



Working together

Swansea Environmental Forum is an independent partnership with a wide membership of individuals and organisations from the public, voluntary and private sectors, working together to safeguard and improve the environment. Members meet at regular events to discuss and debate topical environmental issues.

Swansea Environmental Forum activities and priorities are managed by an elected executive committee which meets regularly and has representatives from several sections of the City and County of Swansea and many other relevant and influential organisations, both local and national, including:

- Arena Network
- Countryside Council for Wales
- Cylch (Wales Community Recycling Network)
- Environment Agency Wales
- Groundwork Wales
- Gwalia (Tai Cartrefi)
- Mumbles Development Trust
- National Trust
- Swansea Friends of the Earth
- Swansea Metropolitan University
- The Environment Centre

Why is environmental sustainability important?

Many of the environmental challenges we currently face are urgent, substantial and critical. Environmental sustainability is about ensuring that our actions today do not reduce the environment's capacity to sustain life in the future.

The natural environment in and around Swansea has some of the best landscapes and most diverse habitats in the UK and our built environment has many attractive and historic features. We need to look after the local environment to secure Swansea's reputation as a great place to live, work and visit.



Swansea Environmental Forum

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This prospectus is also available in Welsh.
Mae'r prospectws hwn ar gael yn Gymraeg hefyd.

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WHAT IS Swansea Environmental Forum?

This prospectus outlines the purpose, vision and activities of Swansea Environmental Forum



Taking a lead

Swansea Environmental Forum is the lead strategic partnership for all aspects of the natural and built environment in the City and County of Swansea. These include wildlife and the countryside; the design and development of our towns and neighbourhoods; our use of energy and transport; the quality of our air, water and land; the way we deal with our waste; and environmental education and action.



Working for change

Swansea Environmental Forum promotes and facilitates environmental sustainability in Swansea. It works to:

- influence policy and action
- drive behaviour change
- encourage and support partnership working
- develop and support environmental projects and innovation
- provide expertise, collate evidence and highlight priority areas for action.

Working with vision

Our vision is ambitious and presents a Swansea where the natural environment we inherited is safeguarded and improved for the future; where the built environment is inspiring and supports communities; where local people have better opportunities for work, learning and leisure, but the quality of life of others around the world is also respected; and where everyone understands and values the environment and tries to live more sustainably.

Achieving success

Swansea Environmental Forum has an impressive track record of initiating and delivering innovative projects, organising successful events and producing useful and informative resources. Key achievements include:

The Environment Centre – opened in 1995 by HRH the Prince of Wales, this is a unique focal point for environmental information, education and activity in south-west Wales.

Sustainable Swansea – an awareness-raising initiative, launched in 2004, that engages communities, organisations and the public in projects that help make Swansea a more sustainable place to live, work and visit.

Swansea Environment Strategy – published in 2006 and entitled 'Time to Change', this landmark document sets out an ambitious vision for Swansea and a plan of action for getting there.

Earth from the Air – this internationally renowned exhibition was brought to Swansea in 2007 through a broad partnership co-ordinated by Swansea Environmental Forum, and captured the interest of 100,000 visitors.

Addressing the big issues

Swansea Environmental Forum is taking a lead with 5 big issues which form part of Swansea's community strategy. These big issues are:

- improving air quality
- preparing for climate change
- energy and carbon management
- achieving Blue Flag status for Swansea Bay
- protecting and promoting biodiversity.

Making significant progress in these areas may take several years and will require constructive and imaginative collaboration between many partners across different sectors.



promoting and facilitating environmental sustainability in Swansea