



West of England Nature Partnership

Joining up the dots for nature

Independent Chair: West of England Nature Partnership

The West of England Nature Partnership (WENP) is the designated Local Nature Partnership for the West of England. It is a collaboration of local and regional government, environmental charities, water companies, regulators, and many other organisations, working together to deliver more for nature's recovery. Its vision is of a thriving and well-connected natural environment in the West of England that underpins a healthy and resilient society and economy.

Since its inception in 2012, the Partnership has grown in influence and impact. It has now entered a critical phase of strategic delivery up to 2030. Its priority is to facilitate investment in and delivery of a West of England Nature Recovery Network, with a focus on large and impactful projects. This work will be driven by the region's Local Nature Recovery Strategy, due for publication later in 2024. The Partnership is also committed to ensure that data and evidence about the natural environment underpins prioritisation of funding and resources, and to embed the value of the natural environment into regional decisions about planning, economic development and public health.

The Partnership is seeking an Independent Chair who will work with partners to accelerate progress towards delivery of our strategic aims. We are looking for a dynamic leader in their field, with established networks and influence in the region and an ethos of collaboration, who is a champion for nature.

What the roles entails:

- You will lead an established, experienced and diverse partnership, taking an inclusive and participatory approach;
- You will facilitate meaningful discussion which catalyses action, both between partners and across sectors;
- You will use your regional networks and influence to further the aims of the Partnership and increase our collective impact;
- You will advocate for and represent the partnership and the work we do to senior decision-makers and stakeholders;
- You will chair four Board meetings a year and other ad hoc meetings of the Partnership; and
- Working closely with the WENP Manager, you will safeguard the WENP Strategy and ensure that the necessary actions are in place to deliver it.

The successful candidate will:

- Be a "big picture" person, experienced in working at a senior and strategic level.
- Employ collaborative, participatory and consensus-based approaches to decision-making that let partners lead while retaining strategic oversight and direction.



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- Have established networks in the West of England and understand the challenges and opportunities specific to the region, in terms of both decision-making and nature recovery.
- Have commercial acumen and an understanding of regional decision-making and development.

Demonstrate a strong personal commitment to, and passion for, the natural environment.

Other information

This appointment is for 3 years with potential for re-appointment.

The expected time commitment is 2 days per month on average. Note that it is a governance rather than an executive role.

Expenses will be paid plus optional annual honorarium of up to £3,000.

We're committed to building an inclusive and diverse partnership. Whatever your background we welcome your application.

Selection for the role will include interview with a panel of WENP partners.