



CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue Organisation

Every year, our volunteers go into the mountains so that others can come home safely.

For over 60 years, Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue Organisation has been saving lives across the mountains of northern Eryri.

In 2025, our volunteer team responded to 188 incidents, contributing more than 7,400 incident hours. Alongside this, we delivered over 4,000 hours of training across 136 sessions, supporting 1,771 individual member responses.

All of this is delivered by around 50 volunteers who are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Our work is funded through public donations.

188 incidents	7,420 incident hours	4,005 training hours	1,771 member responses
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We are looking for an experienced, thoughtful and collaborative Chair of Trustees to lead our Board and help shape the future of the organisation.

Time commitment: approximately one to two days per month **Role:** voluntary, with reasonable expenses reimbursed

Interviews: scheduled for early September 2026

The role

Our trustees are legally responsible for the charity. They set its strategic direction, ensure effective governance and hold the organisation accountable.

As Chair, you will:

- Lead the Board and enable effective governance.
- Work alongside the Committee Chair to shape our long-term strategy.
- Ensure trustees understand and fulfil their legal responsibilities.
- Provide support and constructive challenge on key decisions.
- Maintain the balance between trustee oversight and operational independence.
- Represent OVMRO externally with confidence and credibility.
- Build relationships that strengthen our partnerships, profile and funding.
- Support the continued development and effectiveness of the Board.

This is a strategic governance role.

Operational rescue activity will continue to be led by our experienced operational team.

Why this role matters

OVMRO is operationally strong and highly respected. Our focus now is on ensuring that the organisation is equally strong and sustainable for the future.

We face important questions around long-term funding, volunteer recruitment and retention, investment in equipment and capability, succession planning, organisational resilience and our evolving relationship with statutory emergency services.

The Chair will help us address these questions, strengthen our governance and ensure that our volunteers can continue to focus on saving lives.

Strong Board leadership will help trustees focus on the organisation's most important strategic questions, make well-informed decisions and provide appropriate oversight without interfering in operational command.

The Chair will also strengthen OVMRO's external voice by building relationships with funders, public bodies, emergency services, businesses and community partners. These relationships can create opportunities for collaboration, funding, expertise and influence.

Most importantly, the role will help ensure that OVMRO remains resilient, accountable and ready to serve the public for decades to come.

This is an opportunity to help shape the future of a respected Welsh rescue charity and contribute to an organisation that forms a vital part of Wales's emergency response infrastructure.

Experience and qualities

We are looking for someone who can bring:

- Senior leadership experience.
- Strategic thinking and sound judgement.
- Strong communication and influencing skills.
- Credibility with partners, funders and other stakeholders.

- Experience of governance, organisational development or Board-level decision-making.
- The ability to chair meetings effectively and create clear, constructive discussion.
- An understanding of accountability, finance, risk and legal responsibilities.
- Confidence in handling complex or sensitive matters.
- The ability to provide constructive challenge while maintaining positive relationships.
- The ability to build relationships, develop networks and open doors.
- A collaborative, inclusive and respectful leadership style.
- Integrity, independence of thought and a commitment to acting in the charity's best interests.
- An appreciation of volunteer-led organisations and the pressures placed on operational members.

Previous experience as a trustee or Chair would be helpful, but it is not essential. Knowledge of mountain rescue is not required.

Time commitment

Approximately one to two days per month, including preparation for and attendance at Board meetings, regular contact with key officers and occasional organisational events. Additional flexibility may be needed when urgent or significant matters arise. The role is voluntary, with reasonable expenses reimbursed.

How to apply

Please submit:

- Your current CV.
- A personal statement of up to 500 words explaining why you are interested in the role and how your experience, skills and qualities would enable you to contribute as Chair of Trustees.

Your personal statement should provide clear examples of your leadership, strategic thinking, governance experience and ability to build effective relationships.

Send applications and requests for further information to:

liam.king@ogwen-rescue.org.uk

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview in early September 2026.

Ogwen Valley Mountain Rescue Organisation
Registered Charity No. 1160504