

Nature Service Wales: Update Briefing

Nature Service Wales (NSW) is a national movement in service of nature and nature recovery.

Through a growing, country-wide network of local delivery partners, Nature Service Wales will create opportunities for people of all backgrounds to gain the skills, knowledge and experience needed to tackle the Nature and Climate Emergencies. This will empower citizens to be part of the solution and build a stronger foundation for nature recovery – through capacity building, behaviour change, awareness raising and skills development – while delivering wider economic, social, and wellbeing benefits.

Wales is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world, but with the same bold ambition that pioneered the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, Wales has the potential to become a global leader in nature restoration. In uniting citizens, organisations and initiatives across the public, private and third sectors through a National Nature Service for Wales, together we can put the principles of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act into action, and build a thriving, nature-rich and climate resilient future.

Founding Partners

Nature Service Wales has been shaped by the collective input of over 100 stakeholders from across the public, private and third sectors, helping to refine its vision and proposals. The Founding Partners include:

- Groundwork Wales
- Food, Farming and Countryside Commission
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)
- National Trust Cymru
- Natural Resources Wales
- The Prince's Trust
- RSPB Cymru
- The Open University
- Wales Council for Voluntary Action
- Cymdeithas Eryri / Snowdonia Society
- Valleys Regional Park

These organisations are working together to formalise and establish Nature Service Wales, with a focus now on growing the partnership and expanding a nation-wide network of opportunities for citizen engagement.

Progress to Date

Over the past six months, we have focused on laying the foundations for Nature Service Wales, including:

- **Appointment of a Director:** Supported by funding from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and hosted by the Food, Farming and Countryside Commission, a director has been appointed to lead the development of Nature Service Wales.
- **Developing Core Standards and Principles:** Establishing the shared values and objectives that will guide the work and development of Nature Service Wales.
- **Designing Governance Structures:** Developing a collaborative model and legal structure to establish a strong foundation for coordinating with partners across Wales and advancing this shared national vision.
- **Engaging Stakeholders:** Meeting with key organisations and sectors to align on shared priorities and grow the movement.
- **Securing and Advancing Funding:** Initial funding has been secured from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation to support the development phase, with additional funding bids underway for delivering the wider ambitions.
- **Exploring Potential Delivery Programmes:** Exploring new initiatives, such as how we can ensure that every young person aged 16 – 24 in Wales can participate in a nature restoration or nature-based skills project.
- **Advancing Research:** Working with partners to bring together existing research and commission new studies around skills gaps, capacity needs and barriers to engagement, ensuring an informed approach to NSW's development and priorities.
- **Planning the Nature Service Wales Pierhead Event:** Preparing for a milestone event to formalise NSW and engage stakeholders in shaping its future.

Upcoming Event

Date: February 4th 2025, 10am – 3:30pm

Location: Pierhead Main Hall, Pierhead Building, Cardiff Bay, CF10 4PZ

To Register: Visit the Eventbrite page - [Nature Service Wales](#)

"Nature Service Wales - Building the Foundations for a National Movement"

We're excited to invite you to an event marking a new phase in NSW's development. This is a unique opportunity to learn more about our work and help shape the plans that will underpin Nature Service Wales, aimed at:

- Building the skills and capacity needed to unlock the potential for thousands of future jobs in nature recovery across Wales.
- Tackling the ongoing emergency through empowering citizens from all backgrounds with the skills and knowledge to restore nature while fostering wellbeing through hands-on experience.
- Embedding nature literacy across Wales to ensure all citizens understand and protect the natural systems essential to life and community resilience.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support of our founding partners and look forward to working with new collaborators and growing that partnership as we take this important next step.

If you have any questions or would like to explore how your organisation can get involved, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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