

Finding land to work on: A database of Welsh Woodland Owners

Many woodlands across Wales are under the ownership of public and charitable bodies which can be approached to determine whether there are opportunities for communities to become involved in their management. Before approaching a woodland owner, you are strongly recommended to have read the Llais y Goedwig advisory notes (llaisygoedwig.org.uk/resources/advisory-notes) so that you can present a clear proposal to a landowning organisation and can demonstrate that you have considered all the potential implications of taking on a piece of woodland.

	Contact in first instance	Process
Local authorities		
Anglesey	Gareth Evans, Warden, Dingle Local Nature Reserve, JGarethEvans@anglesey.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Gwynedd	Wyn Williams, Countryside Access Officer, wynwilliams@gwynedd.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Conwy	Countryside Service, cg.cs@conwy.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Denbighshire	North Denbighshire - Garry Davies,garry.davies@denbighshire.gov.uk Clwydian Range - David Shiel,david.shiel@denbighshire.gov.uk South Denbighshire - Rhun Jones,rhun.jones@denbighshire.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.
Flintshire	Tom Woodall Head of Flintshire Countryside Service,Tom_Woodall@flintshire.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.

Wrexham	Emma Broad, Biodiversity Officer, Emma.Broad@wrexham.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.
Ceredigion	Leanne Bird, Senior Ecologist / Biodiversity Officer, Leanne.Bird@ceredigion.gov.uk or Ben Sampson, Conservation, Ben.Sampson@ceredigion.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Powys	Dr Emma Guy, Biodiversity Officer emma.guy@powys.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Pembrokeshire	Trevor Theobald, Ecologist, Trevor.Theobald@pembrokeshire.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.
Carmarthenshire	Dorian Davies, Senior Estates Officer. Carmarthenshire County ddavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk.	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Brecon Beacons	Bradley A. Welch, Senior Ecologist and Climate Adaptation Officer, Bradley.Welch@breconbeacons.org	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Swansea	Sean Hathaway, Biodiversity, Sean.Hathaway@swansea.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.
Neath Port Talbot	Elen Richards, Coed Cymru Officer – Swansea and Neath Port Talbot e.richards1@npt.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Rhondda Cynon Taff	Richard Wistow, Parks and Countryside section, Richard.J.Wistow@rhondda-cynon-taff.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.
Merthyr Tydfil	Gill Hampson, Biodiversity Officer, Gillian.Hampson@merthyr.gov.uk or Rolf Brown, Countryside Officer Rolf.Brown@merthyr.gov.uk	Some formal process in place, working in collaboration with Coed Cymru who compile woodland management plans and grants for local communities in the Merthyr Borough. Open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.

Caerphilly	Norman Liversuch, Head of Countryside and Landscape, liversn@caerphilly.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.
Blaenau Gwent	Katie Partington, Biodiversity Action Plan Officer, Katie.Partington@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk, or Vaughan Lewis, Tree Officer, vaughan.lewis@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Torfaen	Steve Williams, Team Leader Ecologist, steve.williams@torfaen.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Monmouthshire	Danielle Fry, Ecologist, DanielleFry@monmouthshire.gov.uk	No formal process in place. Open to discussion.
Bridgend	Robert Jones, Countryside Management Officer, robert.jones@bridgend.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Vale of Glamorgan	Phil Beaman, Operational Manager, Parks and Ground Maintenance, PBeaman@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk, or Ian Nicholas, Coed Cymru Woodlands Officer, INicholas@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Cardiff	Nicola Hutchinson, Conservation Officer, NHutchinson@cardiff.gov.uk & Ian Nicholas, Coed Cymru Woodlands Officer, INicholas@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Some formal process in place. Open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Newport	Lucy Kelly, Biodiversity Officer, Lucy.Kelly@newport.gov.uk	Some formal process in place. Open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.

National Trust sites

All sites	To enquire about a specific site, contact the Property manager direct. You can find details of NT woodlands and contact details here - http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/places/coast-and-countryside/woodland/	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously. Use of National Trust owned woodlands would be at the discretion of the Property Manager at each each site.
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Woodland Trust/Coed Cadw

All sites	Eryl Roberts, Operations Manager for Wales, ErylRoberts@woodlandtrust.org.uk	<p>Some formal processes in place, and open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.</p> <p>There are two specific opportunities –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Permission to carry out agreed works. This can be in the form of a letter of consent or a simple licence agreement. In these circumstances the responsibility for the management of the wood still rests with the WT site manager and they will only agree to works that they believe are consistent with the management plan for the woods, and their overall approach to woodland management. They will fund materials for works that they consider a priority. Groups carrying out work will have to meet their H&S requirements including providing risk assessments. For such work they are obliged to treat groups in the same way as we treat a contractor, and they will have to obtain the necessary operator certificates and provide public liability insurance.2. They are interested in considering leasing some of their woods to community groups. A lease would transfer full site management responsibility to the group, and this would be subject only to some top line conditions ensuring retention of woodland conditions. A lease places a lot of responsibility on the group but it does give them a pretty free hand to decide what management they wish to do. A list of those woods in Wales for which this option is available, but they would be happy to enter into a conversation concerning involvement in any of the woods owned by WT.
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Wildlife Trusts

Brecknock	Phil Sutton, CEO, psutton@brecknockwildlife.org.uk	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
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Gwent	Ian Rappel, Nature Reserves Manager irappel@gwentwildlife.org	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Montgomeryshire	Clive Faulkener, Dolforwyn Woodland Officer, clive@montwt.co.uk 01938 555654	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.
North Wales	Chris Wynne, Conservation officer, chriswynne@wildlifetrusts wales.org	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
Radnorshire	Jonothon Stone, Jonathan@rwtwales.org	No formal process in place, but open to discussion. Are working with community woodland groups currently, or have previously.
South and West Wales	Dr Lizzie Wilberforce, Conservation Manager, l.wilberforce@welshwildlife.org	No formal process in place, but open to discussion.

Forestry Commission Wales

All sites	For the contact details of the Local District Office closest to you visit http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/ForestDistricts2.pdf/\$FILE/ForestDistricts2.pdf	<p>Both the Welsh Government and Forestry Commission Wales are committed to making sure communities and social enterprises get the greatest possible benefit from the Woodland Estate. They have a formal process in place - 'Woodlands and You', which aims to open the way for more people than ever to make the most of this resource.</p> <p>They welcome proposals and approaches from all individuals, groups and social enterprises, and proposals can be made at any time. These can be made by filling in a simple application form and delivering it to your local District Office.</p> <p>Although they refer to woodland and forests, not all of the land that they manage is covered in trees. There are rivers, meadows, moorland, mountaintops, coal tips and archaeological sites, we also manage buildings – any of which might have the potential for community projects.</p> <p>Guidance on the Woodlands and You process and applications forms are available here - http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-8J2GJ9. All Woodlands and You information is available in Welsh. It is recommended that you contact FCW for an initial chat before you start any detailed planning work, and before you start filling in the forms – so that they can support you all the way through the process</p>
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