

Licensed Member Practice Direction

Edition 15 | January 2023



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The Licensed Member Practice Direction is one of a series of Practice Directions which has been approved by the Board of the Society. All developments and amendments will also be approved by the Board.

Edition Control

Version	Revision date	Notes
Edition 2	March 2004	Incorporating minor changes to the last version of the document dated September 2003 following the auditor's workshops.
Edition 3	November 2004	Incorporating changes arising from audit and the RA meeting of 5/11, and comments made by ICE and IEMA.
Edition 4	March 2005	Incorporating changes agreed at Board Meeting 3/3/05
Edition 5	July 2007	Revised format Incorporating changes arising from comments made by new CBs and auditors workshop.
Edition 6	July 2008	Revision to include additional guidance notes to CBs regarding audit requirements – noted at RA meeting on 23rd April 2008
Edition 7	June 2009	Revisions to the "criteria for full member body" in section 2.1.2
Edition 8	September 2010	Full revision of the whole of the Practice Direction as part of the RA review programme.
Edition 9	May 2011	Final Version Board approved June 2011.
Edition 10	July 2013	Incorporating minor corrections.
Edition 11	May 2014 Version 1	Incorporating a new register for Registered Environmental Technician and revising



	Version 2	'auditor' to 'reviewer'. Agreed by RA April 2014 and Cabinet May 2014. Version 2 Amended Forms
Edition 12	December 2014	Amendment to Section 6.1 approved by the Society for the Environment Council on 3rd December 2014
Edition 13	October 2017	Full review to identify potential Charter, Byelaw and Regulation changes
Edition 14	July 2019	Amendments to reflect Governance review, licence conditions and interim reviews
Edition 15	January 2023	Amendments to reflect comprehensive Standards review and rebranding

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Definitions

In this Practice Direction, the terms below have the meanings listed against them, and are shown in bold type throughout the document.

Appeal Panel	Three members of the Registration Authority appointed to consider appeals against a Licensed Member's conduct of an assessment process.
Assessment sheet	The official record of the outcome of an assessment drawn up by the Assessors.
Assessors	Two Chartered Environmentalists appointed to assess CEnv candidates through the assessment process.
Bespoke Route	A Registration Authority approved variation of the Professional Review Interview Route.
Board	The governing body of the Society for the Environment, howsoever known.
Code of Professional Conduct	The Code of Professional Conduct of the Society for the Environment set out in relevant sections of the Chartered Environmentalist, Registered Environmental Practitioner or Registered Environmental Technician Practice Direction.
Competences	The competences, as set by the Society for the Environment, interpreted by the Licensed Member, and agreed with the Society for the Environment, that an applicant must demonstrate to be registered as a Chartered Environmentalist, Registered Environmental Practitioner or Registered Environmental Technician. Generic versions are set out in the Appendix of the relevant Practice Direction

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Eligibility Criteria	The criteria specified in Section 2 of this Practice Direction.
Final Appeal	An appeal against a determination of the Registration Authority dismissing an appeal against a Licensed Member's conduct of an assessment.
Final appeal panel	Three members of the Board appointed to hear a final appeal
Investigation Committee	A committee comprising the Society for the Environment's Chair and the Chief Executive Officer appointed to consider a final appeal and make recommendations to the Board.
ISO 19011:2011	Provides guidance on auditing management systems, including the principles of auditing, managing an audit programme, and conducting management system audits.
Licensed Member (LM)	A professional institution or association that has been licensed by the Registration Authority to register its members as Chartered Environmentalists, Registered Environmental Practitioner and/or Registered Environmental Technicians
Professional Review Panel (PR Panel)	A panel comprising at least two suitably trained Society for the Environment registrants at the same or higher level of registration as that sought by the candidate. A Licensed Member may invite a suitably trained Society for the Environment registrant from another Licensed Member to be a member of the Professional Review Panel.
Professional Review Interview	The interview that forms part of the process of assessing applicants for registration

