



afonydd cymru
caring for welsh rivers



TRUSTEES' INFORMATION

2022



OUR ORGANISATION

Afonydd Cymru is a registered charity (no. 1145675) with two primary purposes: to represent the six regional Welsh river trusts on a national level and to champion Wales's thirty-three rivers, along with its many lakes and smaller watercourses.

Our objectives are to:

- Restore all Welsh rivers to good ecological status.
- Build an expanded and more effective river trust movement in Wales with a long-term, sustainable funding base.
- Eliminate the current high levels of water pollution.
- Influence relevant legislation, policy and practice to ensure it protects and enhances Wales's freshwater environment.

- Gain greater public awareness of rivers and the work of the Rivers Trust movement.
- Our new Business Strategy outlines how we will do this.

Our charitable objects are:

- To advance the education of the public in the management of water and environmental protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement.
- To advance the education of the public in the understanding of rivers, their basins, fauna and flora.
- To protect, conserve, rehabilitate and improve the rivers, streams, watercourses and river basins, including adjacent coastal waters and water impoundments, of Wales or any part or parts thereof for the public benefit.



OUR BOARD

Our Board is made up of one representative from each of the Welsh trusts plus other, independent Trustees, all of whom are ultimately responsible for its direction and activities.

We meet four times a year, usually in March, June, September and December. Board meetings have been held via video conferencing during the COVID period although we are hoping to move to a more hybrid-style of meeting in the future, held at our office in Talgarth (near Brecon) with the option to dial in remotely.

Independent Trustees provide the charity with specific skills and expertise. Some will also represent the organisation on Government committees, putting forward the voice of

Afonydd Cymru and ensuring the interests of Welsh rivers are kept at the forefront of policy.

We want Trustees with a wide range of backgrounds, skills and experience and for our charity to reflect our society. Applications from groups who are under-represented on Boards are especially of interest therefore. Welsh speakers are always welcome too!

While the six Welsh river trusts each have a permanent place on our Board, independent Trustees have three-year terms, after which they can be re-elected twice with a maximum of nine years.

WHY BECOME A TRUSTEE?

Our Trustees guide our charity, ensuring its strategic direction and good governance. By joining our Board, you will have the chance to enhance some of Wales's most precious natural assets by strengthening and influencing the growing Welsh river trust movement.

Never has there been a more important time to join. With many rivers across the country in poor ecological condition, it is vital that individual trusts are able to deliver tangible environmental results while Afonydd Cymru steers Government policy in the right direction, one that ensures Wales's much-loved rivers.

This is also an opportunity to develop your skills and to be part of a team that steers our charity and helps to make real changes for the aquatic environment in Wales. If you care about Welsh rivers, you will share the same feeling of exhilaration when changes for the good happen and the same frustration when they do not.

You need not have scientific expertise, know a great deal about all Welsh rivers or have any prior experience of the charity sector. By joining us you will widen your personal and professional knowledge, help develop our strategy, learn new approaches to managing risk and broaden your influencing and negotiation skills. You will also gain insight and knowledge from fellow Trustees and from being at the heart of the river trust movement in Wales.

Being a Trustee of any charity can be a challenge. Our Board ensure we are operating in alignment with our Memorandum and Articles of Association. Trustees also make sure that we operate legally within the laws set for charities and companies. It is a role that has responsibilities, requiring decision-making that guides us to meet our aims. It is our job to provide you with the information and guidance you need to fulfil these duties.

MORE INFORMATION & HOW TO APPLY

To find out more about the role please contact Chris Mills, our Chairman, [by email](#).

Alternatively, you can view the [Trustees Terms of Reference](#) page on the Afonydd Cymru website.

If you wish to apply, please email your CV to Chris Mills with a covering statement about the contribution you consider that you could bring to Afonydd Cymru.