

Expression of interest: Journalist for *Essential Environment*

The [Institution of Environmental Sciences](#) is seeking an independent contractor (or contractors) to support the production of online content for the *Essential Environment* news bulletin, following its relaunch later in 2024.

The contractor will be overseen by the IES Policy Lead and will work closely with the IES Policy and Publications Teams.

1. What the role involves

[Essential Environment](#) is an environmental policy news bulletin. The publication will be relaunched in 2024, and is moving from a paid subscription service to a free service for members of the [Institution of Environmental Sciences](#) and its [Environmental Policy Implementation Community](#) (EPIC).

Following the relaunch, the monthly bulletin will consist of (a) a short list of links to changes to legislation, consultations, policy developments, and other announcements across several key environmental departments and similar news sources; and (b) 1-2 online articles discussing the implications of 1-2 of these developments.

We are looking for a contractor to support the production of this content. The contractor would be responsible for monitoring relevant government departments and news sources to maintain each month's signposting list. The contractor would also be primarily responsible for writing each of the online articles. The contractor would not need to compile and publish the bulletin, as this will be arranged by the IES Publications Team.

Each online article is expected to be roughly 1000 words long, addressing the implications of a particular regulatory development for environmental professionals. The IES Policy Team will work with the contractor(s) to identify relevant IES members who are willing to be contacted to provide context or quotes to support the research process for articles. An example of the type of article we are looking for is available here: <https://www.the-ies.org/analysis/what-does-defra-reshuffle-mean>

2. Who we are looking for

We are keen to receive expressions of interest from journalists (particularly those who have worked in environmental or science communication) or environmental professionals (particularly those with a background in policy). All applicants will be expected to have experience of producing high-quality written content of a journalistic nature.

While we do not require applicants to have technical expertise in environmental science, we expect the successful contractor to be able to work with environmental professionals to identify the implications of regulatory changes for their work. As the IES team will support the successful contractor in identifying potential sources for interviews or quotes, applicants do not require their own contacts working in the environment sector.

3. Proposed budget

The proposed budget for this tender is £480 per month, with the following breakdown:

- £200 per 1000 word online article, with an expectation of 2 articles per month

- £20/hour for 4 hours per month of news trawling for regulatory changes (to compile a list of updates for the bulletin)

The preferred payment method would be monthly via invoice in arrears, however alternative payment arrangements can be considered if needed.

We are open to receiving expressions of interest which deviate from the proposals above. Please note any expected deviation in your expression of interest.

4. Format of Expression of Interest

We are seeking expressions of interest for this contract. Your EOI should include a CV and a statement (of up to 2 pages) containing the following information:

- Contact information
- Statement of capability, including relevant experience and technical expertise
- Links to examples of previous journalistic work where applicable
- Any expected deviation from the proposed budget above
- References

After the closing date, we will contact expressions of interest to let them know whether they have been successful by the end of May 2024. We may arrange informal calls to acquire further information from potential contractors prior to making a decision.

5. Contact details

Any questions or expressions of interest should be sent to:

Joseph Lewis, IES Policy Lead
6-8 Great Eastern Street
London, EC2A 3NT
Phone: +44 (0)20 3862 7484
Email: Joseph@the-ies.org

6. Closing date for expressions of interest

Please ensure your expression of interest is submitted by 11.59pm on Sunday 28th April 2024 by e-mail to joseph@the-ies.org.

7. Background information

The Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES) is a UK-registered charity uniting science and people to solve environmental challenges. It is a professional membership organisation with over 6,000 members, representing the full spectrum of environmental disciplines – from fields as diverse as air quality, land condition, water, and education – wherever you find environmental work underpinned by science. Its skilled and knowledgeable membership act as a cohesive body of thinkers, problem solvers, educators, and practitioners.

The IES is an influential voice for environmental professionals, which works to promote evidence-informed decision-making. The IES is one of the UK's fastest-growing professional bodies, averaging

14% membership growth per annum over the last five years, with a growing international membership.

Essential Environment is a news bulletin service designed to help businesses, local authorities and professionals keep track of developments in UK and EU environmental policy and regulation. It was produced by Environmental Protection UK (EPUK), a 125-year-old national charity which merged into the IES family in 2023, becoming the [Environmental Policy Implementation Community](#) (EPIC).

Essential Environment currently operates under a paid subscription model, but will relaunch in late 2024 as a free bulletin service for members of the IES and EPIC. Existing subscribers will continue to receive the bulletin until the last subscriptions expire in early 2025. The current contractor working on Essential Environment has decided not to continue the contract following the relaunched publication.