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Registration Authority	The part of the Society for the Environment that exercises the powers of registration allotted to it by the Society's Royal Charter.
Reinstatement window	The period of three years following people who have left the register can be reinstated without further assessment or interview.
Route	The route to registration provided for under CEnv and REnvP Practice Directions, namely the Professional Review Interview route.
Society for the Environment	The body established by Royal Charter in 2004 to promote the advancement of, the dissemination of, knowledge of and education in good environmental practice for the public benefit, and which licences bodies to assess and register Chartered Environmentalists, Registered Environmental Practitioners, and/or Registered Environmental Technicians.

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1 Introduction

This document details the requirements and processes for organisations to gain and maintain a Licence to award registrations on behalf of the Society for the Environment (SocEnv). The Society is an independent umbrella body with an overall aim, set out in its Royal Charter, to promote the advancement of, the dissemination of, knowledge of, and education in good environmental practice for the public benefit.

This is one of four Practice Directions: Licensed Member Practice Direction (LMPD), Chartered Environmentalist Practice Direction (CEnvPD), Registered Environmental Practitioner (REnvPPD) and the Registered Environmental Technician Practice Direction (REnvTechPD) which set out the criteria to be fulfilled and processes necessary for first becoming a Member Body of the Society for the Environment, and then progressing to become a Licensed Member. A Society for the Environment Licensed Member is granted the authority to award the titles of Chartered Environmentalist, Registered Environmental Practitioner and/or Registered Environmental Technician to their suitably qualified members.

Blank application forms are included within this document together with details of the required criteria and the supporting documentation that a prospective body will be expected to present when making an application.

2 Criteria

There are two stages in becoming a Licensed Member (LM) of the Society for the Environment for an organisation. Stage one is to become a Member Body (MB). Once this has been successfully completed the organisation may then apply for a Licence, and if successful, become a LM.

2.1 Member Body

A MB is a membership body which joins the Society for the Environment which may or may not aspire to be licensed to award CEnv, REnvP and/or REnvTech. To become a MB, an organisation must:

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- 2.1.1 be an independent institute, institution, society, or similar body with individual members and have the purpose of developing and advancing a profession or body of knowledge;
- 2.1.2 Be financially viable, maintain financial accounts in accordance with standard accounting practice and it or its predecessors have been in existence for at least five years;
- 2.1.3 Have incorporated environmental management and sustainability into its activities and recognised them as disciplines within its profession or body of knowledge;
- 2.1.4 have among its objectives the practice of the profession in the interest of the public as well as that of its individual members;
- 2.1.5 recognise its responsibility to advance and extend the body of learning on which the profession is based;
- 2.1.6 have rules of admission to full membership for its individual members based on standards of competence consistent with the pre-qualification requirements for the award of at least one level of the Society's professional qualifications, or alternatively, be able to demonstrate that the majority of its individual members are so qualified;
- 2.1.7 recognise its responsibility to concern itself with facilities, methods and provision for educating and training future entrants to the profession and for enhancing the knowledge of present practitioners;
- 2.1.8 have individual members who are able to satisfy the qualifying criteria of at least one level of the Society's professional qualifications;
- 2.1.9 be capable of regulating and monitoring the professional conduct of its individual members;
- 2.1.10 be capable of monitoring the continuing professional development of its individual members;
- 2.1.11 be able to certify that its individual members have satisfied the requirements for any professional qualification offered by the Society and to conduct related

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professional reviews on behalf of the Society in accordance with Practice Directions defined by the Society.

