

What we can do for local authorities

Who are we?

Llais y Goedwig is a grassroots, member led organisation that brings together community woodland groups from across Wales. It was formed as an unincorporated association in November 2008 and was launched at the Welsh Assembly by Elin Jones, Minister for Rural Affairs on the 10 February 2009. At the first Annual General Meeting in November 2009 it was agreed to reconstitute Llais y Goedwig as a not for profit Company limited by Guarantee. In March 2010 Llais y Goedwig was incorporated as a Company with two core aims.

Objects

- To promote and represent community woodland groups in Wales
- To provide assistance and support to local community woodland groups and initiatives



Photo: Llais y Goedwig Conference 2009

How can we work with you?

Local Authorities are required to contribute to national strategies for Wales as a whole, and to develop local strategies that meet local needs as well as Welsh Assembly Government aims and objectives. Within the area of natural

environment, sustainability and countryside Llais y Goedwig, as a Wales-wide representative body, can contribute to national strategies including:

- The Wales Spatial Plan
- A Better Wales: The Natural Environment of Wales in 2010
- Environment Strategy for Wales
- Rural Development Programme

The local plans to which Llais y Goedwig and our local members can be a useful partners include:

- Local Community Strategies
- Local Landscape Action Plans
- Local Regeneration Area Strategies
- Local Biodiversity Action Plans
- Local Countryside Strategy



Photo: Coetir Mynydd

What are the benefits?

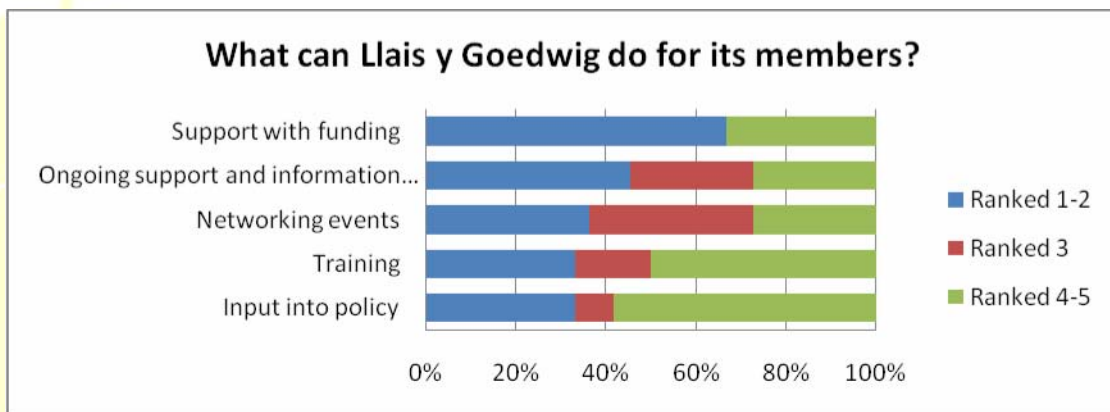
Forward thinking local authorities recognise the need for partnership working with a wide range of community organisations in order to deliver the objectives and outcomes needed

at a local level – linking with Llais y Goedwig is an opportunity to demonstrate the partnership approach.

Llais y Goedwig has over 30 member groups and 40 associate members across Wales, and the number is steadily increasing. Corporate and individual members are also welcomed – and can access information on activity and workshops across Wales, through the Llais y Goedwig website (www.llaisygoedwig.org.uk) as well as through member mailings. Information on grant funding is an important part of the networking service of Llais y Goedwig, and member community groups are able to access sources that statutory agencies may not be eligible for – so partnership work can have real benefits to draw money into local communities.

Llais y Goedwig is a principal partner in the Woodland for Wales Action Plan published in 2009 by Forestry Commission Wales, with specific emphasis on Outcome 8: More communities benefit from woodlands and trees.

We have been actively pursuing this through our project work and policy engagement at Wales level with WCVA, the Glastir Woodland Management Stakeholder Group, the Woodland Strategy Advisory Panel and at UK level with the Natural Capital Initiative and Forest Research.



Source: Llais y Goedwig membership survey, summer 2009



Photo: Golygfa Gwydyr

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