



EPIC 2026 AGM & Conference: Member Pack

Thank you for registering for EPIC's 2026 AGM & Conference.

This information pack for attendees includes:

- Agenda
- Items for approval at the AGM:
 - 1. New Committee members
 - 2. New Committee chair
 - 3. EPIC Code of Conduct

Please read the items of approval carefully before the AGM, as you will be required to vote on each item.

EPIC AGM & Conference

8th October 2025, 9.30am - 3.30pm, Teams



	Time	Event
Morning session	9:30 - 9:35 AM	Welcome James Langley, Event Chair
	9:35 - 10:15 AM	Chair's update Ruth Calderwood, EPIC Chair
	10:15 - 10:25 AM	Making it work: environmental delivery and devolution Philip Glanville, UK100
	10:25 - 10:35 AM	LGR resources & making the case for Environmental Health Jonathan Pickering, CIEH
	10:35 - 10:40 AM	5 min break
	10:40 - 10:50 AM	Do we need a double devolution for environmental services Laura D'Henin-Ivers, Hope for the Future
	10:50 - 11:00 AM	A Scottish perspective: environmental delivery in a changing local government landscape Nigel Kerr, Fife Council
	11:00 - 12:00 PM	Panel discussion: Environmental delivery in changing local government systems All speakers, chaired by James Langley
Lunch (1 hour)		
Afternoon session	1:00 - 2:25 PM	Workshop: Launch of Noise Action Week 2027 EPIC Noise Action Week working group
	2:25 - 2:30 PM	5 min break
	2:30 - 3:25 PM	Making environmental policy 'implementation-minded' EPIC implementation working group
	3:25 - 3:30 PM	Closing remarks James Langley, Event Chair



Items for EPIC AGM Approval

Please read these items carefully before the AGM, members will vote on adopting each of the three below items.

If a majority of members in attendance vote in favour of an item it will be adopted.

1. Proposed new Committee members

The EPIC Committee is proposing the election of four Members without Portfolio of the EPIC Committee; Elizabeth Bates (second term), Don Taylor, Steve Moorcroft and Liz Anderson. These proposed Committee members, if accepted at the AGM, will all join the EPIC Committee as Members without Portfolio. There may be opportunities for these members to take on a specific portfolio at a later date.

1.1 Elizabeth Bates

Local Air Quality Management and Air Quality Planning Specialist, City of Bradford Council

I am seeking re-election to the EPIC Committee because I firmly believe in the power of collaboration and knowledge sharing, which are the primary reasons I first joined the Committee.

Throughout my career, I have actively sought to promote and strengthen collaboration across local government departments, between different local authorities, and to develop public-private sector partnerships to help solve environmental problems and improve environmental policies. Prior to joining the EPIC Committee, I had served on the IAQM Committee and acted as a Regional Low Emission Champion for the Low Emission Partnership. I was also instrumental in establishing and developing the Air Quality Hub, a free knowledge-sharing resource for local authority air quality officers, funded through an air quality grant and then placed back in the ownership of Defra.

At a time when EPIC is building momentum, expanding its membership, and tackling important environmental challenges, I am keen to provide continuity, build on the progress already achieved, and help shape the next stage of the organisation's development.

I am a Chartered Scientist with more than 30 years of experience delivering environmental protection within local government, with advanced knowledge of both air quality and acoustics. I also have a strong understanding of the land-use planning system and the ways in which transport planning interacts with environmental protection. I believe I can continue to bring to the EPIC Committee



a valuable combination of professional expertise, strategic thinking, collaborative experience, and a proven commitment to active engagement.

My professional background in monitoring and evaluation enables me to contribute not only to the development and implementation of policy but also to advise on how policies can be effectively monitored and evaluated to drive continuous improvement and support the wider adoption of successful approaches.

If re-elected, I would be particularly interested in continuing to support the development of new land-use and air quality guidance, while helping EPIC to further grow its membership, particularly amongst local authority officers.

Opportunities for local authority staff to collaborate in person are becoming increasingly rare, yet there is a great deal to be learned and significant efficiencies to be gained by sharing knowledge and experience. Working together within the EPIC community can only strengthen our collective ability to develop and implement practical, effective policies that protect and improve the environment.

I believe that my existing knowledge of the Committee, combined with my professional expertise and enthusiasm for collaborative working, would enable me to continue making a positive and meaningful contribution over the next term, should members feel my skills and experience remain of value to EPIC.

1.2 Don Taylor

Environmental Health Manager, Argyll and Bute Council. Noise Action Week 2026 Chair.