2.2 Licensed Member

A LM is a MB that has been awarded a Licence of the Society to register individuals who meet the criteria of Chartered Environmentalist, Registered Environmental Practitioner and/or Registered Environmental Technician depending on the licence(s) awarded. In becoming a LM, a MB has demonstrated to the Registration Authority (RA) that it has sufficient experience, procedures and resources to undertake each of the following tasks:

- 2.2.1 assess the competence, knowledge and commitment of candidates for registration;
- 2.2.2 monitor the continued professional development of registrants;
- 2.2.3 regulate and monitor the professional conduct of its individual membership;
- 2.2.4 in accordance with the Society for the Environment Code of Professional Conduct, apply disciplinary procedures in the event of complaints of unprofessional conduct by a registrant, including the removal by the Licensed Member of any Chartered Environmentalist, Registered Environmental Practitioner or Registered Environmental Technician from the Register of the Society for the Environment where so recommended by a disciplinary panel of the Licensed Member;
- 2.2.5 agree to be reviewed by the RA and to pay to the Society any specified licence fees.

2.3 Requirements for a LM to offer Registration(s)

For a LM to offer Society for the Environment registrations it must:

2.3.1 demonstrate an acceptable cohort of registrable members who meet the requirements for the Society for the Environment registers as set out in the relevant Practice Direction;

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- 2.3.2 have at least one member at the appropriate educational level acceptable to the Society;
- 2.3.3 have a minimum of 5 years' experience administering membership standards;
- 2.3.4 be able to assess the competence, knowledge and commitment of candidates for registration and have management systems in place to process CEnv/REnvP/REnvTech applications;
- 2.3.5 have a review mechanism in place before a candidate is given the assessment decision;
- 2.3.6 ensure that its individual members are bound by the professional body's code of conduct;
- 2.3.7 provide environmentally relevant opportunities for the professional development of aspiring and registered CEnvs, REnvPs and REnvTechs, and manage and monitor CPD relevant to the qualification;
- 2.3.8 have a process in place for marketing the CEnv, REnvP and REnvTech qualifications; and
- 2.3.9 complete an Annual Licence Member Report (ALMR) providing information pertaining to the previous calendar year and for the Licence(s) they hold.

3 Member Body Application and Review

To become a MB, a professional body needs to complete an application form and supply evidence that it meets the criteria detailed in 2.1 above and be committed to living within environmental limits and promoting sustainable development. A review will be undertaken to verify that the professional body meets the criteria for becoming a MB.

Reviews will be carried out under normal quality assurance procedures following the principles of ISO 19011:2011 by a panel consisting of two reviewers appointed by the

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Society, and the Society's staff acting as secretariat. The review will include the examination of documents included in their application, interview of relevant MB staff and report of findings.

A report will be made to the Board for a decision on whether to allow the professional body to become a MB.

4 Licence Application and Reviews

There are three types of review in the licensing cycle: Initial; Interim; Renewal.

4.1 Initial Licence Application Review

The Initial review will be undertaken to verify that the professional body meets the eligibility criteria for becoming a LM. The Society also requires that all the documented processes for full Professional Review Interview are submitted together at this stage.

Initial reviews will be carried out under normal quality assurance procedures by a panel consisting of two reviewers appointed by the Society, and the Society's staff acting as secretariat. The review will include the examination of documents included in their application, interview of relevant MB staff and report of findings.

Following the Initial review, the reviewers will report to the Society's RA which will either:

- approve the award of a licence or licences;
- conditionally approve the award of a licence or licences; or
- reject the application for a licence or licences.

For the avoidance of doubt, approval of a licence is dated from the date of the RA decision.

The RA will approve:

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- 1. the award of a licence where in its opinion no major non-conformances were found during the review.
- 2. the award of a licence subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions where in its opinion non-conformances have been found during the review but these non-conformances can be eliminated from the system by the next RA.
- 3. not awarding a licence where in its opinion non-conformances have been found during the review which cannot be eliminated from the system by the next RA. In this situation the MB will be encouraged to re-apply when the non-conformances have been eliminated.

All Licences will include the following standard conditions:

- Timely completion of agreed actions;
- Submission of Annual Licence Member Report;
- Assist volunteers and Society for the Environment staff undertaking quality assurance.

