



INSTITUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

ANNUAL REPORT ²⁰¹⁵

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“THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN FOOD PRODUCTION AND ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND BIODIVERSITY ARE COMPLEX AND REQUIRE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS TO WORK MORE CLOSELY WITH THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICIES.”



It gives me great pleasure to introduce the IES annual report for 2015. Last year I felt particularly honoured to take up the reigns of Chair of the Institution. The legacy left by my predecessor, Dr Heather Barret-Mold, has made it a very hard act to follow and I thank her for all her hard work steering the IES to a stronger position.

Noel Nelson
Chair of Council, April 2016

A note from our Chair

The job, however, is made easier by the assistance of our most able office staff who have continually improved the standard of the IES membership services year-on-year.

Last year was no exception with our thematic flagship journal 'the environmental SCIENTIST', featuring some important issues. Our focus on the ecosystem approach in practice and the place of the environment in politics was very well explored in our publications and events. The March edition of the environmental SCIENTIST, 'New materials and the circular economy', explored the impact of the introduction of novel materials within industry and questioned whether we were being led down a path away from a sustainable economy. In the publication 'Our common urban future', challenges concerning our future city environment were put under the spotlight with innovative solutions explored. The final edition of the year showcased the impact of environmental research within UK educational establishments. 'The impact of environmental science research' was published in November and explored how researchers develop and demonstrate impact. In addition to the environmental SCIENTIST several environmental science sector-specific reports were published along with a guidance document (jointly with EPUK and IAQM) – 'Land use planning and development control: planning for air quality'.

The quality and quantity of information provided to our Members in the form of publications, blogs and organised events was tremendous last year. All of which made me sad to reflect that our Projects and Membership Officer, Ruth Bowyer, left the organisation to start a PhD. The office staff are the real engine room of the IES and her efforts will be

greatly missed. On a happier note, we welcomed Chloe Fletcher and Laura Clark as new members of the office team and hope they will find the work with us very rewarding.

Over the last few years an approach to the wider environment entitled 'One Health' has grown in popularity and acceptance. Broadly speaking the idea acknowledges that the health of humans, animals, and the various ecosystems that sustain us are very much interconnected. Improving the general health and wellbeing of humans relies upon the prevention of crises in the interface between humans, animals and their various environments. In a similar fashion to environmental sciences, the One Health concept requires a multi-disciplinary approach involving collaborations between different sectors that have varying degrees of impacts on the environment. Having started off as a concept the One Health idea has grown into an internationally recognised movement having been endorsed by the European Commission, the US Department of State, US Department of Agriculture, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Bank, the World Health Organisation, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, the World Organisation for Animal Health, as well as many NGO's.

It is worthy of note therefore that the IES hosted Professor Charles Godfray CBE FRS to present the 2015 Burntwood Lecture. Prof. Godfray, Hope Professor in the Department of Zoology at the University of Oxford, spoke on the topic of 'Badgers, bees and biodiversity: can we really have evidence based environmental policy'. He focussed on the complexities of providing policy neutral scientific evidence for policy development.

Conflicts often occur at the boundaries between human interactions with animals and the wider environment (for example neonicotinoid insecticides, which were discussed), making the job of policy development extremely difficult. The relationships between food production and ecosystem health and biodiversity are complex and require environmental scientists to work more closely with those responsible for policies. This was one of a number of events in a packed year of conferences and workshops, all ably overseen by our Marketing and Events Manager, Emma Fell.

During 2015 the IES focussed some of its attention on becoming more involved in environmental policy, led by our new Policy Officer, Robert Ashcroft. On launching an inquiry on sustainability and HM Treasury last year the Environmental Audit Committee commissioned a report from the National Audit Office investigating the extent to which the spending review permits the Government to make informed decisions about the environment and sustainable development. To assist the development of the report the EAC published a call for written evidence in the shape of several questions. The IES submitted evidence, a full copy of which can be obtained from our website. I believe this to be an important aspect of the IES work with regard to representing the views of our Members at Government level and I would encourage Members to be actively involved in any future activity of this nature.

