

Cross-Party Group Annual Report

Cross Party Group Details

Cross Party Group Title:

Outdoor Activity Sector

Group membership and office holders

Name of Group Chair:

Huw Irranca-Davies MS

Names of other Members of the Senedd:

Sam Rowlands MS (Vice Chair)

Cefin Campbell MS (Vice Chair)

Delyth Jewell MS

Llyr Gruffydd MS

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS

Heledd Fychan MS

David Rees MS

Janet Finch-Saunders MS

Samuel Kurtz MS

Mabon ap Gwynfor MS

Rebecca Evans MS

Name of Secretary and Organisation:

Paul Donovan (Outdoor Alliance Wales & Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation)

Names of other external members and organisations represented:

Catherine Williams - Snowdonia-Active (S-A) & Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation (WATO)

Emma Edwards-Jones - S-A & WATO

Paul Renfro - Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum, Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group * WATO

Steve Rayner - South Wales Outdoor Activity Provider Group & WATO

Adam Harmer

Jethro Moore - Adventure Beyond & National Coasteering Charter

Alan Bowring - Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA)

Lisa Lloyd - BBNPA

Richard Ball - BBNPA

Hayley Sharp - BBNPA

Alice Beetlestone - Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)

Chris Cousins - (RNLI)

Alison Roberts - Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

Sue Williams - NRW

Alistair Dickson - Canoe Wales (CW)

Phil Stone - CW

Andrew Denton - Outdoor Industries Association

Andy Meek - Storey Arms, Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres (AHOEC)

Cymru & Outdoor Education Advisors Panel (OEAP) Cymru

Graham French - Bangor University & AHOEC Cymru

Chris Pierce - Woodlands Outdoors & AHOEC

Clare Adams - OEAP Cymru

Mike Rosser - Adventure UK & OEAP Cymru

Arwel Elias - OEAP Cymru

Andy Middleton - TYF

Angela Jones - Snowdonia National Park Authority (SNPA)

Peter Rutherford - SNPA

Beverley Penny - Open Spaces Society (OSS)

Kate Ashbrook - OSS

Andy Taylor - Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee and Woodfolk

Chris Munro - Royal Yachting Association

Claire Seager - Bike Park Wales (BPW)

Martin Astley - BPW

Craig Armiger - Institute for Outdoor Learning Cymru

David Shiel - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Eben Muse - British Mountaineering Council (BMC)

Tom Carrick - (BMC)

Emma Robinson - Youth Hostel Association

Ian Jenkins - Welsh Cycling

Gwenda Owen - Cycling UK

Gethin Thomas - British Caving Association Qualifications Management Committee

Hannah Buck - Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA)

Libby Taylor - PCNPA

Helen Donnan - British Horse Society (BHS)

Kathryn Stewart - BHS

Mark Weston - BHS

Kylie Jones Mattock - Woodland Trust

Richard John - Deryn, on behalf of Canal & Rivers Trust

Matthew Williams - Welsh Sports Association (WSA)

Tom Sharp - WSA

Neal Anderson - Valley Training

Paul Airey - The Outdoor Partnership (TOP)

Paul Frost (TOP)

Tracey Evans (TOP)

Mark Jones (TOP)

Paul Marshall - Inspire to Adventure & British Activity Providers Association

Phil Stubbington - John Muir Trust & Welsh Council for Outdoor Learning

Rebecca Brough - Ramblers Cymru (RC)

Angela Charlton - (RC)

Ric Potter - British Mountain Guides

Rob Johnson - Association of Mountaineering Instructors

Ruth Hall - Plas y Brenin

Sara MacBride-Stewart - Cardiff Metropolitan University

Sian Richings - Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

Simon Patton - Mountain Training Cymru

Steph Makuise - Welsh Triathlon

Steven Morgan - Plas Menai & Sport Wales (SW)

Emma Henwood - SW

Stuart France - Cambrian Caving Council

Tim Radford - North Wales Mountain Rescue Association

Emma Richards - Urdd

Amanda Smith - Centre for Alternative Technology

Steffan Roberts - Visit Wales

Ryland Doyle

Tom Woodward

Other meetings of the Group since the last AGM

Meeting 1

Date of Meeting:

