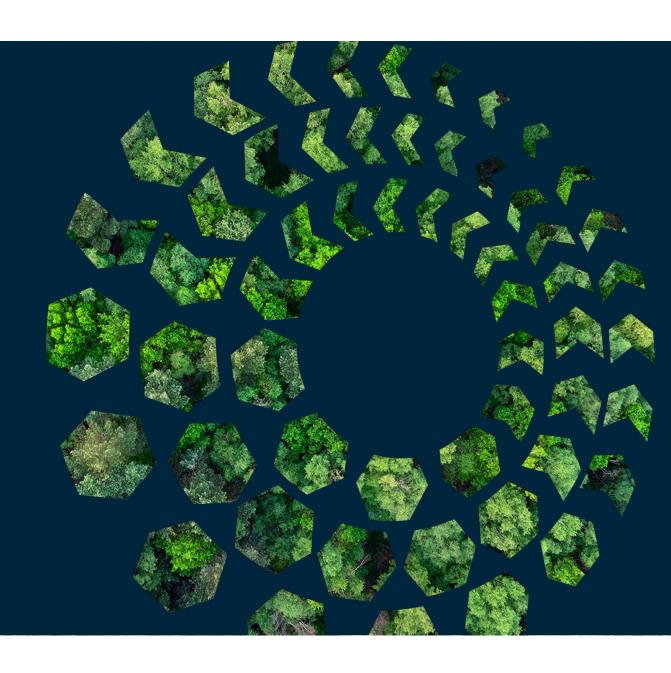


IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Update from ISEP
Impact Assessment Network

Dr Rufus Howard, IA Policy Lead Scottish EIA Conference, Thursday 2 October 2025



IEMA > ISEP

Institute of
Sustainability
& Environmental
Professionals



Impact Assessment Network

- Steering Group Elections soon
- Current Working Groups
 - Digital Impact Assessment
 - > Health Impact Assessment
 - Social Impact Assessment
 - GHGs and Climate Impact Assessment
 - Strategic Impact Assessment
- EIA Quality Mark Scheme
- > EIA Professional Register

Get involved! - contact ia@isepglobal.org



Policy and Practice

- Gov. Consultation Responses
- Policy Papers
- Round Tables
- IA Guides
- Webinars
- Outlook Journals
- Events

Members can see all our publications, webinars and other resources on our website – www.isepglobal.org





2024 Highlights – Impacting Practice in 2025

Competent Expert for Health Impact Assess including Health in Environmental Asses



IEMA Transforming the world to sustainability

IEMA Transforming the world to sustainability

Terms of Reference:

Independent Review of Environmental Impact Assessmer Processes and Deliverables

This Terms of Reference (ToR) has been prepared by members of the institute of Environme Management and Assessment (IEMA) Impact Assessment Steering Group (ASG). The intendi-tion ToR to form a framework for the approach when understaining third pary review of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The 10f seeks to promote good practice and corts acknowledging that there may be necessary deviation based on project sportics and studies.

- Competence: The independent review should be led by a competent expert in EIA, typically an EIA Coordinator: The EIA coordinator will be well placed to oversee independent review and advise appropriately, seeking expensise from technical specialists as needed.

- Good practice guidan EIA; and
- guidance such as IEM/ guidance and that of o relevant professional institutes.
- Materiality: Independent review should focus on adequacy of the le. key material risks and issues respect of the environmental in and in respect of the EIA proces and take account of efficiency approportionality with the avoidar unprecessor reposition.

A roadmap to digital environmental assessment



IEMA Transforming the world to sustainability

Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Impact Assessment Guidelines:

Implementing the Mitigation Hierarchy from Concept to Construction

August 2024



IEMA Transforming the world to sustainability



Impact Assessment Outlook Journals

- Vol. 23: International Best Practice in Impact Assessment
- Vol. 24: Delivering Proportionality in Impact Assessment
- Vol. 25: Recruitment and Retention in Impact Assessment
- Vol. 26: Considering Alternatives in Impact Assessment (coming Nov 2025)