2015 was a very fruitful year for the IES and I look forward to helping to maintain the services we provide to our Members and to contribute to a wider environmental awareness.

“The quality and quantity of information provided in the form of publications, blogs and organised events was tremendous”

06

Whatever stage you are at in your career, the IES has membership services that will help you gain recognition and progress to the next level. Members come from all areas of the environment sector, wherever jobs are underpinned by science.

07

Growth in IES membership in 2015: 9%

Growth in IAQM membership in 2015: 4%

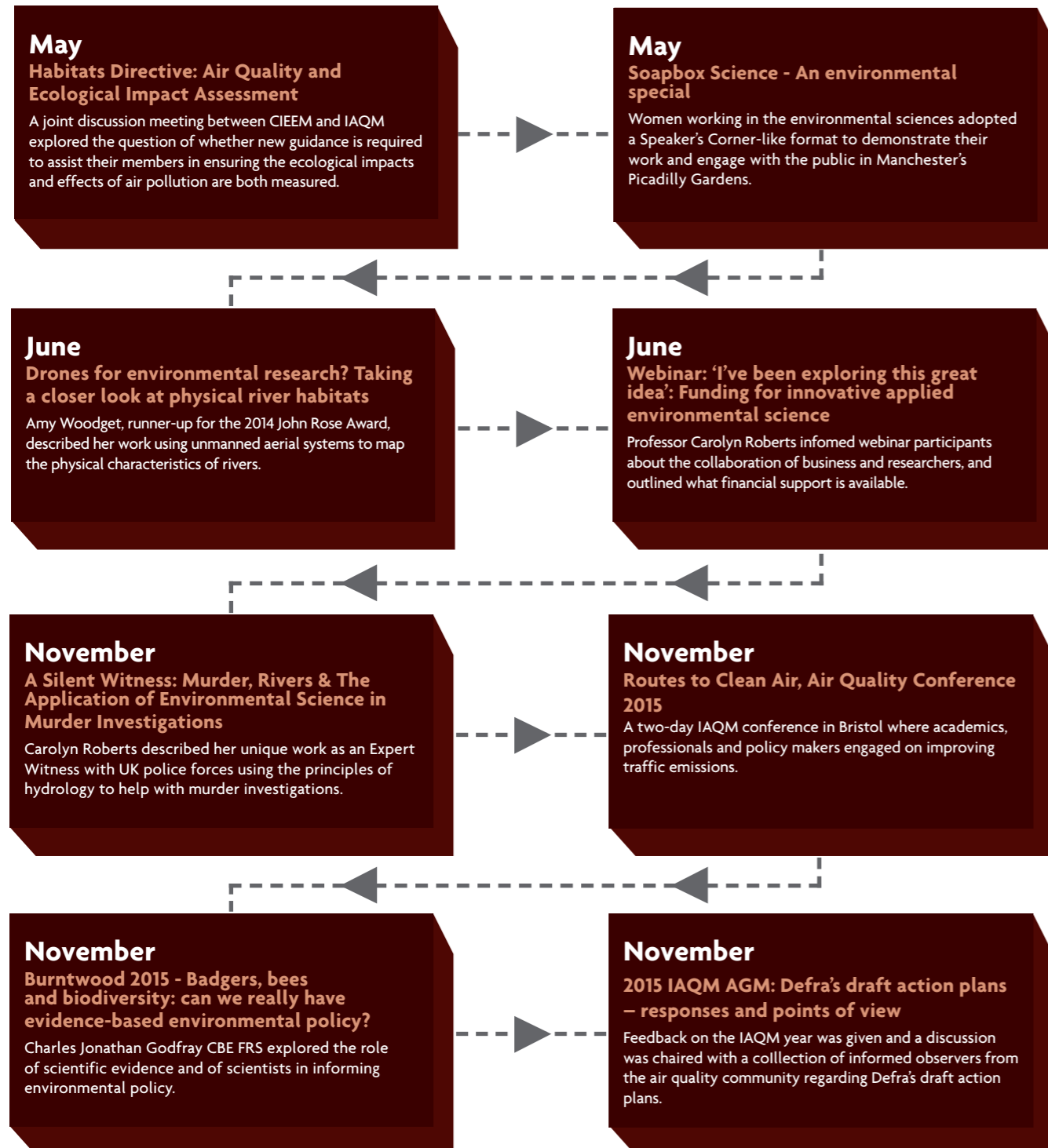
6% Growth in number of Chartered Environmentalists