15th July 2021

Attendees:

Huw Irranca-Davies MS - Chair

Sam Rowlands MS - Vice Chair

Cefin Campbell MS - Vice Chair

Paul Donovan - Secretariat, Outdoor Alliance Wales and Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation (WATO)

Samuel Kurtz MS

Elin Hywel - on behalf of Mabon ap Gwynfor MS

Emma Henwood - Sport Wales

Loel Collins - Plas y Brennin

Graham French - Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres (AHOEC) & Welsh Council for Outdoor Learning

Angela Charlton - Ramblers Cymru (RC)

Rebecca Brough (RC)

Gethin Thomas - British Caving Association Qualifications Committee

Paul Airey - The Outdoor Partnership (TOP)

Paul Frost - TOP

Tracey Evans - TOP

Gwenda Owen - Cycling UK

Gerwyn Owen - Royal Yachting Association

Paul Renfro - Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum, Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group & WATO

Steve Rayner - South Wales Outdoor Activity Providers Group * WATO

Catherine Williams - Snowdonia-Active (S-A) & WATO

Emma Edwards-Jones - S-A

Andy Taylor - Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee

Mike Rosser - Outdoor Education Advisors Panel (OEAP) & Adventure UK

Arwel Elias - OEAP

Alison Roberts - Natural Resources Wales

Simon Patton - Mountain Training Wales

Matthew Williams - Welsh Sports Association

Steven Morgan - Plas Menai & Sport Wales

Chris Pierce - AHOEC

Neal Anderson - Institute for Outdoor Learning

Mark Weston - British Horse Society

Eben Muse - British Mountaineering Council

Summary of the issues discussed:

1. Nominations for Chair, Vice Chair(s) and Secretariat - as noted above
2. Agreed name of group - CPG for the Outdoor Activity sector
3. Agreed purpose of group:
 - i. To inform and influence future policy
 - ii. To elevate the status of the outdoor activity sector in Wales and support its sustainable growth
 - iii. To support the advancement of equitable access to the nature; environment for outdoor learning and activities
4. Consider ideas for a future programme and activities, which include:
 - i. Outdoor Education and maintaining its future
 - ii. Connections and synergy of all aspects of the outdoor activity sector
 - iii. Highlight the strengths of being outdoors and how to connect with nature
 - iv. Making use of the outdoors for health and well-being benefits
 - v. Consider the many strands of Government policy
 - vi. Consider the impact of engagement in the outdoors with communities
 - vii. Being safe outdoors
 - viii. Workforce development and pathways to employment

Meeting 2

Date of Meeting:

13th December 2021

Attendees:

Huw Irranca-Davies MS - Chair

Sam Rowlands MS - Vice Chair

Cefin Campbell MS - Vice Chair

Paul Donovan - Secretariat, Outdoor Alliance Wales and Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation (WATO)

Vaughan Gething - Minister for Economy

Janet Finch-Saunders MS

Zak Weaver - Sam Rowland's office

Jess Williams - Sport Wales

Graham French - Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres (AHOEC) & Welsh Council for Outdoor Learning

Rebecca Brough - Ramblers Cymru (RC)

Gethin Thomas - British Caving Association Qualifications Committee

Paul Airey - The Outdoor Partnership (TOP)

Paul Frost - TOP

Tracey Evans - TOP

Gwenda Owen - Cycling UK

Gerwyn Owen - Royal Yachting Association

Paul Renfro - Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum, Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group & WATO

Steve Rayner - South Wales Outdoor Activity Providers Group & WATO

Catherine Williams - Snowdonia-Active (S-A) & WATO

Emma Edwards-Jones - S-A & WATO

Andy Taylor - Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee & Woodcraft Folk

Mike Rosser - Outdoor Education Advisors Panel (OEAP) & Adventure UK

Alison Roberts - Natural Resources Wales

Matthew Williams - Welsh Sports Association (WSA)

Thomas Sharp - WSA

Steven Morgan - Plas Menai & Sport Wales

Neal Anderson - Valley Training Consultancy

Kathryn Stewart - British Horse Society

Eben Muse - British Mountaineering Council

Emma Richards - Urdd

Amanda Smith - Centre for Alternative Technology

Hayley Sharp - Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Jethro Moore - National Coasteering Charter & Adventure Beyond

