

### Working with wildlife

Over recent years the importance of our native wildlife has become increasingly recognised within the development industry. Planning authorities now often ask for ecological surveys, particularly if there is any risk of a "protected" species being affected by a proposal. Former director of the Nature Conservancy Council and Cynefin's chairman Professor Tom Pritchard explains:

*"The presence of protected species doesn't necessarily mean that development can no longer occur; it's just that the future welfare of the species in question has to be borne in mind before decisions are made. Such creatures as birds, bats and badgers can normally coexist with human activity so long as their needs are taken into account."*



### Recent planning successes

- Cynefin successfully appealed on behalf of holiday chalet-owners who had an occupancy condition on their planning permission preventing them from making the most efficient use of their properties.
- Cynefin successfully helped a group of local residents fight against proposals to build five houses on a plot that would have caused considerable local disturbance and loss of amenity.

### Influencing planning policy

Outdated and irrelevant planning policies can be hugely frustrating for potential developers. However, the opportunity is now arising across Wales to influence local policy in a meaningful way. Cynefin associate Susan Hill explains:

*"Local authorities are now working on the preparation of new Local Development Plans, and over the next few years there will be numerous opportunities for local people and businesses to have their say in the process. It's important that you don't miss this chance to put your view forward."*

For an informal chat with regard to how we may help you with influencing these new policy documents, contact Susan on 01492 622272.



### Changes at Cynefin

Cynefin's former projects manager, Patrick Bigham, has now left the company, joining Capita Symons as an Environmental Consultant. All at Cynefin wish him well in his new role. Chartered town planner Rhys Roberts will now take over Patrick's duties. He will be co-ordinating our project teams and will be our primary point of contact for customers.

### About Cynefin

In case you're not aware of the range of services that we offer, these include:

- **Planning services** - advice and assistance with planning applications and appeals;
- **Environmental appraisal** - assessing the impact of development proposals on the environment;
- **Research and funding** - helping your project meet the criteria of funding bodies and decision-makers.

Feel free to call in to see us at any time. For more details contact:

**Rhys Roberts**

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