I have been working in noise since the last century and strongly believe that real progress can only be made when legislation or statutory guidance is changed. This will only happen when the public and politicians are convinced that action on noise is essential for improving health and wellbeing. Therefore, I would like to be part of a committee that works to educate people about the serious health effects of noise and where appropriate, lobbies governments to improve the law/guidance.

I have experience of dealing with noise nuisances from industrial premises, commercial premises, barking dogs, music noise, and pubs and clubs. Aside from noise nuisance I have lengthy experience of assessing potential noise impacts through the planning process. This could be regarding a new noise causing source or noise sensitive receptors near an existing noise source, such as a factory or road.

I have extensive experience in planning policy, creating procedures and guidance, and training various stakeholders in Environmental Health's involvement with the



planning process. I have recently been part of the working group update the planning guidance of The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland. I have decades of experience contributing to various working groups in Scotland and beyond for Pollution, Noise and Public Health; and this year I finished 5 years of chairing the working group on the Scottish Licensing of Activities involving Animals group.

In the last year I have chaired the working group for Noise Action Week 2026. The week-long event was extremely successful in raising the profile of noise issues, with several online events.

1.3 Steve Moorcroft ***Director, Air Quality Consultants***

Whilst I was saddened by the demise of Environmental Protection UK (formerly the National Society for Clean Air), I was massively enthused about the formation of EPIC and the transfer of the EPUK legacy into the IES family. Since the formation of EPIC, I have been hugely impressed by the work it has delivered in producing guidance documents and webinars. The integration of EPS into the EPIC organization has been a further bonus. The concept of “implementation” is fundamental to driving environmental improvement, as without this focus, policies do not, and cannot deliver what is intended. I believe that EPIC has an important and vital role to play in driving this focus, both within local government and across the wider environmental community.

I have over 45 years’ experience in the field of environmental sciences, focusing on ambient air quality and climate change. For more than 15 years, I acted as Chair of the EPUK Air Quality Committee, overseeing the delivery of guidance, conferences and workshops, as well as input to policy development across the UK. During this period the Committee developed close relationships with Government, and played a key role in the development and implementation of the Local Air Quality Management regime.

I have previously served on Government expert advisory panels (including the Quality of Urban Air Review Group and the Air Quality Expert Group). I am currently an Expert Advisor to the National Institute for Health Care & Clinical Excellence (NICE) and I served on a NICE working group to produce their guidance on ambient air quality.

I am actively involved in numerous air quality research projects for the UK Government and the European Commission. I co-chaired the Working Group that produced the joint EPUK/IAQM guidance on Land Use Planning & Development



Control: Planning for Air Quality (and acted as the principal author). I also sat on the EPIC Working Group that produced guidance on Integrating Action on Air Quality & Climate Change. I also participated in the IES Working Group to produce guidance on Adversarial to Integrated: How to make environmental consenting a team sport.

1.4 Liz Anderson

Ecologist, North Herts Council

Bringing extensive experience in planning, ecology and environmental policy I think I would be a useful addition to the EPIC. My career has spanned significant change in the environmental sector, from Biodiversity Action Plans and Agenda 21 to the Environment Act, Local Nature Recovery Strategies and mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain.

I have consistently sought to help shape that transition and turn policy into practical environmental improvement. I led Central Bedfordshire Council into the Great Crested Newt District Level Licensing scheme with NatureSpace, making it the first local planning authority to appoint a dedicated GCN officer. IES has shown its influence in new national policy direction and I would love to be part of that. Helping shape how environmental professionals influence policy, share practical experience and support implementation on the ground.

In Bedfordshire, I was closely involved in the Rebuilding Biodiversity project, helping the authority lead in nature recovery through a natural capital assessment. I also worked on the Urban BESS project with Cranfield University, examining the benefits of nature in towns and using the findings to support more nature-rich greenspaces in urban areas.

Wanting to stay at the forefront of an evolving sector led me to Natural England, where I was the first Local Nature Recovery Strategy adviser from a local authority background. The essential role of Responsible Authorities in LNRS preparation meant I could bring practical insight into how Defra and its arm's-length bodies engaged with local planning authorities, bridging national policy development and local delivery.

Anticipating the significance of mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain, I returned to local government as senior ecologist, helping the authority, developers and communities navigate this major policy change in practice. I have been closely involved in the Planning Advisory Service Biodiversity Net Gain Forum and sit on the Future Homes Hub Biodiversity Net Gain Implementation Board alongside industry leaders and former Natural England colleagues.



