



COETIROEDD  
GWELL  
I GYMRU



BETTER  
WOODLANDS  
FOR WALES

Grantiau a chymorth  
i greu a gwella coetiroedd

Grants and support for creating  
and improving woodlands

# Applicant Code of Practice

## Introduction

This Code of Practice outlines, and gives guidance on, the principles and conduct that Applicants need to follow when they apply for the Better Woodlands for Wales scheme.

## Principles

The principles below will apply to all activities undertaken by Applicants within the BWW scheme. Applicants will:

<b>Integrity</b>	Deal honestly and openly with Management Planners, Specialist Assessors and Forestry Commission Wales (FCW).
<b>Co-operation</b>	Co-operate with Management Planners, Specialist Assessors and FCW; allowing and assisting them to work within the rules and guidance of BWW.
<b>Sustainability</b>	Allow and assist Management Planners, Specialist Assessors and FCW to act with due regard to environmental, social and economic sustainability principles, within the remit of BWW.
<b>Recognition</b>	Recognise the requirements of the BWW scheme and accept that Management Planners and Specialist Assessors are working to guidelines and have responsibilities within the scheme. This may result in recommendations within the Management Plan that the Applicant would not ideally want if they were not part of BWW.

# Conduct

The points below identify how Applicants will behave. Applicants will:

<b>Understanding &amp; Consideration</b>	Allow the Management Planner to explain the nature of the BWW scheme, the principles on which it is based, and the Applicant's obligations within the scheme.
	Consider carefully the implications of entering the BWW scheme and only enter, and commit to the scheme if it is appropriate to their circumstances.
<b>Objectivity</b>	Accept that Management Planners and Specialist Assessors must be objective and work within the rules of the BWW scheme.
	Work within the rules and guidance of the BWW scheme and recognise the importance of sustainability.
<b>Compliance</b>	Adhere to the UK Forestry Standard and associated Forest Guidelines.
	Recognise the Welsh policy framework within which BWW works as outlined in documents such as Woodlands for Wales.
<b>Transparency</b>	If involvement in BWW is conditional on any other factors, make the Management Planner aware of this prior to agreeing the contract for Management Plan work.
	Agree the fee charging structure with the Management Planner.
<b>Charging</b>	Agree with the Management Planner when and how their fees will be paid and, in particular, how fees will be settled should the Applicant withdraw from the management planning process or dispense with the Planner's services after Stage 3.
<b>Confidentiality</b>	Not voluntarily disclose a Management Planner's personal or business-sensitive information.
<b>Disclosure</b>	Not knowingly withhold information from FCW, the Management Planner or Specialist Assessor that might affect their view of the plan.
<b>Termination</b>	Accept a Management Planner's decision not to engage in work beyond preparing the Management Plan.
<b>Competence</b>	Recognise the need for the Management Planner to use Specialist Assessors where appropriate.
	Recognise the skills and knowledge of Management Planners, Specialist Assessors and FCW within the BWW scheme.
<b>Availability &amp; Timeliness</b>	Assist the Management Planner in complying with the BWW timescales by being available for discussions and by providing relevant information within agreed timescales.

# Enforcement

Applicants need to act within this Code of Practice. Forestry Commission Wales will monitor compliance as part of its obligations within the scheme. Any breach of the Code of Practice may result in an Applicant being disqualified from the Better Woodlands for Wales Scheme.