

Newsletter

Summer 2024

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Plattform yr
Amgylchedd Cymru

Environment
Platform Wales

Welcome

Welcome to the Environment Platform Wales (EPW) newsletter. EPW aims to increase the quality and relevance of evidence available for environmental management and policy making in Wales.

We do this by supporting researchers to engage directly with Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales through workshops and working groups and by supporting the development of large-scale funding applications that have direct relevance to Welsh policy makers.



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<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/environment-platform-wales-summer-newsletter-uhjce>

1 in 5 project collaboration

Environment Platform Wales are working with the 1 in 5 Project to encourage students at Welsh universities to incorporate matters of climate change and biodiversity within their final year's research project – irrespective of their core subject. The projects rationale is that if 1 in 5 of these pieces of work (~25,000) focused on environmental change, there will be a significant impact. [Find out more here.](#)



1 in 5 Project

“EPW has provided a network that has been useful in finding colleagues and has organised many interesting talks.”

Newsletter

Insights Wales 2024-2025



Environment Platform Wales will be back with another series of Wednesday lunchtime talks, aiming to better connect research with evidence needs in Wales. You can view the schedule and sign-up to attend the (online) series [here](#). We are also seeking speakers; if you would like to present your environmental research or evidence need, please get in touch at info@epwales.org.uk.

Marine Evidence and Blue Carbon Forum

Following on from the successful Marine Evidence Conference earlier this year, and in response to requests from those attending, Environment Platform Wales are seeking to establish a Marine Evidence Community of Research for academics and policy makers on September 19th. In addition we will also be hosting the first Blue Carbon Forum for Wales on September 17th 2024. The Forum is open to all and you can register to [attend here](#).

Environment and Peace

Environment Platform Wales have partnered with Academi Heddwch to facilitate an Environment and Peace working group. On Wednesday 9th October 2024, Environment Platform Wales will be hosting a talk on 'Environment and Peace' from Academi Heddwch's Colin McInnes. More to follow

Other Community of Research Group Events

Water quality - Environment Platform Wales' Water Quality Community of Interest will be meeting online on 9th October.

Landscapes Wales - In partnership with Tirweddau Cymru / Landscapes Wales, Environment Platform Wales will be hosting an online Designated Landscapes workshop on 11th October 2024.

Reservoir Research - Environment Platform Wales' ResRes community of interest will be meeting online on the 5th September 2024.

Coal tip safety - Environment Platform Wales will be hosting the next (online) coal tip safety workshop on 17th October.

Plastic in the Environment - at the request of Welsh Government, we are currently seeking expressions of interest from researchers interested in participating in this group.

If you are undertaking research in any of the above areas and would like to attend please email info@epwales.org.uk providing a brief description of your research in your particular area(s) of interest.

Newsletter

Careers Fairs

Environment Platform Wales will be offering students from across our partner universities the opportunity to discuss a career in the environment and sustainability sector. Look out for EPW at:

Tue 15th October – Cardiff University Careers Fair

Tue 15th October – Swansea University (Singleton) Careers Fair

Wed 16th October – Swansea University (Bay) Careers Fair

Wed 23rd October – Bangor University Careers Fair

Thu 24th October – Cardiff University – Sustainability employer meet and greet

Tue 29th October – Cardiff University – SOCSI and GEOPL meet and greet, tbc

Thu 7th November – University of South Wales (USW) Careers Fair



Welsh Government PhD Placements & Research Fellowships

Environment Platform Wales are assisting Welsh Government in the recruitment of PhD Placements & Research Fellowships. A number of posts are currently available and open for applications.

Welsh Government PhD Placement – Air Quality Evidence: development of national air quality targets for Wales.

The post holder will work within the team to develop, implement and manage evidence-based policy in relation to new air quality targets. This will involve working with partners to develop multi-pollutant emission reduction measures and modelling the associated benefits to underpin the feasibility analysis of new targets. Alongside this, the post holder will work with the team to commission associated independent expert advice from national expert advisory groups.

Deadline for applications (1st round) – 29th August 2024. [However, Welsh Government will accept new applications for this advert until end of November]

- [Welsh Government Research Fellowship: Soil Functions Map for Wales](#)
- [Welsh Government PhD Placement: Soil and Land Planning in England and Wales](#)
- [Welsh Government PhD Placement: Soil Monitoring Opportunities for Wales](#)

For a full list of placements, [please refer to the EPW website.](#)

Join our Researcher Database

Environment Platform Wales are establishing a database of environmental researchers based at Welsh universities and institutions. [Add your researcher profile on our website.](#)

Newsletter

Data Workshop in Swansea

The Science Technology Facilities Council (STFC) UKRI and the [Digital Curation Centre](#) are conducting a Data and Analytics Facility for National Infrastructure (DAFNI) workshop at Swansea University on the 17th September 2024.

DAFNI is available to assist those carrying out research on infrastructure and provides a secure data platform that's free for researchers to use.

The focus of the workshop is to address the 'Challenges and Barriers of Data Sharing' with the overall objective of this activity to test and understand the need for a national research cloud through a series of pilot studies. The results of these pilots will inform a future funding case for further investment by government. STFC are looking to collect evidence within this workshop from Government, academics, and industry partners.

[Register for the DAFNI workshop by clicking here](#)

“EPW has helped enormously in making contacts to develop new collaborations that could result in new inter-university multi-disciplinary research”



We're listening to you

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our survey. Here's what you shared with us:

The majority of respondents agreed that Environment Platform Wales:

- helped to bridge the gap between academic research and environmental policy
- assisted in making new contacts
- increased their awareness of policy evidence needs of Welsh Government and NRW
- enhanced their knowledge of research taking place across Wales



EPW Performance Assessed by Researchers

