



**afonydd cymru**  
caring for welsh rivers



# TRUSTEES' INFORMATION

2024

# OUR ORGANISATION



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

## **Our objectives are to:**

- Contribute to the improvement to overall river quality.
- Create an expanded and more effective Afonydd Cymru and rivers trust movement in Wales with a long-term, sustainable funding base.
- Advocate to eliminate the current high levels of water pollution.
- Influence and challenge relevant legislation, policy and practice to protect and enhance Wales's freshwater environment.

- Raise public awareness of rivers and the work of the rivers trust movement in Wales.

Our [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 currently made up of one representative from each of the six Welsh Rivers Trusts, plus 2 independent Trustees. Collectively, the eight Trustees are responsible for setting AC's strategic direction and overseeing its activities.

We are aiming to alter the balance of the Board by increasing the number of independent Trustees to six and reducing the Trust representatives to two.

We meet four times a year, usually in March, June, September and December. Half the Board meetings are held via video conferencing and half in person at various locations around Wales.

There are opportunities for Independent Trustees to bring to the charity their specific skills and expertise and to represent the organisation on Government committees, putting forward the voice of Afonydd Cymru and ensuring that the interests of Welsh rivers are kept at the forefront of policy for Welsh Government and its agencies.

We are looking for Trustees with a wide range of backgrounds, skills and experience and for our charity to reflect our society. Welsh speakers are welcome. Independent Trustees are initially appointed for up to three-year terms, after which they can be re-elected for up to two further terms.





# 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 protect and enhance some of Wales's most precious natural assets by strengthening the growing Welsh river trust movement.

Never has there been a more important time to join this movement. With many rivers across the country in poor ecological condition, it is vital that Afonydd Cymru effectively influences Government policy to ensure that Wales's much-loved rivers are restored to full health.

You need not necessarily have scientific expertise, know a great deal about all Welsh rivers or have any prior experience of the

charity sector. By joining us you can widen your personal and professional knowledge, as well as developing skills in developing strategy, risk management, influencing and negotiation.

Our Board ensures that 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 and requires decision making. If required, we will provide you with the information and guidance you need to fulfil these duties.

