental, Social, and Governance at KleanDrive, she spearheaded sustainable development initiatives, aligned business practices with environmental

goals and engaged with governmental bodies. Lucy's extensive tenure at Transport for London and the Greater London Authority involved leading strategic air quality and climate change analysis, policy development and implementing initiatives to combat air pollution. Her expertise extends to environmental consulting, where she has managed diverse air quality projects and provided technical expertise to clients working with a wide range of environmental professionals.

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Lucy is a Chartered Environmentalist and has a solid academic background in environmental technology and physics, coupled with a commitment to sustainability. As a Trustee, Lucy Parkin would bring a wealth of knowledge, governance experience, and leadership to the IES Council.

### **Sarah Poulton**

Sarah is a Lead Specialist Advisor in Hydrogeology at Natural Resources Wales, where she is an expert technical advisor in the field of contaminant hydrogeology, directing the regulation of complex brownfield and hydrogeological sites. Sarah leads on high-profile and 'first of a kind' regeneration projects, advising local and global organisations on their responsibilities to deliver against legal frameworks and develop solutions to achieve sustainable and robust long-term environmental protection. She secures internal funding annually to design and deliver innovative science-based research and development projects, primarily focused on optimising

NRW's monitoring capabilities to drastically improve data capture and resolution. This is key in the organisation meeting its legal requirements under UK and EU law, and delivering on its well-being and sustainable management of natural resources (SMNR) objectives.

She is a Chartered Environmentalist and is the current Chair of the IES Land Condition Early Careers Network. Sarah is passionate about empowering early career practitioners and believes it is crucial to dedicate time and resources to those who aspire to be the future of environmental science.

Prior to her time in the public sector, Sarah worked in environmental consultancy and contracting, responsible for the design and delivery of multimillion-pound remediation projects across the UK. She actively promotes a holistic, interdisciplinary approach within her team, and draws upon the valuable skills, experience and expertise of others to make informed, evidenced-based decisions. These are some of the embedded cultures and attitudes of the IES that initially drew Sarah to the organisation.



#### Liz Price

Liz is Professor of Environmental Education and Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor Sustainability at Manchester Metropolitan University She is responsible for driving sustainability in every aspect of university strategy, and developing a sustainable mindset and skills for students and within communities. Her work focuses on two themes: education for sustainable development and processes governing plant community composition with applications in conservation. She is a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a Chartered Environmentalist, and advocates for impactful education informed by research and professional practice. She is a

member of the QAA and Advance HE Advisory Group that reviewed the ESD Guidance for the UK, the HEI Partner in the DfE National Education Nature Park consortium, and is Co-Lead of the UK Consortium on Sustainability Research.

Liz has been a member of the Community for Environmental Disciplines in Higher Education (CEDHE) committee since 2014 and has been the Chair of the committee since 2018. She works closely with IES and industry to develop and support members in their education and careers. She is seeking a second term as a IES Council member.