



The Royal
Environmental
Health Institute
of Scotland

Environmental Health Manifesto for Scotland

Our Challenge to you

2021 is a momentous year for environmental health in Scotland. We are dealing with the Coronavirus pandemic and planning the country's recovery as well as dealing with the consequences of the EU exit. The United Nations Climate Summit (COP26) is due to take place in Glasgow and will shine light on our commitment to sustainability. Against this background, the pre-existing pressures on environmental health in the places we live, work and travel have not gone away.

The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland firmly believes that there are four key challenges to protect and improve Scotland's environmental health and to support our communities through, and beyond, the Coronavirus pandemic. The Challenges are summarised overleaf – the full manifesto is available at www.rehis.com/manifesto.

We address these challenges to politicians of all parties. The Institute is ready to work with all stakeholders to face the challenges and to improve, and protect, public health in Scotland.

Are you ready to work with us?

[Lisa McCann](#)
President



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Our Challenge to you

Challenge 1 - Adequate capacity and training of the Environmental Health workforce

The Coronavirus pandemic, and EU exit challenges, highlight the dangers of the long-term contraction of the Environmental Health workforce and reducing numbers of new professionals starting accredited courses

How will you work with us to support the training of new environmental health professionals and to ensure that the public have the protection of a properly resourced Environmental Health Service staffed by officers trained to a high standard and able to demonstrate their competence?

Challenge 2 - Sustaining public health and ensuring a level playing field for business recovery and growth

Environmental health professionals protect the public by using Engagement, Education, Encouragement and, ultimately, Enforcement to achieve compliance with environmental health legislation.

How will you work with us to ensure we continue to protect public health, to tackle unlawful activity and ensure a fair and level playing field for legitimate business activity during and after the Coronavirus pandemic?

Challenge 3 - Healthier and safer communities through education, training and qualifications

Education, training and qualifications contribute to public health when learners gain knowledge which enables them to make appropriate choices at work or at home.

How will you work us to ensure employers, employees and members of the public are supported through cost effective training that will help them to be safer and healthier in their environment and to adapt to the post-pandemic economy?

Challenge 4 - Sustainable locally based Environmental Health for now and the future

The Environmental Health Service in Scotland should continue to be delivered locally and be sustainably invested in to ensure that resources are aligned with Scottish priorities of health and wellbeing. Priorities for Environmental Health should be set in Scotland.

How will you work with us ensure the sustainability of locally based Environmental Health in Scotland?

Further information

REHIS is keen to work with everyone with an interest in improving and protecting public health in Scotland. If you would like to work with us, or if you want more information on the challenges facing Environmental Health in Scotland, please visit our website at www.rehis.com or contact us:

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