9% Growth in number of Chartered Scientists

7 New HE/FE degree programmes accredited

Aiding professional development

Selected events from 2015



environmental SCIENTIST

New Materials and the Circular Economy



This issue covered the critical topic of the circular economy. As the number of consumers increases around the world, we examined innovative strategies and processes that are helping to conserve virgin materials, recover used materials and reduce waste to landfill, including case studies on the recovery of materials from high value products like automobiles and the circular economy in Japan.

Our Common Urban Future



Our Common Urban Future explored how potentially the most iconic landscape of our time, the city, will develop over the coming decades as more of humanity comes to experience cities as their homes. From the vital role of eco-urban systems to the use of big data and creative urban design, this issue examines how to mitigate the worst environmental impacts of urbanisation and build cities which enrich the lives of their occupants.

The Impact of Environmental Science Research



Following the publication of the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, this journal looked at the impact UK university research is having across the myriad areas that make up environmental sciences. From sustainable development to waste management the impact of environmental research at UK institutions was measured for the first time. We evaluated whether this was a worthwhile exercise.

Issues planned for 2016

February: Growing in Space: Science beyond the biosphere

June: Citizen science

September: Devolved environmental policy

THE OFFICE PRODUCED
A STAGGERING NUMBER
OF REPORTS, JOURNALS
AND ANALYSIS PIECES
WHICH RANGE FROM
THE PRACTICAL, TO THE
USEFUL, TO THE THOUGHT
PROVOKING



The past year at the IES has been a typically busy and ambitious time, with ventures focusing on policy and events, broadening the impact of the Institution and turning up the volume of the voices of our members.

Phil Holmes
Honorary Secretary, April 2016

Honorary Secretary's Report

Of course volume is not the only factor raising the profile of the work and expertise found within the environmental science sector, we need an audience to. We looked this year to the new government as an audience, and through the work of our Policy and Publications Officer, Robert Ashcroft, we shaped and influenced a range of government consultations and plans. From the Science Budget inquiry to the Nurse review, we made sure that the skills and expertise of our members were recognised at the highest levels.

Echoing the policy work, Robert also produced a staggering number of reports, journals and analysis pieces which range from the practical, such as an update for guidance on parental leave, to the useful 'How to influence the EU,' to the thought provoking, for example the journal on novel materials and the circular economy.

Exploration of the sector, government plans and actions, as well as topics within environmental science came in the form of posts to our growing Analysis section of the website, where we looked at A-Level changes, funding for environmental sciences, solar energy and the effects of pharmaceuticals on aquatic inhabitants. If you have not visited this fascinating blog, I encourage you to do so at www.the-ies.org/analysis.

Making sure our conversation with wider audiences reached as many as possible, our Marketing & Events Officer, Emma Fell, ran a packed schedule of events. The style and topic range is a testament to the ambition and skills found within our event programme. A partnership with Soapbox Science saw a cohort of female environmental scientists engage the Manchester public with their work, a successful Burntwood lecture challenged us, asking if we can really have evidence

based policy, whilst we took to the skies for a workshop in the use of drones for environmental research. By my count the IES ran or supported over 30 events across the country. If you have not looked for one in your area, perhaps think about attending as part of your CPD activities this year. After an enjoyable time at the event you can log your hours in the new, free CPD logging tool available to members at www.the-ies.org/members.

My thanks go to the CEO Adam Donnan and the IES staff who once again have delivered a year full of satisfied members, debate, learning and influence, not just between our members but at all levels in the sector. The support of the IES Council is, as always, a much appreciated bedrock for the Institution, and I thank them all for their time.