Kate Ashbrook - Open Spaces Society

Ric Potter - British Mountain Guides

Ryland Doyle

Steffan Roberts - Visit Wales

Sue Williams - Natural Resources Wales

Summary of the issues discussed:

1. Previous minutes accepted as accurate
2. A presentation by Neal Anderson & Paul Renfro on *'Who and what is the outdoor sector and what is the economic and social value of the outdoor sector - past, present and future'*, followed by an open forum discussion around the key issues:
 - i. Labour & skills and the need to encourage year round career opportunities
 - ii. Sustainable growth of the outdoor sector

- iii. The overlap and value of the many facets of the outdoor sector in relation to ministerial responsibilities
- iv. Dated research regarding the economic value of the outdoor sector and the need to achieve current data that addresses both the economic and social value of the outdoor sector

Meeting 3

Date of Meeting:

12th July 2022

Attendees:

Huw Irranca-Davies MS - Chair

Sam Rowlands MS - Vice Chair

Rebecca Brough - Secretariat, Ramblers Cymru

Julie James - Minister for Climate Change

Aled Hughes - Office of Cefin Campbell MS - Vice Chair

Evan Waters - Office of David Rees MS

Paul Frost - The Outdoor Partnership (TOP)

Mark Jones - TOP

Chris Munro - Royal Yachting Association

Paul Renfro - Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum, Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group & WATO

Catherine Williams - Snowdonia-Active (S-A) & WATO

Emma Edwards-Jones - S-A & WATO

Andy Taylor - Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee & Woodcraft Folk

Mike Rosser - Outdoor Education Advisors Panel (OEAP) & Adventure UK

Alison Roberts - Natural Resources Wales

Phil Stone - Canoe Wales

Steven Morgan - Plas Menai & Sport Wales

Simon Patton - Mountain Training Cymru

Helen Donnan - British Horse Society

Kate Ashbrook - Open Spaces Society

Angela Charlton - Ramblers Cymru

Eben Muse - British Mountaineering Council

Amanda Smith - Centre for Alternative Technology

Sarah Smith - Welsh Government official

Simon Pickering - Welsh Government official

Summary of the issues discussed:

1. Previous minutes accepted as accurate
2. Actions arising previously
3. A short film outlining why access reform is needed, followed by a joint presentation on the need to move forward on the recommendations of the recent Access Reform Advisory Group Programme.
4. An open forum discussion followed around the key issues raised in the presentation, including:
 - i. The imperative need for access reform for: improving health of a nation; it's lifelong learning benefits; economic benefits to tourism and business; its conservation benefits in reconnecting people to nature, especially post-pandemic
 - ii. The need for investment and commitment for equitable, enhanced and responsible access for all to land and water
 - iii. The need for funding for existing declining access networks
 - iv. The need for reform and investment to realise the benefits of access, highlighted in various Welsh Government strategies

- v. The importance of quality and equitable outdoor access opportunities for younger generations, and the nature connections this brings, which is at risk due to the closure of outdoor education centres
- vi. Access opportunities in the Sustainable Farming scheme
- vii. The need for a clear timetable for taking forward actions and reform, for the benefit of all users of the outdoors

Meeting 4

Date of Meeting:

28th September 2022

Attendees:

Sam Rowlands MS - Vice Chair

Paul Donovan - Secretariat, Outdoor Alliance & Wales and Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation (WATO)

Jeremy Miles - Minister for Education

Greg Whiting - Welsh Government Education Team

Rebecca Brough - Ramblers Cymru

Graham French - Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres (AHOEC) & Welsh Council for Outdoor Learning

Gethin Thomas - British Caving Association Qualifications Committee

Paul Airey - The Outdoor Partnership (TOP)

Paul Frost - TOP

Mark Jones - TOP

Steve Rayner - South Wales Outdoor Activity Providers Group & WATO

Catherine Williams - Snowdonia-Active (S-A) & WATO

Mike Rosser - Outdoor Education Advisors Panel (OEAP) & Adventure UK

Clare Adams - OEAP Cymru

Arwel Elias - OEAP Cymru

Steven Morgan - Plas Menai & Sport Wales

Kathryn Stewart - British Horse Society

Tom Carrick - British Mountaineering Council

Angela Jones - Snowdonia National Park Authority (SNPA)

