



West of Scotland
Branch

Environment and Waste Management Group Report

Thursday 30th September 2021

by **Susannah McIntosh**

Events:

Next EWMG meeting October 2021 SM will update at next branch meeting Oct 2021.

Research reports:

"Findings of our latest IOSH EWMG survey" The importance of environmental competency to the IOSH professional" ✎

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/iosh-ewmg-65b2a6193_iosh-ewmg-survey-activity-6842183411101114368-EaxR

Background

<https://www.ioshmagazine.com/2020/11/12/h-s-ea-tight-fit>

As part of the IOSH group review process instigated in early 2020, the IOSH EWMG consulted with its membership to better understand the scope of work undertaken by its members.

The IOSH EWMG is considered by the general membership as the repository for knowledge for Waste Management and Environmental Management matters, regularly being asked for speakers in championing such sustainability issues although its scope is around providing H&S advice in these sectors- something different.

In November 2020 a survey was undertaken of EWMG IOSH members.

Dr David Thomas, Chair and Ella Hunt committee members summarised of key findings:

- Respondents identifying that they work across 26 different sectors (response rate 2.2%)
- 27% of our respondent's primary work activity is environmental management practice and advice and 24% HSE management, resulting in over 50% of respondent's primary activity clearly being in environmental risk management.
- 56% of respondents identified environmental management as a subset of Occupational Health and Safety, with 60% of those with a degree agreeing although reducing to 41% of those with Chartered Membership
- 69% of respondents gained environmental experience from professional practice, rather than through academia (14%). Identifying the key role that professional institutions can provide in terms of training and support.
- 57% of respondents are a member of another institution other than IOSH, with IEMA being the main other professional membership. Therefore, it can be assumed that 43% of our members rely on IOSH for environmental management guidance and 65% of this group identified environmental management as a subset of occupational health and safety.

Battery use in Scotland now and in the future-

New report issued from Zero Waste Scotland, in partnership with Transport Scotland, and Scottish Enterprise.

Scotland's world-leading targets to help end the climate crisis include fuelling half of Scotland's heat, transport and electricity demand from renewable sources by 2030. Achieving this rapid transition from fossil fuel producer and consumer to global pioneer of green power will involve a huge transformation of our energy systems.

Research objectives:

Provide a detailed picture of current battery use in Scotland;

Give short to medium-term projections for how that will develop, including specific electric vehicle battery projections;

Make recommendations for future policy/ regulation considerations to improve the sustainability and support a greater level of circularity across the entire battery life cycle.

Key recommendations:

Updating the existing Extended Producer Responsibility scheme for batteries giving manufacturers a greater duty to minimise waste and associated emissions;

Introducing battery recycling targets and carbon footprint declarations to discourage waste;

Designing new batteries with end-of-life in mind so they are easy to disassemble for re-use.

<https://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/sites/default/files/ZWS1700%20PRE%20Mapping%20and%20Forecasting%20Battery%20use%20in%20Scotland%20SUMMARY%20DOC%20V2.pdf>

Webinars across IOSH:

EWMG organised a webinar on 25th August can be found on IOSH UTube link below.

[The International challenge with the Electric Vehicle \(EV\) batteries recycling process - YouTube](#)

H&S issues relating to recycling electric batteries.