

SoBRA Annual General Meeting

8th December 2022

Simon Cole, 2021 Chair

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Agenda

- Administration
 - Membership
 - Accreditation Scheme
 - Summary of SoBRA activities throughout the year.
 - Financial report (including appointing independent examiner / auditor for the year ahead).
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- The Secretary will make a brief record.
 - Minutes will be put on SoBRA website.
 - The AGM is being recorded alongside the rest of this conference.

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Our Values

“The Society of Brownfield Risk Assessment (SoBRA) has been established to support the growing number of professionals working in land contamination risk assessment... Its goals are to improve technical knowledge in risk-based decision-making related to land contamination applications and to enhance the professional status and profile of practitioners.”

SoBRA's core objectives:

1. To support technical excellence in the assessment, estimation & evaluation of risks and associated uncertainties from land affected by contaminants.
2. To encourage “good practice” in the practical applications of risk assessment to support decisions regarding the appropriate management of land contamination.
3. To facilitate and widen access to the dissemination of knowledge regarding land contamination risk assessment.
4. To form relationships and work in a constructive manner with other organisations and professional bodies involved in land contamination and remediation, as well as the environmental sciences in general.
5. To assist in the development of future guidance, either through coordinated responses to consultation documents or by providing direct input to guidance.
6. To identify areas of future research that would benefit the assessment of land contamination.
7. To co-ordinate and encourage such research and, where appropriate, explore funding arrangements to support it.

<https://sobra.org.uk/about-us/>

“SoBRA is a not-for-profit society. It is run on a voluntary basis, by a democratically elected committee. Membership is open to any individual who is involved in, or has an interest in, land contamination risk assessment.”

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Charitable Status

- No change in charitable status achieved in 2018
- Trustees are the members of the Executive Committee
- No progress in registration with HMRC for charitable tax status

<https://sobra.org.uk/about-us/constitution/>

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Executive Committee Changes

Current EC:

Chair – Simon Cole

Vice Chair & Secretary – Jo Wilding

Membership and website – Mel Evans

Treasurer – Rachel Dewhurst

Early careers – Aliyssa Glen

Ordinary members – Tim Rolfe, Lawrence Bowden, Fiona Townley, Jenny Mullen, Olayinka Ekundayo

Accreditation – Chris Taylor (non-executive position)

<https://sobra.org.uk/about-us/committee/>

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Executive Committee Changes

Changes for 2023:

New chair – Jo Wilding

Outgoing Chair – Simon Cole

Standing down – Jenny Mullen, Olayinka Ekundayo

New ordinary members - ...

<https://sobra.org.uk/about-us/committee/>

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Executive Committee Changes

Election of new members:

Re-elected – Mel Evans

Newly elected members – Kate Baker (Delta Simons,
Greg Gibson (Leeds City Council)

Thank you to Rae Watney (Sheffield City Council)



<https://sobra.org.uk/about-us/committee/>

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Membership

- Circa 600+ members
- Increase of approx. 150 since 2017
- 91 accredited members (R+A)



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Accreditation Scheme

- Scheme started in 2016
- We have now completed 12 application windows
- There are 91 members currently on the register
- We have 48 members who have achieved the highest ASoBRA level in a discipline
- In 2022, accreditation was award to another 11 members, 2 of which achieved ASoBRA

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Accreditation Scheme

- January window: 8 applicants (6R + 2A) (compared to 6 last year)
- August window: 6 applicants (6R + 0A) (compared to 9 last year)
- Call out for scrutineers for ground gas and vapour intrusion
- Mel Lyons – new scrutineer for controlled waters



SoBRA
The Society of Brownfield Risk Assessment

WELCOME ABOUT US EVENTS RESOURCES MEMBERSHIP ACCREDITATION CONTACT

Register of SoBRA Risk Assessors

SHOW 20 ENTRIES SEARCH:

Registered (RSoBRA)				Fully Accredited (ASoBRA)			
NAME	COMPANY	HUMAN HEALTH	CONTROLLED WATERS	HUMAN HEALTH	CONTROLLED WATERS	VAPOUR INTRUSION	PERMANENT GASES

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Sub Groups

- Ground Gases
- Vapour Intrusion
- NAPL
- Early Careers
- Controlled Waters & Climate Change (now dormant)
- Statistics and the CSM (new for 2022)

<https://sobra.org.uk/about-us/sub-groups/>

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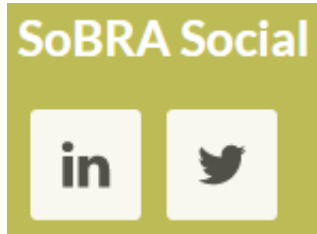
Activities/Publications

- Summer on-line workshop on climate change (61 attendees)
- Early careers webinars (6 in 2022)
- CW&CC publication and event presentations
- VI sub-group publication of guidance notes
- NAPL sub-group baildown guidance

<https://sobra.org.uk/resources/>

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Social Media



https://twitter.com/SoBRA_UK – no longer used

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/sobrauk/> -
primary means of social media communication

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Financial report

- 2022-2023 Auditor: Simon Firth (Firth Consultants)
- Bursary: None
- Scholarship: None
- Research: One grant awarded to the University of Greenwich (Value £18,410)

- Volunteer call for FY2023-2024 auditor

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Financial report - summary

FY 1st October 2021 – 30 September 2022

Starting Balance			£46,634.51
	Income	Outgoing	Balance
Running the Society	£15,515.00	£5,547.15	£9,967.85
Accreditation	£3,335.00	£2,670.00	£665.00
Conferences	£7,080.63	£4,607.84	£2,472.79
End Balance			£58,785.15

Current liabilities:

- Insurance £800
- Research grant £18,410
- Winter conference TBC

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Financial report - income

Opening / End of 2021-2022 Year Balance (at bank close 30/9/22)		£33,236.92
Paypal		£13,397.59
Income		2021/22
Membership Fees (Not for Profit)	68	£680.00
Membership Fees (Standard)		
	456	£11,500.00
Membership Fees (Accredited)	66	£3,335.00
Accreditation Fees	14	£2,380.00
Summer Workshop 2022		£6,050.00
Joint December RSC Event (50% of profit)		£1,030.63
Total Income		£24,975.63

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Financial report - expenditure

Expenditure		2020/2021
Refunds	7	£252.50
Paypal Fees		£896.65
Eventbrite Fees		£506.84
Website		£4,398.00
Summer Workshop 2022		£4,101.00
Insurance		£0.00
Miscellaneous (Christmas Conference Cake and Decorations)		
Scrutineering Expenses		£2,670.00
Committee Expenses (marketing, travel to meetings)		
Total Expenditure		£12,824.99
Current Balance		£58,785.15
Cash in bank at end 30/9/22		£42,623.55
Balance on paypal at end 30/9/22		£16,161.60

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Next Year...

- Sub-group publications
- Further early career activities
- Continued industry collaboration
- Summer workshop – potentially to be led by the Early Careers sub-group (tbc)
- Winter conference – call out for presentations
- New sub-groups?

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Closing and thanks

- Chris & Marlene Taylor for Accreditation Scheme administration
- All the EC members
- RSC Toxicology Group, Kate Jones, and Burlington House for hosting this conference
- All the sub-group volunteers
- You our members!



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Merry Christmas



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