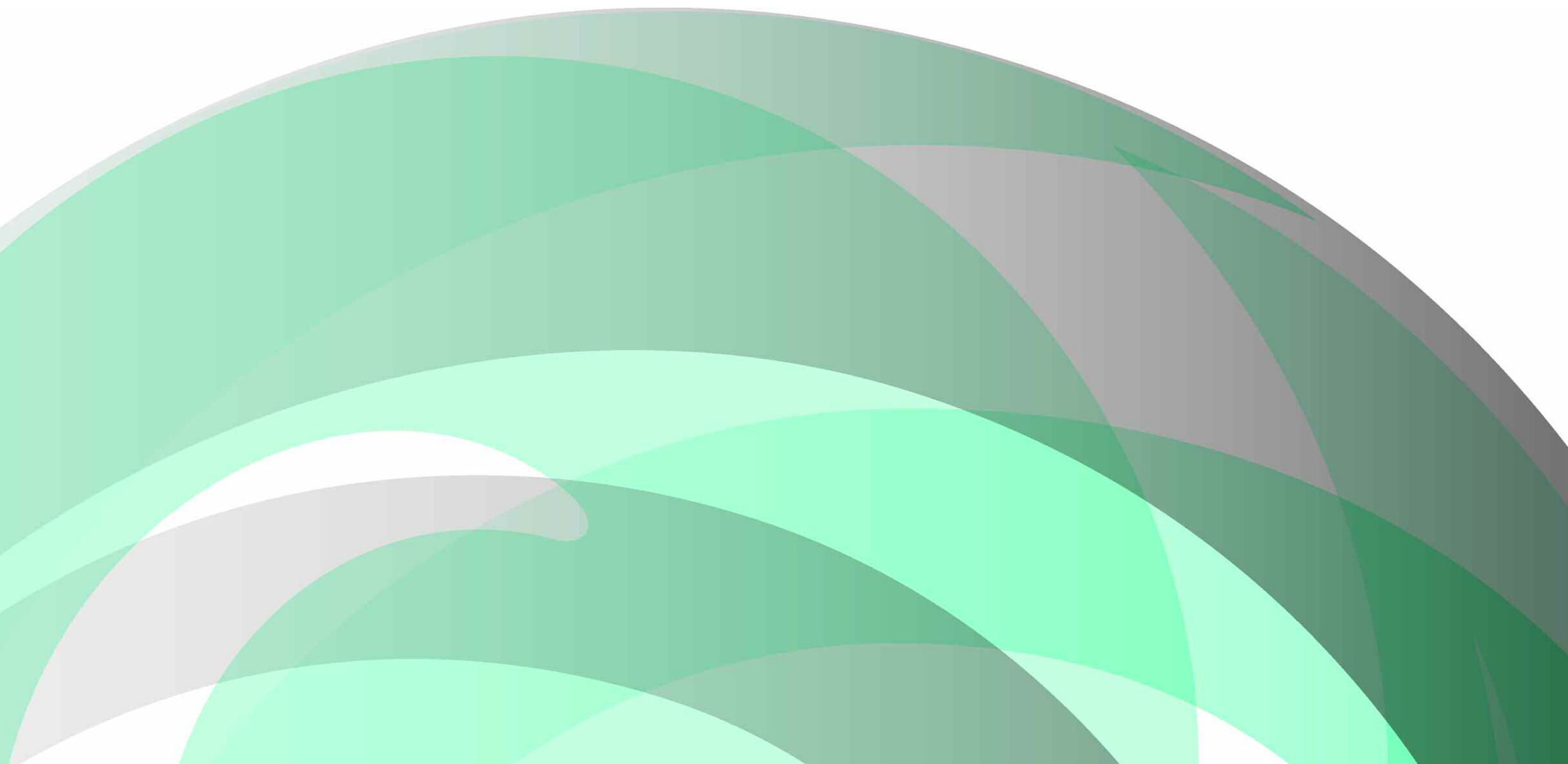


Chartered
Environmentalist
Specification

CEnv
*"Sustainability through
Environmental Professionalism"*

SocEnv
Society for the Environment



Our Mission Statement

SocEnv aspires to be the leading and co-ordinating professional body in environmental matters and a pre-eminent champion of a sustainable environment. It will achieve this by nurturing and harnessing the combined resources, knowledge, expertise and achievements of its Constituent Professional and Learned Bodies and their members.

Foreword

Sir John Harman
Chairman of the
Environment Agency



I am very pleased to have the opportunity of expressing my support for this document.

I have been an enthusiastic supporter of the creation of the Society and I was delighted when it obtained its Charter in May 2004.