I look forward to next year's efforts, which is already shaping up to be memorable one.

“ By my count the IES ran or supported over 30 events across the country.”

Our new CPD tool



In 2015 the IES launched a new online CPD recording tool to give members an easy method to fulfil our CPD requirements.

This new intuitive tool allows members to either record individual CPD events or upload a pdf for the whole year. A progress bar tracks your steps towards our minimum target of 30 hours per annum. This means that you can keep all your training records in one place and check progress over time.

The CPD tool can be accessed through the Member's dashboard.

We even created a video walkthrough to show step-by-step how to use the new tool, which has been watched over 300 times.

75% Members that used the IES new CPD recording tool rated it either as good or excellent in the 2016 membership survey.

Reports

Membership Survey



The IES surveys its members each year to get an understanding of how they received the services provided that year, which services are particularly valued and what they might like to see in coming years. The 2015 survey saw a very positive reception of the CPD tool and of the reports and journals published in 2014. 98% of members would recommend the institution to a colleague.

Influencing the European Union



Originally published in 2011, the document seeks to provide guidance for individuals or organisations on how they can influence the various structures of the EU legislature and therefore the issues, policies and legislation at hand. It was updated in 2015 to reflect structural and personnel changes in the various committees and appointments across the EU institutions.

Parental Leave Guidance



Originally published in 2012, this guide explores the current situation regarding parental leave both in the workplace and in the statutes. It was updated in 2015 year to reflect the introduction of the entitlement of shared parental leave for eligible parents. It seeks to provide an information source for our members and a best practice guide for employers, focusing especially on the environmental sector.

Influencing the UK Parliament



Originally published in 2011, this guide provides information on how individuals and organisations in the UK can influence the UK Parliament. It describes the various routes an enquiry or request can take through either house and the fora that these may be heard within. It was updated this year to reflect changes in positions and committees.

Website

➤ **155% increase in the average number of unique visitors a month in 2015 compared to the previous year**

➤ **23% increase in the number of twitter followers (@ies_uk) in 2015**

➤ **2,089 views of our Youtube Channel (youtube.com/IESorg)**

Analysis pieces in 2015

- Room for the environment in the Government's plan for growth?
- Local authority AQMA designation
- Solar Energy: The debate
- General election 2015 - the environment in the party manifestos
- Drones for environmental research: Taking a closer look at physical river habitat
- Moving on from 'the greenest government ever'
- Update of UK GHG Conversion Factors
- Funding for innovative environmental research
- Qualitative responses to the IES Membership Survey
- A-Level changes
- The impact of environmental science research
- We need to talk about ESOS
- Rivers of drugs
- The Sustainable Development Goals

Past & Present

2015 2016

Online Experience

We launched a new online tool for members to record their CPD, making it far easier for Members to evidence the professional learning they are undertaking.

Recognising Experience

Our new designation, IES Lead Energy Assessor, meant that suitably qualified members could act as Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) Lead Assessors.

Better Together

We launched a new special interest group on Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Conservation to coordinate our work in this area and ran more events in our regions in 2015.

Knowing what you want

We are rolling out new database features so we can learn more about your professional interests and background. This will mean a more bespoke membership experience that matches our services to your needs.

Promoting Technicians

We will be exploring launching our Registered Environmental Technician grade to recognise scientists doing important work at this level.

Contaminated Land

We are exploring joining the SiLC register and the possibility of running a one-day contaminated land conference, giving further recognition the second largest sector within our membership.

Unfolding Issues

The environmental SCIENTIST covered issues around the circular economy, the future of the urban environment and the impact of environmental science.

UK Election Time

Last year we provided coverage on the environmental policies of the parties in the run up to the UK general elections and its aftermath.

Changing Times

We made updates to our reports on the influencing the UK Government and EU to reflect changes with those bodies. We also updated our parental leave guidance.

New Starts

In March we moved to a new office with bigger meeting spaces to help with the expansion of our training programmes.

