

Wentwood Timber Centre – Overview

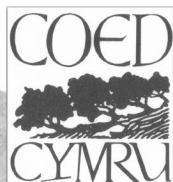
Woodlands cover approximately 14% of the County including 5 National Nature Reserves and a number of SSSIs, part of the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Brecon Beacons National Park.

Woodlands are a valued resource within the County for social, economic and environmental benefit. However neglected woodlands mean timber of small diameter. Monmouthshire County Council, working closely with Coed Cymru is working hard to bring these woodlands back into sustainable management, developing ways of protecting this resource and adding value to product.

Through woodland management and timber conservation it aims to:

- Stimulate positive sustainable management of woodlands in Monmouthshire.
- Provide a market for small diameter sawlogs produced as part of sustainable woodland management.
- Create and sustain employment within the timber sector.
- Promote added value processing of small diameter hardwood.

In partnership with adventa (Monmouthshire's leader + group) and SIREN of Brecon Wentwood Timber Workshop has been set up specialising in the manufacture of products made from timber sourced from small diameter trees including office and garden furniture.



Wentwood Timber Workshop

Wentwood timber workshop is operated in partnership with adventa and SIREN as a social enterprise offering paid employment and training for socially disadvantaged groups. Our organisation operates in three fields of best practice:

Environmentally - We only use indigenous Welsh hardwoods harvested from managed forests in Wales (only FSC sources). We operate a strict environmental policy covering not only the timber we use but the whole of our operation.

Socially - We operate purely for the benefit of our employees.. all of whom have social barriers before starting their work with us. We offer paid work and training whilst assisting our employees to overcome their barriers to mainstream employment and eventually assisting them into work elsewhere.

Economically - We are working steadily towards being fully sustainable but must see this as a balancing act between the needs of our employees and the environment. We are also developing new innovative products that make the best use of timber that would previously have only been considered as firewood.



Our products include Garden furniture, Office furniture, chairs, wooden games, and household furniture.



Adventa Timber Initiative

The end-to-end operation at Wentwood demonstrates that existing techniques can be adapted to the conversion of small diameter timber. Through innovative design and manufacture, considerable value can be added to the timber produced. Promoting this message through a process of education, innovation and cooperation, is the role of the Woodland Revival Officer.



Coed Cymru Monmouthshire

Monmouthshire's Coed Cymru officer gives free help and advice on the sensitive management of woodlands and the suitable use of woodland products. Covering the whole spectrum from the growth of new trees through to high quality Welsh hardwood products.

Coed Cymru is a partnership organisation dedicated to bringing broadleaf woodland into sustainable management. Locally funded by Monmouthshire County Council, Countryside council for Wales and Forestry Commission Wales.