A sustainable future won't come about by accident; we will need individuals with extensive knowledge of, and competence and engagement in, sustainable policies and practices and who can demonstrate this for all of us to see. Thus this publication of more detail in what will be needed in the preparation of individuals to be assessed for registration as Chartered Environmentalists is a vital and welcome step.

I am sure that there will be many other people who will share my enthusiasm. Good luck to the Society for the future and to all the individuals aspiring to be Chartered Environmentalists. Your Country needs you!

Introduction

Dr Peter Matthews
Chairman of The
Society for the
Environment



When the first slow steps in forming the Society were taken in 2000, our vision was developed and established. This clarity has underpinned the long journey to our status as a fully Chartered body, able to register outstanding individuals as Chartered Environmentalists.

To achieve a sustainable future we all know that we have to re-think our lifestyles and behave differently; be it at work, home, or play. Sustainability is about the integration of environmental, social, and economic components of our lives and finding ways in which we can advance civilization without destroying natural diversity and depleting scarce natural resources of our planet. It is about low impact but not low output.

Some of us have additional responsibilities - because as environmental practitioners how we behave is not only important in its own right - it also serves as an example to all regardless of social, cultural or professional status. Individual responsibility has a major role to play; ultimately, even great corporate decisions are formulated and driven by individuals.

Our aim is to develop a respected and well organised profession of environmentalists, be they academics, consultants, regulators, utility managers, engineers, scientists, builders, lawyers, planners, designers, ecologists, environmental managers, land-managers, accountants, public or private sector managers, communicators or any combinations of employment and professions. To do so is essential to the future of our environment and well-being. The Society is unique as it encourages members of its Constituent Bodies not only to be environmentalists but also to be active in other professions, helping to embed the goal of sustainable environmental management in all professional activities and practices.

This document sets in more detail what an individual will have to demonstrate during the assessment in order to register as Chartered Environmentalist. Good luck!

Section 1

Why become a Chartered Environmentalist?

Chartered Environmentalist embraces a wide range of disciplines and is an excellent way of recognising virtuosity in environmental management and sustainability. The designation benefits all concerned with the environment:

- The Public, who can be confident in the knowledge and competence of an environmental practitioner;
- Practitioners by identification as a professionally qualified environmentalist that puts them at the forefront of their profession;
- Employers, with confirmation of the professional ability and competence of employees and applicants;
- Governments and governmental bodies seeking to appoint advisers or consultants will be assured about an individual competence;
- Professional Bodies, who will be able to benchmark the qualification for membership purposes;
- Higher Education, in setting and monitoring benchmarks for environmental courses, and promoting study programmes;
- Regulatory Bodies, who could be confident in specifying the CEnv designation in Acts of Parliament and regulations;
- Legal credibility, enabling expert witness participation at a defined standard; and
- Professional standing, recognising equality of excellence across a wide range of environment disciplines.

Registration sets Chartered Environmentalists apart from those who are unregistered. It establishes their proven knowledge, understanding and competence. In particular, registration demonstrates a commitment to professional standards and enhancing competence. Chartered status gives a proven edge to candidates applying for posts, whether or not this is a requirement in the job specification.

Employers of Chartered Environmentalists have the assurance of knowing their employees have had their competence assessed and their commitment to continuing professional development established to consistent and rigorous standards.

Recognition of Chartered Environmentalist

The Chartered Environmentalist status establishes professional environmentalists on a par with other professionals such as Chartered Engineers and Chartered Scientists. It serves the needs of a broad range of environmental professionals and it is expected that as numbers of national and international members increase, it will become the international benchmark.



Section 1

How to become a Chartered Environmentalist

To enter the registration process, a candidate must:

- Be a full (voting) member of a licensed body.
- Have a minimum of 12 units of knowledge and/or experience, which will include at least 4 years relevant experience, depending upon the level and duration of academic study (see Section 3 of this booklet for more details).
- Demonstrate knowledge of, competence in and engagement with sustainable management of the environment.
- Agree to comply with the Society's Code of Ethics and CPD requirements of their licensed body.

Once Chartered status is achieved, retention will also require continued membership of one of the Society for the Environment's licensed Constituent Bodies and payment of the annual fee. Chartered Environmentalists may transfer their registration, which is always through a licensed Constituent Body, to another licensed Constituent Body during their career.

Chartered Environmentalist status is open to everyone who can demonstrate competence to perform work as a professional to the necessary standards and commit themselves to:

- Maintain their competence
- Work within the professional code of ethics
- Participate actively within the profession

What is Competence and how is it assessed?

Section 2 of this booklet sets out the thresholds for generic competence for registration as a Chartered Environmentalist. These standards have been developed with the support of all our Constituent Bodies and approved by our Registration Authority. Competence includes the knowledge, understanding and skills which underpin performance. Professional Environmentalists become competent through a mixture of education and experience. This enables them to develop as professionals to a level of competence which can be assessed to be of Chartered status.

