

Enabling Natural Resources and Wellbeing –

Voice of the Woodlands 2019 - 2022

About Llais y Goedwig

Llais y Goedwig (Voice of the Woodlands) is a network organisation founded in 2008 to support community woodland groups and practitioners across Wales. From humble beginnings the organisation now offers support to over 90 groups, works with multiple stakeholders to improve access to woodlands and has 700 supporters Wales wide.

Llais y Goedwig does this by providing advice, training and information to community woodland groups and through developing relationships with key stakeholder organisations (Natural Resources Wales, County and Community Councils, The Woodland Trust and private landowners) to improve opportunities for communities to access local woodlands.

The political and community landscape has changed a lot since the creation of Llais y Goedwig; there is less public funding in the environment sector but a greater desire to harness the benefits of woodlands in local communities – for health and wellbeing, for environmental and biodiversity improvements and for economic potential.

About the ENRaW Project 2019 – 2022

The Enabling Natural Resources and Wellbeing Grant (ENRaW) from Welsh Government will help Llais y Goedwig develop and expand support for community woodlands in Wales up to 2022.

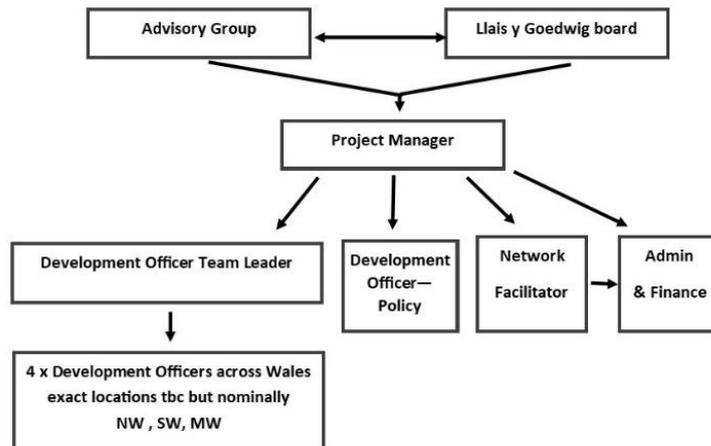
The funding will enable Llais y Goedwig to continue the important work in communities across Wales with dedicated support for woodland groups as well as existing and new partners in the third and public sectors. The project will focus on developing stronger relationships with Public Bodies responsible for decision making at national and local levels and will ensure that community management of woodlands is a realistic option with Public Body partners. By providing advocacy at policy level and co-designed support at a regional and local level 'Voice of the Woodlands' will improve confidence within Public Bodies - enabling more communities to manage their local woods.

Join the new team

Llais y Goedwig is a friendly organisation with a skilled and enthusiastic delivery team and a dedicated and experienced volunteer Board. To accomplish the goals of the 'Voice of the Woodland' project we are recruiting additional team members – Development Officers in NE and S Wales and a Development Officer for Policy. The new development roles will cover specific areas in Wales to complement the areas where existing staff are based and to ensure comprehensive pan-Wales coverage and support.

A project manager will oversee the ENRaW project and will report to the LlyG Board and a new Advisory Group consisting of public, private and third sector representatives.

It looks like this:



What we will do:

The team will continue to work with existing partners within Public Bodies, the Third Sector and the Forestry Sector to encourage collaboration. They will also develop new partnership opportunities and work with Public Bodies to help them deliver against their goals under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and the Environment Act.

The delivery plan for the three years includes;

- Identifying and mapping areas of woodland that communities can work on
- Brokering and support in agreeing asset transfers or community management agreements
- Engaging local 'champions' for trees and woodlands
- Being the first point of contact between Public Bodies and communities in respect of woodlands.
- Working with Third Sector organisations , Forestry and related sectors to ensure complimentarity with their work and increase the outcomes across all of our projects
- Working with forestry organisations such as ICF, RFS and Confor, to ensure that community woodlands are recognised as an integral part of the forestry sector and ensure that opportunities for CWGs remain embedded in Forestry Policy
- Developing regional hubs and targeted network support at a regional level
- Developing online resources and co-designing partnership events