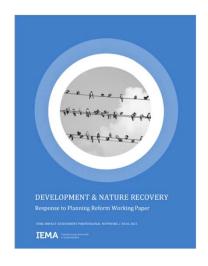




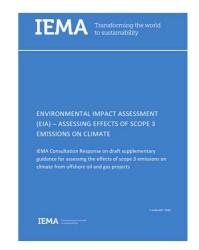
Consultation Responses

- Streamlining infrastructure planning: response to Planning Reform Working Paper (February 2025)
- Development & nature recovery: response to Planning Reform Working Paper (January 2025)
- EIA: assessing the effects of scope 3 emissions on climate: response on draft supplementary guidance for assessing the effects of scope 3 emissions on climate from offshore oil and gas (January 2025)
- Response to the Environmental Audit Committee: environmental sustainability and housing growth inquiry (December 2024)









Advice Note: Supporting Mental Wellbeing in the Impact Assessment Profession

June 2025

- This Note addresses growing concerns around stress and mental health in EIA, offering practical strategies for individuals and organisations:
- For individuals: techniques like targeted time management, boundary setting, and mindfulness are recommended, alongside seeking support from colleagues and mental health resources.
- For organisations: strategies include resourcing projects adequately, fostering open communication, and implementing wellbeing initiatives like flexible working and stress management training.



Social Impact in Environmental Impact Assessment in the UK

Coming October 2025

- Landmark guidance putting people and communities at the heart of EIA
- Practical SIA framework for scoping, assessment, mitigation and benefits
- Promotes participatory methods that build trust and project legitimacy
- Includes checklists, policy insights and examples for confident practice
- Helps developers, regulators and communities deliver lasting benefits for people, places and nature



Strategic Impact Assessment

Coming January 2026

- Embedding the results of Strategic Impact Assessment (SEA, SA, IntIA) into plan or policy
- Proportionate reporting, digital reporting (map-based or otherwise), innovation in presentation of assessment matrices
- Impacts-led, outcomes-led or objectives-led
- Rigorous scoping linked to the context of the plan and its place in the planning hierarchy
- Mitigation and monitoring



Future Outputs



Upcoming Guides and Advice Notes in 2025-6

- Principles of AI use in Impact Assessment
- Solar PV on Agricultural land: Essential Components of Environmental Assessment and Reports
- Soil Health and Environmental Assessment
- UK Space Launch GHG Assessment
- Cumulative Effects Assessment Advice Note





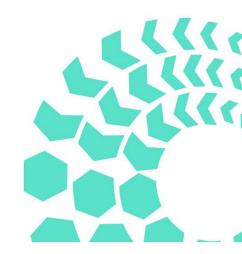






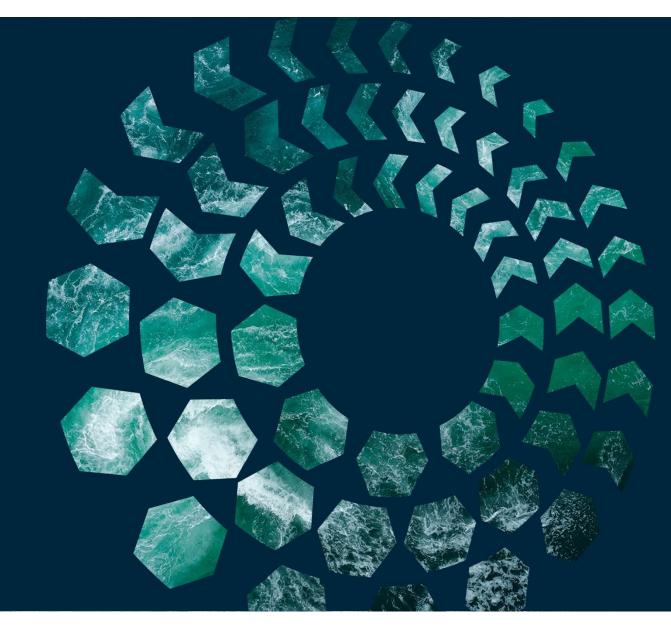
Get involved in the ISEP Impact Assessment Network

- Sign up for updates and newsletters through 'MyISEP' on the ISEP website
- Email ia@isepglobal.org to:
 - ➤ Join a working group
 - ➤ Volunteer to Guest Edit a journal volume
 - ➤ Ask about joining the Impact Assessment Steering Group
 - > Suggest new guides, advice notes, journal topics, or webinars
- Visit <u>www.isepglobal.org/policy-and-practice/impact-assessment</u> to find out more and access all the ISEP Impact Assessment resources.





THANK YOU



Dr Rufus Howard, IA Policy Lead Scottish EIA Conference, Thursday 2 October 2025