

Clean Air Advisory Panel for Wales

Appointment of Chair



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welsh Government is seeking to appoint an Independent Chair to the Clean Air Advisory Panel.

Introduction

The Clean Air Advisory Panel provide independent and expert advice on air quality matters in Wales. The advice of the Panel supports the development of evidenced based policy and legislation to deliver improved air quality for the benefit of human health and the natural environment.

The Role

The chair of the Clean Air Advisory Panel will co-ordinate a multidisciplinary group of policy makers, researchers, air quality and public health practitioners.

The chair will co-ordinate the Panel to;

- Advise on and provide scientific evidence to support the development of Welsh Government clean air policy.
- Support the establishment of targets for the reduction of air pollutant emissions.
- Collaborate with relevant government departments and other advisory groups at UK, Wales and local levels.
- Encourage and maximise opportunities for innovative solutions which help to improve levels of airborne pollution.
- Advise the Welsh Government on future evidence needs and how they can be met.

The Chair will be required to;

- Attend and chair Panel meetings in person or virtually, as appropriate.
- Co-ordinate the development of collective advice, reports and synthesis of relevant papers or reports.
- Undertake reviews and collaborative work as required in order to facilitate prompt decision making.
- Provide advice to, and work collaboratively with: officials, Welsh Ministers, other technical expert groups, public bodies, and other key stakeholders.

The expertise of the whole Panel covers all relevant areas of air quality science including those listed below. The post requires scientific expertise and significant experience in an area relevant to air quality and related disciplines.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate knowledge of the range of the Panel's work and high levels of technical expertise in one or more of the fields detailed below.

- Air quality monitoring, modelling and meteorology
- Emission inventories and projections
- Agriculture and rural land use

- Public health and socio-economic assessment relating to air quality.
- Impacts of air quality on ecosystems and biodiversity
- Transport
- Non-road mobile machinery
- Measurement technology and remote sensing
- Chemistry of air pollutants
- Sources, processes and measurement of gas-phase pollutants – particularly volatile organic compounds
- Industrial processes, including emissions to air, abatement, mitigation and technological solutions.
- Air quality and climate change
- Related science into policy

Essential Criteria

1: AIR QUALITY RELATED TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Significant expertise, ideally with national or international reputation in one or more areas relevant to air quality and pollutants (listed above). Strong evidence of ability to apply specialist knowledge to influence decision making and deliver to schedule.

2: PROBLEM SOLVING

Proven expert ability to process and interpret complex information; well-developed analytical reasoning skills and judgment; the ability to provide intellectual leadership and create a pro-active approach to problem solving with a high level of professionalism and adaptability to allow application of skills to problems outside of specialist area of expertise.

3: COLLABORATION

Demonstrable ability to effectively work with others to achieve shared goals and make sound, balanced, and timely decisions both independently and with others.

4: COMMUNICATION

Exceptional communication, interpersonal and advocacy skills with a proven ability to negotiate, persuade and influence at all levels, including within a collaborative group; ability to translate complex scientific information for a non-specialist audience.

Period of appointment

The successful candidate will be appointed for an initial period of three years.

Re-appointment may be made subject to satisfactory performance assessment and will be at the discretion of Welsh Government's Head of Environmental Protection Division (EPD).

The appointees may resign at any time by giving notice in writing to EPD Director. The EPD Director may terminate the appointment under certain conditions, which will be notified to the successful candidate on appointment.

Remuneration and Allowances

£256 per day. Legitimate travel and other expenses will be fully reimbursed. As a guide, the chair will be required to work approximately 2 – 3 days per month, attending approximately 4-6 meetings per year, with the occasional ad hoc meetings as appropriate.

Conflicts of Interest

You must inform the Environment Protection Division if you have any business or personal interests that could lead to a real or perceived conflict of interest were you to be appointed. You should disclose information on any relevant business interest, public appointment or position of authority, including other connections with commercial, public or voluntary bodies.

How to respond

Applicants should submit their CV with education, professional qualifications and employment history and the names and contact details for two referees, together with a statement of suitability to CleanAirAdvisoryPanel.Secretariat@gov.wales.

The statement of suitability should give evidence of the strength and depth of your ability to meet essential criteria for this role and will be the main evidence used for the sift process. Please provide specific examples to demonstrate how you meet each of the four criteria (max of two pages).

Applicants from a wide range of backgrounds will be considered, including private sector, academic and professional institutions, and non-governmental organisations.

It is the policy of the Welsh Government to promote and integrate equality of opportunity into all aspects of its business including appointments to public bodies. Applications are welcomed and encouraged from all groups, and we ensure that no eligible candidate receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, disability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, or pregnancy and maternity. The principles of fair and open competition will apply, and appointments will be made on merit.

For further details and queries contact email 'CleanAirAdvisoryPanel.Secretariat@gov.wales' with the subject 'Application for chair of Clean Air Advisory Panel'.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 22nd December 2023. Application forms received after this date will not be considered. Interviews are expected to be held mid-January.