By 30th April each year every LM is required to complete an Annual Licence Member Report (ALMR) providing information pertaining to the previous calendar year and for the Licence(s) they hold. A visit by a team from the Society will be undertaken if a completed report is not received to ascertain any relevant changes within the LM and its licensing procedures. It is possible that a Renewal review might be triggered.

4.2 Interim Review

One or possibly two interim reviews in the first two years of a licence may be called for by the RA. An Interim review will be undertaken by a panel consisting of two reviewers appointed by the Society, and the Society's staff acting as secretariat. The panel will review progress of the PRI assessment process to ensure that procedures are being carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Society. As part of this process for CEnv or REnvP, the reviewer(s) may request an opportunity to attend a Professional Review Interview as observer(s). The RA may call for an interim review at any time during the life of a licence if it feels standard licence conditions have not been met.

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4.3 Renewal Review

Up to five years after commencement of Licence operation, the Licence will be due for renewal. At that stage, a full review will be carried out by a panel consisting of two reviewers appointed by the Society, and the Society's staff acting as secretariat.

This review will have the primary function of examining the LM to ensure that it is maintaining the standards for the award of the CEnv, REnvP and/or REnvTech qualifications and that all other specified criteria listed above are still being fulfilled. The procedure will be as generally described for the Initial review but with an emphasis on CEnv, REnvP and/or REnvTech records rather than on the systems themselves.

There are three possible outcomes from the Renewal review, namely:

- to renew the licence;
- to suspend the licence; or
- to withdraw the licence.

The RA will approve:

- 1. the renewal of a licence where in its opinion no major non-conformances were found during the review.
- 2. the renewal of a licence subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions where in its opinion non-conformances have been found during the review but these non-conformances can be eliminated from the system by the next RA.
- 3. not renewing a licence where in its opinion non-conformances have been found during the review which cannot be eliminated from the system by the next RA. In this situation the LM will be encouraged eliminate the non-conformances within the designated timescale.

The RA will renew a licence for up to five years where in its opinion the LM has fulfilled the requirements of the RA, with only such non-conformances that have not resulted in and will not result in the incorrect award of the CEnv/REnvP/REnvTech qualification, and if such non-conformances and conditional recommendations can be eliminated from the system by the next RA. Non-conformances and conditional recommendations following the review should be addressed and observations made by the reviewers should be considered within the designated timescale.

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The RA will suspend the licence of a LM where in its opinion such body has non-conformances in its system of such magnitude that the body is liable to misapply the standard of CEnv/REnvP/REnvTech. The LM will be required to respond within a designated timescale and be given every opportunity to address the non-conformances. However, the licence will remain suspended until such a time as the non-conformances resulting in the suspension have been corrected. If the reviewers believe that such a suspension could be for longer than six months in duration, then the RA should consider the withdrawal of the licence. The LM will be required to inform the RA in writing of the changes that have been made to comply. The RA may grant the licence based on that information or it may require that a second review of the LM be conducted before deciding. If the RA decides to hold a second review, such review should be carried out within two months of the LM informing the RA of the changes made. Any remaining non-conformances must be addressed, and observations made by the reviewers considered.

The RA will withdraw the licence from a LM where in its opinion one or more serious non-conformances have been found during the review and these non-conformances have or could result in the misapplication of the award or maintenance of the CEnv, REnvP or REnvTech qualification. The RA will inform the LM of its decision and will inform the Board to whom the LM may appeal, pursuant to Bye Law 60. If the RA decision is appealed, the licence will be suspended from the date of the letter informing the LM of the RA decision until the date of the final decision of the Board.

For the avoidance of doubt a licence renewal is dated from the date of the relevant RA decision.

5 Fees

A professional body which becomes a MB and/or a LM will be asked by the Society to pay the relevant fees applicable at the time and the appropriate annual fee thereafter. These will be advised to the MB/LM on request.

