

Circular Economy Project

Volunteer Role Descriptor

1. Introduction

IChemE's Sustainability SIG has set as one of its key objectives to raise member awareness of the circular economy. The SIG aims to provide information on how to implement circular economy thinking, supported by quantitative methods, in chemical engineering practice. To support this objective, in 2024 IChemE hosted a series of 6 webinars on the circular economy.

In 2025, Sustainability SIG intends to carry out a project continuing this work. The aims of this project are to:

- Organise a one-day conference in the UK to share circular economy best practice, with a target audience of professionals in industry and academia
- Produce a series of fact files to provide information and practical guidance on the circular economy for chemical engineers

Sustainability SIG is seeking volunteers with interest and knowledge relating to circular economy principles to help organise and participate in this project.

2. What you will be doing

Volunteers are required to help with the following activities:

- To produce fact files providing information on the circular economy, including circularity and sustainability metrics, LCA data sources, links to relevant articles in The Chemical Engineer and elsewhere, and examples of good practice.
- To organise a one-day conference and/or panel discussion in the UK in Q3 or Q4 2025 on the circular economy in chemical engineering to share best practice and scope future directions.

Note: It is envisaged that similar events may take place later outside the UK, depending on the success of the UK pilot

- To review the success of the above events and make recommendations on future IChemE activities on the circular economy.

3. About you

For this role you are required to:

- be a member of the IChemE
- commit to contributing to the Circular Economy Project
- understand the principles of circular economy

4. How you will benefit

There are many benefits to this volunteering role, including:

- personal satisfaction that your contribution helps to support a global network of chemical engineers
- extensive networking opportunities
- enhancement of your own CPD for longer term career development and demonstration of professionalism in a wider context than your own specific job role/professional interests.

5. Time commitment

It is estimated volunteers will spend 6-10 hours per month for this role. You will be expected to:

- attend project meetings
- carry out activities contributing to project outputs (e.g. produce and edit one or more fact files, help organise and/or run the conference).

6. Period of appointment

12 – 18 months, the duration of the Circular Economy project. Follow-up activities may emerge post-review.

7. How to apply & appointment method

Please apply using the “apply now” button on this advert on the website, specifying whether you’d like to help with the fact files, the conference or both.

The project leads may invite you for a chat to help them understand how best you might contribute to the project.

8. Induction & training

New volunteers are required to complete GDPR training, provided by IChemE, and attend a short on-boarding session.

Volunteers are encouraged to take the module in Sustainability Hub “A Circular Economy for Chemical Engineers”, to support their understanding of the aims of the project. The training is available free of charge to members on the Sustainability Hub – please contact membersupport@icheme.org to obtain the relevant code.

9. Further information

Expenses for the activities:

No significant expenses are expected to be incurred. IChemE [Expense policy for members and volunteers](#) outlines what costs can be recovered whilst undertaking volunteer activities on behalf of member groups.

Is the role location specific?	No – meetings will be held virtually, but UK-based volunteers will be needed to plan the conference
Number of roles available	Up to 12
Closing date	28 March 2025
For further information please contact volunteer@icheme.org	

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