New Ventures

Following on from an initial publication on science beyond the biosphere, this year we are planning editions on citizen science and devolved environmental policy.

The EU referendum

The debate over the UK's future in Europe is raging. The IES will be ensuring that the evidence over what a Brexit would mean for the environment is heard in amongst the clamour.

Employment & salaries

We will initiating a study on the attitudes towards employability in university students and recent graduates. We will also be publishing our popular bi-annual salary survey.

New Faces

The extra space in the new office gives us the opportunity to grow the project team further to improve the services we offer members.

“THE IES WILL BE THERE TO PROVIDE THE EVIDENCE FOR BOTH SIDES OF THE DEBATE AND ENSURE THAT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE AT THE HEART OF THE REFERENDUM DEBATE.”



2015 was a year where we aimed to build the foundations for future growth. Over the previous four years the IES had been averaging membership growth rates of 13.5 per cent per annum. There was widespread recognition from our trustees and staff that to continue this growth we would need to make some major changes.

Adam Donnan,
CEO April 2015

Laying the foundations for growth

Firstly, we had outgrown our office. From 2010 we had rented a space in Victoria, London but in order to increase our staff headcount and to have space for our growing number of workshops and meetings we needed to move to a bigger space. In March we relocated to our new offices located in the City of London. We were pleased to be able to complete this move with very little interruption to our normal service. We also put some badly needed investment into our own IT equipment and software.

Our membership had also grown to the extent that it was no longer feasible for us to monitor their CPD under old procedures. We were very pleased to launch our new online CPD system that promises to save both the office and members time in filling out paperwork. There is a huge amount of work going on behind the scenes on the database, which means that we can roll out a number of new services in 2016.

Despite this 'pause' for laying foundations, subscribing membership still grew by 9 per cent. We also put in place a new application process for CSci which led to a record 9 per cent growth in the number of members registering as Chartered Scientists.

This year's AGM will see significant changes to the make-up of our governance board. We called on the members to step forward to represent their Institution and they answered the challenge in droves. With ten places available on Council, this will be the largest influx of new faces on to Council that we have seen in recent times. The office team are excited about the new perspectives, contacts and expertise that these new trustees will bring to the organisation.