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6 Application Forms

Member Body Application Form

Name of Organisation	
Tel No	Fax No
E-mail Address	
Key Contacts: Please include CEC), Registration/Membership Manag
1	Title
E-mail	Tel
2	Title
E-mail	Tel
L	
Signed	_ Name
Date	-
On behalf of:	

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Please complete each of the following sections in support of your application. Suggestions for supporting documents are included in the form below and you will need to include a reference to these within your application.

Cr	iteria	Suggestions for supporting documents	Document reference
То	be a Member Body; an organisat	ion must:	
1.	be an independent institute, institution, society, or similar body with individual members and have the purpose of developing and advancing a profession or body of knowledge	Terms of Incorporation	Insert References from Member Body application
2.	Be financially viable, maintain financial accounts in accordance with standard accounting practice and it or its predecessors have been in existence for at least five years	Reviewed accounts for the past 5 years	Insert References from Member Body application
3.	Have incorporated environmental management and sustainability into its activities and recognised them as disciplines within its profession or body of knowledge	Environmental Management System Internal Audit Programme	Insert References from Member Body application
4.	have among its objectives the practice of the profession in the interest of the public as well as that of its individual members	Memorandum and Articles of Association – aims and objectives.	Insert References from Member Body application
5.	recognise its responsibility to advance and extend the body of learning on which the profession is based	Environmental Policy	Insert References from Member Body application
6.	have rules of admission to full membership for its individual members based on standards of	Membership procedures manual	Insert References from Member Body application

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Cr	iteria	Suggestions for supporting documents	Document reference
	competence consistent with the pre-qualification requirements for the award of at least one level of the Society's professional qualifications, or alternatively, be able to demonstrate that the majority of its individual members are so qualified		
7.	recognise its responsibility to concern itself with facilities, methods and provision for educating and training future entrants to the profession and for enhancing the knowledge of present practitioners	Environmental events / magazine articles / publications	Insert References from Member Body application
8.	have individual members who are able to satisfy the qualifying criteria of at least one level of the Society's professional qualifications	Profile of membership grades to show which grades of members will be eligible to apply for CEnv/REnvP/REnvTech	Insert References from Member Body application
9.	be capable of regulating and monitoring the professional conduct of its individual members	Code of Conduct	Insert References from Member Body application
10	. be capable of monitoring the continuing professional development of its individual members	CPD Policy	Insert References from Member Body application
11	be able to certify that its individual members have satisfied the requirements for any professional qualification offered by the Society and to conduct related professional	Membership procedures manual	Insert References from Member Body application

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Criteria	Suggestions for supporting documents	Document reference
reviews on behalf of the Society in accordance with Practice Directions defined by the Society		

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Application Form to become a Licensed Member

Name of Organisation
Address
Tel No Fax No
E-mail Address
Key Contacts: Please include CEO, Registration/Membership Manager.
ney contactor reade merade e20, registration, membership manager.
1 Title
E-mail Tel
2Title
E-mail Tel
Please tick the appropriate box for the licences being applied for:
Chartered Environmentalist
Registered Environmental Practitioner
Registered Environmental Technician \square

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In accordance with the Society's Regulations, we agree to:

- (iii) pay such Licensed Member fees and subscriptions as may be determined from time to time by the Board; and
- (iv) to nominate the following two individuals to act as Volunteer Reviewers for the Society for the Environment:

1. First Name(s)	Family Name
2. First Name(s)	Family Name
Signed	Name
Date	
On hehalf of:	

PLEASE COMPLETE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION. SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE FORM BELOW AND YOU WILL NEED TO INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO THESE WITHIN YOUR APPLICATION.

PLEASE NOTE IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A LICENCE WITH THE SOCIETY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT YOU NEED NOT COMPLETE THE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE A LICENSED MEMBER. PLEASE GO TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.

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CRITERIA	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	DOCUMENT REFERENCE
General requirements to be a License organisation must	ed Member to offer CEnv, REnvP a	nd/or REnvTech an
 assess the competence, knowledge, and commitment of candidates for registration 	Assessment procedure	
 monitor the continued professional development of registrants 	CPD Policy	
 regulate and monitor the professional conduct of its individual membership 	Code of Conduct	
• in accordance with the Society for the Environment Code of Professional Conduct, apply disciplinary procedures in the event of complaints of unprofessional conduct by a registrant and to remove such Registrant from the applicable SocEnv Registers.	Complaints, Disciplinary and Appeals procedures	
 agree to be reviewed by the Registration Authority and to pay to the Society any specified licence fees 		
Specific requirements to offer CEnv/l	REnvP	
 demonstrate an acceptable cohort of registrable members meet the requirements for the Society for the Environment registers as set out in the relevant Practice Direction 	Profile of membership grades to show which grades of members will be eligible to apply for CEnv/REnvP Membership survey to ascertain the potential level of interest in CEnv/REnvP	

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CRITERIA	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	DOCUMENT REFERENCE
 have at least one member at the appropriate educational level acceptable to the Society 	Membership procedures manual Mapping exercise between membership grades and CEnv/REnvP	
 have a minimum of 5 years' experience administering membership standards 	Membership procedures manual Evidence of members joining over 5 years ago	
 can assess the competence, knowledge, and commitment of candidates for registration and have management systems in place to process CEnv/REnvP applications 	Procedure for how existing membership are assessed and how they are maintained Procedures manual for current membership applications Written procedures for processing and assessing applications Recruitment and training programme for CEnv/REnvP assessors	
 have a review mechanism in place before candidate is given assessment decision 	Internal review plans for CEnv/REnvP application process	
 ensure that its individual members who are bound by the professional bodies code of conduct 	Code of conduct	
 provide environmentally relevant CPD to registrants relevant to the qualification 	CPD procedures	
 have a process in place for marketing the CEnv, REnvP and REnvTech registers 	Marketing plan to demonstrate how the Society and the CEnv/REnvP qualification will be	

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CRITERIA	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	DOCUMENT REFERENCE
	promoted and communicated to members	
 required to complete an Annual Licence Member Report (ALMR) providing information pertaining to the previous calendar year and for the Licence(s) they hold 		
Specific requirements to offer REnvT	ech	
 can demonstrate an acceptable cohort of registrable members who meet the requirements for REnvTech as set out in the relevant Practice Direction 	Profile of membership grades to show which grades of members will be eligible to apply for REnvTech Membership survey to ascertain the potential level of interest in REnvTech	
 have at least one membership level that is appropriate to REnvTech 	Membership procedures manual Mapping exercise between membership grades and REnvTech	
 have a minimum of 5 years' experience administering membership standards 	Membership procedures manual Evidence of members joining over 5 years ago	
 can assess the competence, knowledge, and commitment of candidates for registration and have management systems in place to process REnvTech applications through Panel document review and to remove such REnvTech from the Soc Env Register of 	Procedure for how existing membership are assessed and how they are maintained Procedures manual for current membership applications Written procedures for processing and assessing applications	

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CRITERIA	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	DOCUMENT REFERENCE
Registered Environmentalist Technicians	Internal review plans for REnvTech application process	
	Recruitment and training programme for REnvTech assessors	
 its individual members who hold the above standard are bound by a code of conduct 	Code of conduct	
 provide opportunities for the professional development of aspiring REnvTechs and registrants and manage and monitor CPD relevant to them 	CPD procedures	
 have a process in place for marketing the Society for the Environment and the REnvTech qualification. 	Marketing plan to demonstrate how the Society and the REnvTech qualification will be promoted and communicated to members	

Please email application forms to: operations@socenv.org.uk

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Member Bodies

To locate details of current Member Bodies, please visit <u>socenv.org.uk/about-us</u> and refer to the scrolling logos under the title "Our Member Bodies".

Contact Details

Society for the Environment 297 Euston Road London NW1 3AD

Tel: +44 (0)345 337 2951 Email: enquiries@socenv.org.uk

End of Licensed Member Practice Direction

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