

Cross-Party Group Minutes

Meeting Minutes:

Cross Party Group Title:	Cross-Party Group for the Outdoor Activity Sector
Date of Meeting:	15th July 2021
Location:	Via Zoom

In attendance:

Name:	Title:
Huw Irranc-Davies (HI-D)	Chair - Member of the Senedd
Sam Rowlands (SR)	Vice Chair - Member of the Senedd
Cefin Campbell (CC)	Vice Chair - Member of the Senedd
Paul Donovan (PD)	Secretariat - Outdoor Alliance Wales and Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation Representative
Emma Henwood (EH)	Observer Member - Sport Wales Representative
Loel Collins (LC)	Member - Plas y Brenin Representative
Graham French (GF)	Member - Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres & Wales Council for Outdoor Learning Representative
Angela Charlton (AC)	Member - Ramblers Cymru Representative
Gethin Thomas (GT)	Member - British Caving Association Qualifications Committee Representative
Paul Airey (PA)	Member - The Outdoor Partnership Representative
Paul Frost (PF)	Member - The Outdoor Partnership Representative
Tracey Evans (TE)	Member - The Outdoor Partnership Representative
Gwenda Owen (GO)	Member - Cycling UK Representative
Gerwyn Owen (GeO)	Member - Royal Yachting Association Cymru Representative

Paul Renfro (PR)	Member - Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group & Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Representative
Andy Taylor (AT)	Member - Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee Representative
Mike Rosser (MR)	Member - Outdoor Education Advisors Panel & Adventure UK Representative
Alison Roberts (AR)	Observer Member - Natural Resources Wales Representative
Rebecca Brough (RB)	Member - Ramblers Cymru Representative
Elin Hywel (EH)	Representing Mabon ap Gwynfor - Member of the Senedd
Simon Patton (SP)	Member - Mountain Training Wales Representative
Matt Williams (MW)	Member - Welsh Sports Association Representative
Steven Morgan (SM)	Member - Plas Menai Representative
Chris Pierce (CP)	Member - Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres Representative

Apologies:

Name:	Title:
Sam Kurtz (SK)	Member of the Senedd
Steve Rayner (SRa)	Member - South Wales Outdoor Activity Providers Group Representative
Arwel Elias (AE)	Member - Outdoor Education Advisors Panel Representative
Catherine Williams (CW)	Member - Snowdonia Active Representative
Emma Edwards-Jones (EE-J)	Member - Snowdonia Active Representative
Neal Anderson (NA)	Member - Institute for Outdoor Learning Representative
Mark Weston (MW)	Member - British Horse Society Representative
Eben Muss (EM)	Member - British Mountaineering Council (Cymru) Representative

Summary of Meeting:

Agenda, Notes & Actions

1. Welcome, Introduction and Apologies

HI-D (Acting Chair until completing the the formalities in items 2 and 3) welcomed all in attendance and outlined the agenda and the requirements for the formalities.

2. Nominations for Chair, Vice Chair(s) and Secretariat

HI-D handed over to PD (Acting Secretariat) to call for nominations for the position of Chair by any of the Members of the Senedd (MS) in the meeting. SR nominated HI-D; CC seconded the nomination. HI-D accepted the position and PD handed back the to the Chair.

HI-D called for nominations for the position(s) of Vice Chair. CC nominated SR and SR nominated CC. These nominations were both seconded by HI-D. Both CC & SR accepted the positions of Vice Chair.

HI-D indicated PD willingness to take on the role of Secretariat. SR nominated PD for this role, which was seconded by CC. PD accepted the position of Secretariat and indicated that he would be calling on others for their support with this role.

3. Agree Name and Purpose of the CPG

PD outlined the suggested name for the group as being '***Cross-Party Group for the Outdoor Activity Sector***'. There were a number of comments made which led to the overall support for the name, noting it to be an all encompassing name. The name of the group was agreed is '***Cross-Party Group for the Outdoor Activity Sector***'.

PD outlined the suggested purpose of the group as follows:

- 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 natural environment for outdoor activities.

Again, there were a number of comments made with regards to the purpose and a suggestion to included 'learning' into iii. This was agreed by all. The agreed purpose for the group is as follows:

- 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 natural environment for outdoor learning and activities.

4. Ideas for future programme and activities

HI-D outlined the need for establishing a future programme and welcomed ideas from all in attendance. The following is an overview of the suggestions made during the meeting and some suggestions made to PD in advance of the meeting:

- i. Outdoor Education and maintaining its future - ensure supportive encouraging messaging to schools to highlight that it is ok to engage in residential outdoor education experiences;
- ii. Connections and synergy of all aspects of the outdoor activity sector, which includes: Education and Life-long learning, Sport and Recreation, the Environment and Culture, Economy and Tourism, Health and Well-being;
- 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 - agriculture reform, access reform etc.;
- vi. Use the Covid situation as a catalyst to consider the impact on communities etc. and a recovery programme - education regarding how to use the natural environment;
- vii. Being safe outdoors;
- viii. Workforce development and developing pathways for employment - apprenticeships.

All comments were well received by all.

Action 1. *PD & HI-D to liaise over the summer period with a view to identifying the initial topic(s) for the next meeting.*

Action 2. *PD & HI-D to liaise regarding drafting a letter to be sent to Ministers to highlight the establishing of the group and the willingness to engage and support Government.*

5. AOB

No other business raised

6. Date of next meeting

Action 3. *PD & HI-D to identify a suitable date for the next meeting and consider how often such meetings ought to take place.*