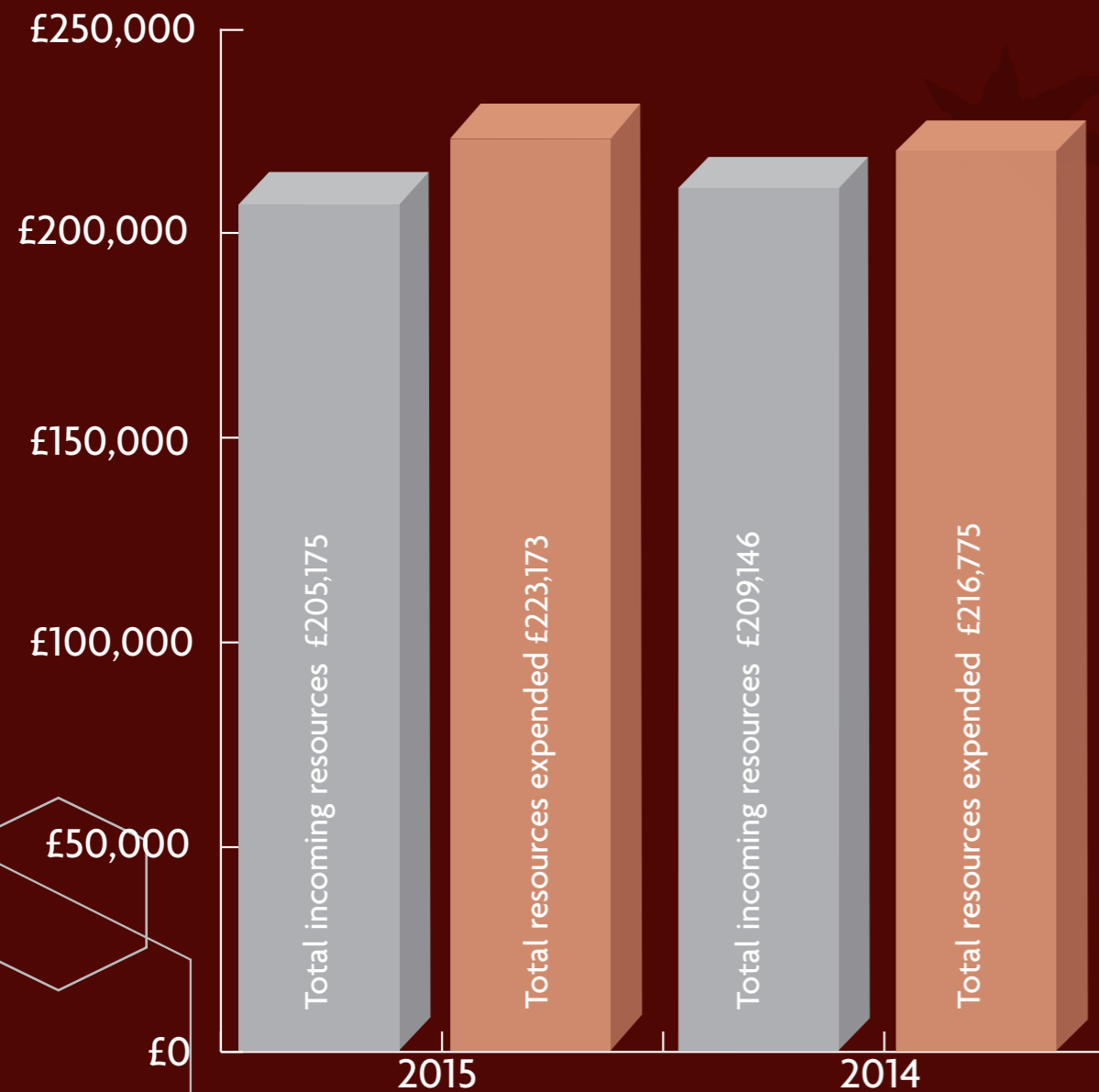
Political discussions in the UK in the early part of 2016 will be dominated by the referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union. The EU has had a strong track record on environmental protections

and serious consideration needs to be made about what a Brexit would mean for the sector. The IES will be there to provide the evidence for both sides of the debate and ensure that environmental considerations are at the heart of the referendum debate.

Our accreditation scheme continues to be sector-leading. Particularly pleasing has been the recent influx of overseas degrees. These, combined with our recent accreditation of the Open University's Environmental Science BSc should see an influx in student members from around the globe. The IES already has members in forty different countries, but these new students will be an important foundation for future international growth.

In 2016 we are looking forward to building on the strong foundations laid last year. The IES is in a good position to remain one of the fastest growing professional bodies in the world. We thank you for your continuing support.

“Despite this 'pause' for laying foundations subscribing membership still grew by 9 per cent.”



For the year ended 30 June 2015

Statement of financial activities July 2014 - June 2015

	2015 £	2014 £
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>		
Voluntary income	-	4,250
Investment income	81	120
Total incoming resources	209,946	205,175
<i>Resources expended</i>		
Publications & services for members	185,567	194,432
Conferences & consultancy	25,701	24,607
Governance costs	5,507	4,134
Total resources expended	216,775	223,173
Net movement in funds	(7,279)	(17,998)
Fund balances at 1 July	93,970	111,968
Fund balances at 30 July	86,691	93,970

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Sister organisations

IAQM

Air Quality was never far from the headlines in 2015 and the Government issued an unprecedented number of consultations. During the year the IAQM responded to Defra's consultation on LAQM, to the Scottish Government consultation on a new draft Low Emission Strategy (LES), Defra's Draft Air Quality Plans, EFRA select committee investigation into how well Defra is leading work to tackle air pollution, and we coordinated an Open Letter about diesel cars, which was signed by 24 leading air quality practitioners and researchers from 10 countries. A busy year for our policy work.

