



**Royal Society of Chemistry Meeting
Water Science Forum
Burlington House, London, W1J 0BA
2nd July 2024**



How to deal with the issues of emerging contaminants of concern in the aquatic environment

This one-day meeting will address the presence of a wide range of contaminants including pharmaceuticals, pesticides, per- and poly-fluorinated substances (PFAS) and microplastics from a regulatory, industry and monitoring perspective. This event brings together leading academics, regulators and industry experts to discuss current issues on how water quality is impacted by emerging contaminants of concern and how to deal with these issues going forward.

The meeting will be of interest to those involved in the following sectors: Academia and early career researchers; Research organisations; Water industry personnel; Regulators – EA, NRW, SEPA, NIEA, DWI; Water engineers and environmental consultants; Agriculture and land management including riparian owners; Analytical equipment and service providers; Regulatory affairs and compliance; Non-Governmental Organisations – Rivers and Wildlife Trusts

For further information - [link to meeting information and registration](#)

Programme – Tuesday 2nd July 2024

- 9.00-9.20 AM Registration and coffee
- 9.20-9.30 AM Opening and welcome to meeting (**Gary Fones, University of Portsmouth**)

Session 1: 09:30-11:15 AM (Chair: Gary Fones, University of Portsmouth)

- 09.30-10.00 AM – Anyone for a cocktail? A brief look at the chemicals entering our surface waters (Fiona Regan, DCU Water Institute, Dublin City University)
- 10.00-10.30 AM – Wessex Water's approach to emerging substances in clean and wastewater (Megan Robertson & Matthew Jones, Wessex Water)
- 10.30-11.00 AM – Freshwater microplastics and their mitigation in an era of global change (Ben Parker, University of Exeter)
- 11.00-11.15 AM – Discussion of session 1

11.15-11.45 AM Coffee break and networking

Session 2: 11:45-1:00 PM (Chair: Stuart Harrad, University of Birmingham)

- 11.45-12.15 PM – Chemicals of emerging concern in water: towards holistic understanding of public and environmental health via water-based epidemiology and One Health actions (Barbara Kasprzyk-Hordern, University of Bath)
- 12.15-12.45 PM – Pet parasiticides in water: potential solutions to this 'hidden' chemical threat (Leon Barron, Imperial College London)
- 12.45-1.00 PM – Discussion of session 2

1.00-1.45 pm Lunch break

Session 3: 1:45-4:00 PM (Chairs: Gary Fones & Graham Mills, University of Portsmouth)

- 1.45-2.15 PM – Chemical Pollution of Freshwater – a multi-faceted challenge (Rob Collins, The Rivers Trust)
- 2.15-2.45 PM – PFAS and organophosphate esters in drinking water (Stuart Harrad, University of Birmingham)
- 2.45-3.00 PM – Engaging citizen scientists to support monitoring of contaminants of emerging concern in coastal environments (Tom Miller, Brunel University)
- 3.00-3.15 PM – Constructed wetlands as a tertiary treatment for emerging contaminants in domestic wastewater (Emma Vaughan, University of Bath)
- 3.15-3.30 PM – An RSC policy perspective on tackling Emerging Contaminants of Concern (Natalie Sims, Royal Society of Chemistry)
- 3.30-4.00 PM – Discussion of session 3 and way forward

4.00 pm Meeting close