Peter Rutherford - SNPA

Beverley Penny - Open Spaces Society

Simon Patton - Mountain Training Cymru

Jethro Moore - National Coasteering Charter & Adventure Beyond

Emma Robinson - Youth Hostelling Association

Phil Stone - Canoe Wales

Phil Stubbington - John Muir Trust and Wales Council for Outdoor Learning

Richard John - Deryn, on behalf of Canal & Rivers Trust Cymru

Tom Woodward

Sian Thomas - Senedd Research Team

Summary of the issues discussed:

1. Previous minutes accepted as accurate
2. Actions arising previously
3. A presentation by Graham French on '*Outdoor Education in Wales - what's at its core, the curriculum, its capacity and, the challenges*', followed by an open forum discussion around the key issues:
 - i. Resources for schools
 - ii. Signposting

- iii. Co-ordination of national approaches
- iv. Equity
- v. Communicating the value
- vi. Recognition

AGM

Date of Meeting:

10th November 2022

Attendees:

Huw Irranca-Davies MS - Chair

Sam Rowlands MS - Vice Chair

Sŵan John - Office of Hefin Campbell MS

Paul Donovan - Secretariat, Outdoor Alliance Wales and Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation (WATO)

Graham French - Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres (AHOEC) & Welsh Council for Outdoor Learning

Gethin Thomas - British Caving Association Qualifications Committee

Paul Airey - The Outdoor Partnership (TOP)

Paul Frost - TOP

Tracey Evans - TOP

Mark Jones - TOP

Gwenda Owen - Cycling UK

Andy Taylor - Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee

Steven Morgan - Plas Menai & Sport Wales

Helen Donnan - British Horse Society

Kathryn Stewart - British Horse Society

Jethro Moore - National Coasteering Charter & Adventure Beyond

Phil Stone - Canoe Wales

Summary of the issues discussed:

1. Nominations of positions of Chair, Vice Chair(s) and Secretariat. The CPG welcomed Sam Rowlands MS as the new Chair, Huw Irranca-Davies & Cefin Campbell as Vice Chairs and Paul Donovan & Rebecca Brough as Secretariat.
2. Review of years activity - The secretariat provided a review of the years activity, as detailed above in this annual report.
3. Ideas for future meeting topics. These include:
 - i. Safety in the Outdoors
 - ii. Access - a follow up to the previous meeting held in July 2022, possibly involving representatives from the WLGA;
 - iii. Access to water - whilst related to the above, it was felt that there was merit to have specific discussion relating to access to water;
 - iv. Social Prescribing - with the possibility of inviting the Minister for Health to join us;
 - v. Outdoor & Adventure Tourism - possibly use the Covid situation as a catalyst to consider the impact on communities etc. - education regarding how to sustainably use the natural environment;
 - vi. Consider inviting other key individuals to attend and present at meetings, those who are in positions of influence;
 - vii. The strengths of being outdoors and how to connect with nature;
 - viii. Making use of the outdoors for health and well-being benefits;
 - ix. Workforce development and developing pathways for employment - apprenticeships.

Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities the Group have met during the previous year.

NONE

Name of Organisation:

N/A

Name of Group:

N/A

Annual Financial Statement

Cross Party Group Title:

Outdoor Activity Sector

Date:

10th November 2022

Name of Chair:

Huw Irranca-Davies

Name of Secretary and Organisation:

Paul Donovan (Outdoor Alliance Wales & Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation)

Title	Description	Amount
Group's Expenses	None	£0.00
Costs of all goods	No goods bought	£0.00
Benefits received by the group or individuals members from external bodies	No benefits received.	£0.00
Any financial support or other support.	No financial support was received.	£0.00
Total		£0.00

Services provided to the Group, such as hospitality.

All hospitality paid for [include the name of the group/organisation].

Date	Name and description of provider	Costs
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		£0.00
Total		£0.00