In May 2015 IAQM produced important new guidance on land-use planning and development control in planning for air quality (in association with EPUK) in May. The IAQM started to issue Position Statements on external matters that could affect the way in which members carry out their professional tasks, or air quality topics and issues where the IAQM believes its collective specialist knowledge gives it a unique perspective from which to give a professional opinion. The first of these, on Mitigation of Development Air Quality Impacts, was published in January. We also produced a code of conduct (pdf) to complement that produced by the IES.

GROWTH OF IAQM ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IN 2015: 28%

2015 was also a year where we provided a number of large air quality events and conferences for our members. In July we held a joint discussion meeting with CIEEM on the Habitats Directive and Air Quality and Ecological Impact Assessment. In November our AGM focused on Defra's draft action plan. We were also pleased to hold a Roundtable discussion with Innovate UK and the KTN on innovation within the air quality sector.

In October we held our largest conference to date, when 120 delegates attended our

Routes to Clean Air Conference in Bristol to hear 18 speakers.

At the AGM a new Chair was elected: Claire Holman. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the out-going Chair, Roger Barrowcliffe. During his successful three-year term the IAQM membership grew substantially and we increased the diversity of events for members and our influence on policy, an impressive legacy.

CHES

2015 was another busy year for our accreditation programme. CHES accredited or reaccredited six Bachelor-level and three Masters-level programmes. The CHES/IES accreditation scheme continues to be the accreditation programme of choice for environmental science and related programmes.

73 PROGRAMMES ACCREDITED ACROSS 30 UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

At the AGM a new Chair, Jackie Rogers of the University of the West of England and Vice Chair, Liz Price of Manchester Metropolitan University, were elected. We would like to thank Professor Phil Wheeler for ably steering the CHES committee over the past few years, growing the organisation, expanding into the FE sector and merging with the IES. We would also like to thank Diana Purchase for writing our newsletters, and all the CHES committee for their valuable voluntary input.

2016 promises to be an exciting year for CHES as we expand our international accreditations and undertake research into the attitudes of students and recent graduates towards their employability.

Council Officers & Staff Members

Senior Vice President: John Baines MBE
Vice Presidents: Heather Barrett-Mold, Jenny Blumhof, Mark Everard, Jim Longhurst, William Pope, Carolyn Roberts

The Honorary Officers of Council, who are also Council Members, from the 2015 AGM were:

Chair: Noel Nelson MEnvSc MIAQM
Vice Chair: Gary Kass FEnvSc Csci
Honorary Secretary: Phil Holmes MEnvSc
Honorary Treasurer: David Muir MEnvSc FIAQM CEnv CSci
Company Secretary: Jim Longhurst FEnvSc CEnv CSci

The Members of Council from the 2015 AGM were:

Mr Roger Barrowcliffe MEnvSc MIAQM CSci
 Mr Phil Holmes MEnvSc
 Professor James Irwin FEnvSc MIAQM
 Mr Gary Kass FEnvSc Csci
 Professor James Longhurst FEnvSc CEnv CSci
 Dr David Muir MEnvSc FIAQM CEnv CSci

Professor Noel Nelson MEnvSc MIAQM
 Professor William Pope FEnvSc CEnv
 Dr Laurie Richards MEnvSc CEnv
 Professor Carolyn Roberts FEnvSc CEnv CSci
 Dr Pete Shaw FEnvSc CSci
 Professor Phil Wheeler FEnvSc CSci
 Dr Jim Whelan MEnvSc CEnv CSci

Staff members and contractors on 31st December 2015 consisted of:

Chief Executive Officer: Adam Donnan
Policy & Publications Officer: Robert Ashcroft
Publications & Projects Assistant: Dominic Sheldon
Office Administrator: Chloe Fletcher & Laura Clark
Marketing & Events Manager: Emma Fell
Graphic Designer: Darren Walker
Journal Sub Editor: Caroline Beattie

www.the-ies.org

IES is a member of the following organisations:

