



## IAQM Early Careers Network Newsletter: March 2023

Welcome to the first IAQM Early Careers Network (ECN) Newsletter! We aim to bring this to you every quarter, providing updates on the subcommittee's activities and plans going forward. We'll also be keeping you up to date with some of the latest developments in air quality and highlight ways for you to get involved with the ECN, including opportunities to submit topic ideas for future events and many more, so keep your eyes peeled.

For those of you who may not be familiar with the ECN subcommittee, we are a team of 8 air quality professionals:

- **Chair** - Honor Puciato (Ricardo)
- **Vice Chair** - Davide Pascarella (Merton, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils)
- **Communications & Discussion Organisers** - Emily Portergill (Arup) and Jason Wong (Ricardo)
- **Events Organisers** - Mark Nichols (Hydrock) and Abbie O'Sullivan (Stantec)
- **Content and Topics Organisers** - Amy Van de Sande (BWB) and Jack Richmond (AirRated)

We are also supported in delivering our activities by two members of staff from the IES: Ethny Childs, *Communities & Partnerships Lead* and Jo Maniscalco, *Communities & Membership Engagement Officer*.

As a Subcommittee, we aim to provide support for professionals in the early stages of their careers and to encourage engagement within the air quality community. The group aspires to build a strong network between its members and the wider air quality community and to represent the views of early career members to the IAQM committee.

Please make sure to join our [LinkedIn group](#)! This is the place where we will be actively sharing content and promoting discussion on a wide range of topics. Hopefully, we can build our very own air quality community. As members, feel free to also post any questions or interesting pieces of information you may come across into the group.

## Upcoming Events



### Call for speakers for Measuring Air Quality 2023

We are looking for two ECN members to speak at this year's [Measuring Air Quality conference](#), taking place on the 28th March at the Coin Street Conference Centre in London.

Each slot will be 10 minutes long and will be a chance for you to showcase your research to the conference attendees, as well as building experience in public speaking.

**If you would like to be considered for one of these slots, please email a proposed title and a few sentences about what you plan to cover to [communities@the-ies.org](mailto:communities@the-ies.org) by Friday 10th March.**

For the full list of sessions on the day, [view our latest conference agenda here](#).



## Bristol regional meet-up

There is also going to be the first IAQM regional meeting, hosted in Bristol on **Wednesday 26th April**. More details about this will follow shortly, so save the date! If you live in the area, it will be a great chance to network with local air quality professionals.

Don't worry if you're not based in Bristol or the South-West, more regional meetings will be coming over the course of the year. We will be sure to keep you in the loop.

## And more to come...

Aside from these events, the ECN have got a lot of our own events in the works at the moment. We'll be covering a mix of online and in-person events, including a presentation skills workshop coming up in the summer. Keep your eyes peeled!

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## Previous Events



### ECN Meetup - IAQM Early Careers Network Workshop: Putting your best foot forward - Exploring IAQM membership

As you may be aware, on Tuesday 7th February the ECN held their first event of the year, [Putting your best foot forward - Exploring IAQM membership](#), with thanks to Atkins for letting us borrow their office for a couple of hours. We had a great turnout, and it was fantastic to meet so many of you in person!

There were talks covering the membership levels and requirements, what makes a good membership application as well as an interactive CV workshop with Sarah Horrocks, Tom Reade and Philbert Chan from the main IAQM Committee, allowing members to see where they could improve their CV's when it comes to applying for full membership to the IAQM. We also had presentations from our very own Honor, Davide and Mark explaining the benefits of membership to the ECN. This event was then followed up by a social event at the nearby Bag O'Nails pub, where many of you enjoyed a pint and great conversation about all things air quality and beyond.

This workshop was the first in two-part series. A follow-up event will be taking place towards the end of year to cover more information on the new competency framework once launched.

See our website for recordings of our previous events.

[ECN Event Recordings](#)

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## Industry Updates & Resources

## Air Quality Neutral / Air Quality Positive – GLA

On Wednesday 8th February, the [Air Quality Neutral](#) and [Air Quality Positive](#) London Planning Guidance (LPGs) were formally adopted by the Greater London Authority (GLA).

The guidance aims to set air quality benchmarks for all developments, to ensure that their transport and building emissions do not worsen air quality in London.

## Environmental targets

Under the Environment Act 2021, the Government sets two legally binding targets for air quality. The two targets were recently included into [The Environmental Targets \(Fine Particulate Matter\) \(England\) Regulations 2023](#).

An annual mean concentration target for PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels in England to be 10µg/m<sup>3</sup> or below by 31st December 2040 and a population exposure reduction target of 35% compared with the average population exposure in the three-year period from 1st January 2016 to 31st December 2018.

## DEFRA Air quality grant scheme 2022 to 2023

Councils across England have recently been awarded a share of [£10.7 million to clean up air in local communities](#).

The projects include low-emission transport schemes and educational programmes for healthcare providers.

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## Interesting Reads

Here we have gathered a few interesting air quality articles and reports for you to peruse:

### Association of Long-term Exposure to Air Pollution With Late-Life Depression in Older Adults in the US

Recent research in the Journal of the American Medical Association suggests there may be a link between air pollution and the onset of depression later in life.

[Read article](#)

### Hidden harms of indoor air pollution — five steps to expose them

Indoor air quality is equally as important as outdoor air pollution, and it is important to understand the potential harm it can cause. Here is an article from Nature highlighting some key areas where indoor air quality science needs to be developed.

[Read article](#)

### Inner London Ultra Low Emission Zone- One Year Report

The one-year report looking into the October 2021 ULEZ expansion has just been released, suggesting substantial reduction in NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels. It will be interesting to see the results once the ULEZ expands further in August.

[Read report](#)

### Anthropogenic air pollutants reduce insect-mediated pollination services

Research suggests that common air pollutants may be reducing insect-provided pollination services, this could have implications for plant yield and an already declining bee population.

[Read article](#)

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## Endorsed Courses and CPD Opportunities

For those of you interested, the University of the West of England are running a series of [Air Quality Courses between Monday 17th and Friday 21st April 2023](#).

There are several accredited and endorsed courses on the [CPD section of the IAQM website](#), including the [EMAQ+](#): The Air Quality Management training programme.

[See all endorsed courses](#)



## Jobs

Find the latest jobs on the [IAQM](#) and [IES](#) websites.



## Have your say

There are a range of ways you can have your say and get involved. For example, we are always keen to receive feedback and suggestions on future topics.

If you wish to write a case study or blog about air quality, feel free to share it with us and we will highlight it in our next newsletter.

Contact us at [communities@the-ies.org](mailto:communities@the-ies.org).

## Upcoming Events



**23rd March, online**  
IES training: Engaging with the policy climate: Learn how to engage with climate policy

## Upcoming Events



**28th March, London**  
Measuring Air Quality Conference

[See all forthcoming events](#)

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IAQM c/o Inst of Environmental Sciences

6-8 Great Eastern Street  
London, EC2A 3NT  
United Kingdom

+44 (0)20 3862 7484

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