Assessment of Competence

To become Chartered Environmentalists candidates must have their competence assessed by a professional review process. This process is undertaken by licensed Constituent Bodies of the Society for the Environment. The assessment is undertaken by two practising environmental professionals, who themselves are Chartered Environmentalists, trained in the professional assessment process. Candidates are assessed against the areas of competence outlined in Section 2 of this booklet. The assessment process will take into account the CV and written reports provided by the candidate, as well as evidence provided during the Professional Review Interview.

Section 2

Chartered Environmentalist Specification

This specification defines the competences that have to be demonstrated for registration through a licensed body as a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv). The competences are grouped into 5 Key Areas, together with examples of how a candidate might demonstrate compliance. It is recognised that each candidate will have a unique engagement with the environment, dependent upon his or her job role, experience and/or qualifications.

This specification is, therefore, a generic standard against which each candidate can be assessed with respect to their current levels of competencies that will tend to be sector specific.

Chartered Environmentalists must be competent to:

- A. Use knowledge and understanding of the environment to further the aims of sustainable development.
- B. Analyse and evaluate problems from an environmental perspective, and develop practical sustainable solutions.
- C. Demonstrate leadership in sustainable management of the environment.
- D. Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills.
- E. Demonstrate a personal commitment to professional standards, recognising obligations to society, the profession and the environment.

Key Competencies

A Use their knowledge and understanding of the environment to further the aims of sustainable development.

A1 Understand fundamental sustainable development principles, in particular the environmental management component.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Describe the relationship between economic, social and environmental issues.*
- *Understand the need for natural resource protection.*
- *Understand the need to create sustainable communities – places where people want to live and work, now and in the future.*
- *Understand the need for sustainable consumption and production and the requirement to achieve more with less.*
- *Identify global environmental issues and define how they can impact at a local level.*



Section 2

A2 Demonstrate an ability to contribute to sustainable development through the application of knowledge and understanding.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Identify the limits of own personal knowledge and skills.*
- *Promote environmental improvement throughout the organization's customer and supplier networks.*
- *Have regard to relevant legislation and regulatory frameworks, including social and employment legislation.*
- *Operate and act responsibly, taking account of the need to progress environmental, social and economic outcomes.*

A3 Explain the critical importance of maintaining and enhancing natural cycles and biodiversity in achieving sustainability.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Identify links between natural resource degradation, habitat destruction and impact on species, consequent upon depleting natural resources.*
- *Understand important natural cycles (hydrological, carbon etc) and the potential impact of people and organisations on them.*

B Analyse and evaluate problems from an environmental perspective and develop practical sustainable solutions.

B1 Clearly analyse and evaluate environmental problems.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Identify and agree appropriate environmental assessment methodologies (which might include Life Cycle Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment).*
- *Use imagination, creativity and innovation to provide products and services that support the principles of sustainable development.*

B2 See beyond strict legislative compliance and anticipate environmental trends.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Understand current environmental legislation and anticipate its future direction.*
- *Demonstrate how future possible legislation might influence current decision-making.*
- *Anticipate possible environmental change and predict possible consequences.*

Section 2

C Demonstrate leadership in sustainable management of the environment.

C1 Seek to positively influence others in respect of environmental issues, effects and sustainable development.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Actively learn from feedback on results to improve future environmental solutions and build best practice.*
- *Negotiate the necessary contractual arrangements with other stakeholders (client, subcontractors, suppliers, etc.).*
- *Encourage others to understand the wider environmental picture*
- *Provide leadership ensuring development is carried out in a sustainable manner.*

C2 Promote a positive sustainable environmental culture and move towards sustainability.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Identify and influence users' needs and opportunities for environmental improvement.*
- *Assess marketing needs and contribute to marketing strategies.*
- *Identify constraints and exploit opportunities for the development and transfer of technology within own chosen field.*
- *Promote new environmental applications and /or solutions when appropriate.*
- *Influence others to promote behaviour and culture change.*

C3 Demonstrate leadership and management skills.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

