



## Eligibility criteria for an organisation seeking or renewing membership of the Irish Environmental Network

1. The primary objectives and activities of the organisation must be environmental (i.e. ecological) protection and / or environmental sustainability. This must be reflected in the main Objects Clause of the organisation's Memorandum of Association or, Constitution. Acceptable areas for environmental objects include:
  - Permanent protection of wildlife/habitats  
General (wildlife/habitats) or species specific protection/rescue/rehabilitation/reintroduction.
  - Environmental, or environmental sustainability education (formal and Informal).
  - Environmental protection or stewardship.
  - Marine protection.
  - Organic horticulture or education.
  - Environmental sustainability.  
Resource efficiency and recycling.
  - Invasive alien species prevention/removal.
  - Anthropogenic climate change.
  - Environmental Law.
  - Environmental advocacy and/or action.
2. The organisation must be a registered company or friendly society with a registered constitution and have been incorporated for a period of at least 18 months prior to an application for membership.
3. The organisation must be registered with, and compliant with the requirements of The Charities Regulatory Authority and the Charities Governance Code.
4. The organisation must be a not for profit organisation. Social Enterprises can be admitted to membership but only if they are not for profit, and for environmental benefit.
5. The organisation must demonstrate that it has a national remit. Qualifying characteristics include: national influence; specialist activity covering the country; convincing geographic spread of active membership; outreach activity.

6. The organisation must demonstrate what added value it can bring to the Network.
7. The organisation must be an independent and legally discrete body, not a subgroup or activity of another organisation, nor an organisation managing a project with a limited life span. Networks of organisations are not admitted to membership.
8. The board of the organisation should not share fifty percent, or more, of its directors with the board of another organisation.
9. No organisation whose board contains a member appointed by a Government Department, Local Authority, or industry body, shall be admitted to membership. However, this does not exclude individuals from sitting on the board in a personal capacity.
10. The organisation must provide financial statements in line with the Charities Regulatory Authority's requirements for organisations of a similar size and type. The organisation must also be able to produce a valid and current tax clearance certificate.