



South Wales Outdoor Activity Providers Group

SWOAPG River Wye Paddlesport Advisory Group – Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of the SWOAPG River Wye Paddlesport Advisory Group (“the Group”) is to advise SWOAPG’s Board of Directors, Steering Group and Members on matters affecting paddlesport operations by Outdoor Activity Providers (including craft hire businesses) on the River Wye in Wales, including the terms and conditions of any Concordat arrangements and Codes of Conduct proposed for paddlesport operations at Glasbury-on-Wye and Hay-on-Wye.

Note: If entering any formal arrangements affecting paddlesport operations, SWOAPG can only represent those of its own Members and any other parties who agree to the terms of those arrangements. SWOAPG is, however, acutely aware that any arrangements it may enter could be used as a precedent for arrangements affecting other parties elsewhere on this or other waterways, so it is critical that the Group is able to represent the broadest range of interests in providing advice to SWOAPG – and that SWOAPG properly considers and takes due account of the Group’s advice. However, SWOAPG shall not be bound to follow the Group’s advice; nor shall any member of the Group be bound by the terms of any arrangement entered by SWOAPG unless they expressly agree so.

Authority

The Group is authorised by the SWOAPG Board of Directors to hold discussions between its members and to liaise with SWOAPG Members and other stakeholders as appropriate to fulfil its advisory role; and to propose recommendations for consideration by SWOAPG’s Board of Directors, Steering Group and Members.

The Group is not authorised to incur any expenditure nor to enter into any formal agreements on SWOAPG’s behalf, unless specifically agreed by the SWOAPG Board of Directors.

Membership

The Group shall comprise:

- a) representatives from a broad range of groups that use the River Wye in Wales, such as:
 - Not-for-profit Outdoor Education Centres
 - Private outdoor activity businesses
 - Paddlesport craft hire businesses
 - Independent paddlesport coaches
 - Military training units
 - Paddlesport clubs
 - Voluntary Organisations (such as Scouts & Guides)
- b) other SWOAPG Members (including Directors or Steering Group Members) who have an interest in SWOAPG’s involvement with paddlesport activities on the River Wye in Wales.

The Group should aim to represent a balance of interests whilst remaining manageable in size. Individual representatives may apply or be invited to join, subject to the agreement of the Group.

Group members are expected to play a full part in the Group’s activities and may be removed with the Group’s agreement if they are not fulfilling this expectation.

Secretariat

The SWOAPG Coordinator shall provide secretariat support to the Group, subject to the extent and cost of this support being deemed reasonable by the SWOAPG Board of Directors.

Decision-Making

Any recommendation proposed by the Group must be agreed by at least two-thirds of its members; and objections raised by any member(s) shall be recorded as part of the recommendation. Agreements may be obtained by meeting or by verifiable electronic means (e.g. e-mail correspondence).