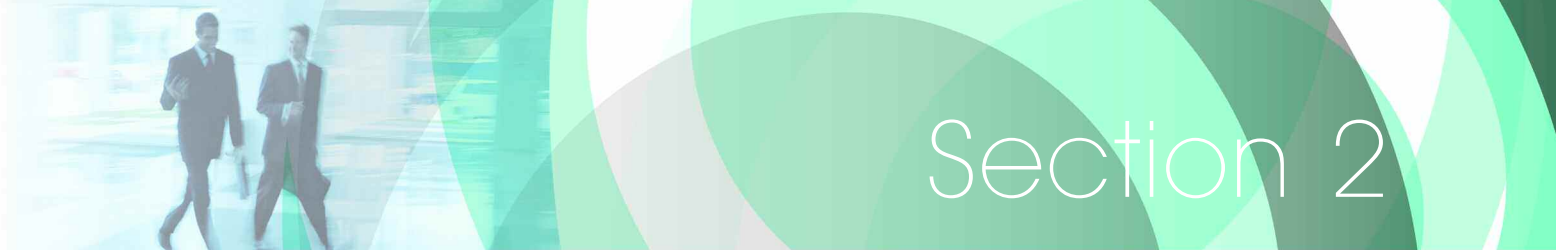
- *Motivate others - agree objectives and work plans with teams and individuals.*
- *Identify team and individual needs, and plan for their development.*
- *Assess team and individual performance, and provide feedback.*
- *Mentor and support others in the work place.*

D Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills.

D1 Develop and communicate the environmental case.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Contribute to, chair and record meetings and discussions.*
- *Prepare letters, documents and reports.*
- *Exchange information and provide advice to colleagues.*
- *Engage with a wider audience by writing articles / guidelines / books etc.*



Section 2

D2 Identify, engage with and respond to an appropriate range of stakeholders.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Be aware of the needs and concerns of others.*
- *Form and maintain productive working relationships with others.*
- *Understand and encourage stakeholder involvement and be accountable to them.*

D3 Develop effective means with which to liaise with and advise others.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Organise and lead work teams, coordinating project activities.*
- *Provide feedback to colleagues and recommend improvements.*
- *Present conclusions of environmental debates clearly and concisely when consulted.*

E Demonstrate a personal commitment to professional standards, recognising obligations to society, the profession and the environment.

E1 Ensure individuals and organisations are accountable and understand their responsibility for environmental damage and improvement.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Comply with the rules of professional conduct of own professional body.*

- *Promote and engage /comply with environmental reporting and disclosure within limits of client confidentiality.*
- *Work constructively within relevant legislation and regulatory frameworks, including social and employment legislation*
- *Ensure that variations from environmental standards, improvement programmes and budgets are identified, and that corrective action is taken.*
- *Sign and commit to SocEnv Code of Ethics.*

E2 Take responsibility for own personal development and work towards and secure change and improvements for a sustainable future.

Some examples of how this could be demonstrated are:

- *Develop and evaluate opportunities and constraints for continuous environmental improvement.*
- *Identify the required cost, quality, safety, reliability, appearance, fitness for purpose and environmental impact of changes and improvements.*
- *Actively learn from feedback on results to improve environmental outcomes and establish best practice.*
- *Undertake reviews of own development needs.*
- *Prepare and evaluate action plans to meet personal and organisational objectives.*

Section 3

Education and Experience

To be eligible for consideration as a Chartered Environmentalist, candidates must accrue a total of 12 units where:

- 1 Years relevant experience = 1 Unit
- 1 Years relevant education = 2 Units
- The minimum qualifying academic/vocational qualifications are HNC/HND or NVQ level 4.
- A maximum of 8 units can be accrued for education.
- Part-time education courses can count pro-rata towards the education units and work experience can count towards relevant work units - if judged appropriate by the Constituent Body.
- A minimum of 4 Years vocational experience is required.

Professional Behaviours

In addition to the requirements of the Constituent Body through which an application is made, candidates will also be required to comply with the following SocEnv Code of Ethics.

As a Chartered Environmentalist I will:

- Act in accordance with the best principles for the mitigation of environmental harm and the enhancement of environmental quality;
- Strive to ensure that the uses of natural resources are fair and sustainable taking account of the needs of a diverse society;
- Use my skills and experience to serve the needs of the environment and society;
- Serve as an example to others for responsible environmental behaviour;
- Not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation or discrimination; and,
- Commit to maintaining my personal professional competence and strive to maintain the integrity and competence of my profession.

Maintaining Competence

Chartered Environmentalists are expected to undertake appropriate Continuing Professional Development (CPD) by:

- Identifying and prioritising their development needs and opportunities.
- Using appropriate guidelines from their licensed body together with competence benchmark standards.
- Pursuing a development action plan using a range of appropriate learning opportunities.
- Recording development achievements.
- Evaluating achievements and reviewing against needs.

Revalidation of CEnv

Formal revalidation of professional registration is not required once registered. Chartered Environmentalists are encouraged to ensure that they effectively maintain their professional competences up to date. They may be removed or suspended if they are found not to have maintained such competences.

For further information

All applications and assessments for the Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) process are conducted by a Constituent Body under license to SocEnv. All enquiries should be directed to one of them. A list of all current Constituent Bodies may be found on the SocEnv Website: www.socenv.org.uk.

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