Throughout my career, I have combined a strong commitment to nature recovery with an understanding of the wider public interest. I recognise the need to balance environmental ambition with homes, infrastructure and resilient places, while ensuring communities benefit from access to a thriving natural environment. This perspective has enabled me to influence decision-making in ways that are both practical and ambitious.

Ecology touches many local authority duties, and my role has required me to work across departments and with external partners. If I joined the Committee, I would be particularly interested in contributing to the BNG workstream, as this is an area where I can bring direct experience of local authority implementation, developer engagement and national policy discussion. I would welcome the opportunity to help EPIC support practical, consistent and ambitious delivery of BNG as the policy continues to bed in.



2. Proposed Chair

The EPIC Committee is proposing the election of Sarah Legge as Chair of the EPIC Committee.

Sarah Legge

EPIC Committee Vice-Chair

Sarah (she/her) is an environmental policy and air pollution specialist, with 30 years' experience working on air quality policy, strategy and action, technical assessment, and wider environmental issues. She has a particular interest in interdisciplinary action, including the intersection of air quality with climate change and health, and effective implementation through sustainable transport and built environment initiatives.

Sarah is the current Vice-Chair of the EPIC Committee. She is also a Fellow of the IES, a Chartered Environmentalist, a member of the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM), and sits on the IES Equity, Diversity and Inclusion board.

Earlier this year she gave oral evidence on behalf of EPIC at the Environmental Audit Committee's Air Pollution in England Inquiry, and presented at the 2025 UNECE Expert Panel on Clean Air in Cities. She was previously Chair of the EPIC Air Quality & Climate Change Guidance Task Group and the lead author of EPIC's Guidance for local authorities on Integrating Action on Air Quality and Climate Change. Previously, as Chair of the Air Quality Committee at Environmental Protection UK (which merged with the IES to form EPIC in 2024), she was heavily involved in lobbying the government for strong and effective legislation, policy and action on air pollution and the environment. She has also represented EPIC on the Healthy Air Coalition, which brings together environmental and health charities working on air pollution issues.

Sarah has worked in both the public sector and in consultancy. She was an Associate Director at Arup from 2022-2025, leading work on Clean Air Zones, technical assessments and air quality and climate change projects. She founded and ran SLH Environmental Ltd for 12 years, specialising in air quality issues and sustainable transport solutions for a wide range of organisations. She also spent 7 years at the Greater London Authority, where she was Head of Air Quality and led the Mayor's work on low carbon transport.



3. Proposed Code of Conduct

The EPIC Committee is suggesting that EPIC has a code of conduct, enforced by the IES professional staff team, that all members sign up to. If voted in at the AGM, this will be adopted by all current members, and new members will be asked to sign up to the code of conduct before they can join the community.

EPIC Code of Conduct

As a community we believe it is important that we foster an environment where everyone feels welcome to participate, ask questions, engage in conversation and debate in a secure and positive manner.

When taking part in EPIC Community interactions, whether in online or in person meetings, email or other, EPIC members contribute to that positive environment through:

- Being kind to others
- Treating all fairly and justly, recognising people have different needs
- Behaving professionally and with integrity
- Using inclusive and non-discriminatory language
- Being respectful of differing viewpoints and experiences
- Exercising consideration and courtesy in both words and actions
- Graciously accepting constructive criticism
- Maintaining civility when engaging in debate
- Focusing on what is best for the community
- Showing empathy towards others
- Being patient when listening to others speak and not interrupting them.
- Make sure
 - everyone has an opportunity to speak
 - Staying on the topic being discussed and not bringing back up a topic or agenda item
 - that has been discussed fully.
- Alerting IES staff or another appropriate person if you notice a dangerous situation,
- someone in distress, or potential violations of this Code of Conduct

Examples of unacceptable behaviour include:

- Harassment or bullying of participants or the public in any manner
- Violent threats or language against another person
- Insults or inflammatory language
- Ableist, ageist, homophobic, racist, sexist, transphobic or exclusionary comments and jokes
- Sexual language or imagery in any form



- Intimidation, stalking or following
- Unwelcome sexual attention or advances
- Unwelcome physical contact or violence
- Unsolicited photography or recording
- Sustained disruption of talks or event schedule
- Excessive swearing
- Fraud, deceit, dishonesty or misrepresentation
- Other conduct that is inappropriate for a diverse and professional audience

All participants are ultimately responsible and accountable for their own words, actions and decisions.

Any participants asked to stop inappropriate behaviours must comply immediately. IES staff members reserve the right to take any actions they deem appropriate if a participant engages in unacceptable behaviour that contravenes this Code of Conduct. This includes warnings or expulsion from a specific EPIC meeting, or from EPIC as a community.