



Scotland's Finest Woods

Join our Board as a Trustee

Scotland's Finest Woods are seeking up to 3 new Trustees. to bolster the governance of the Charity. While desirable, a knowledge of woods and forestry is not required. We will particularly welcome applications from those with knowledge across our Award categories, communications and promoting our work externally, fundraising or a combination of these.

About Scotland's Finest Woods

1. Scotland's Finest Woods (SFW) is a small charity which runs the annual Scotland's Finest Woods Awards, funded by a range of sponsor organisations and supporters. It is [Scottish Charity \(SC039099\)](#) and a company limited by guarantee.
2. The Awards celebrate the contribution that woodlands can make to the people of Scotland and to its environment and economic prosperity. The winners are normally announced at an Awards ceremony during the year. In the past, this has been at the Royal Highland Show and in recent years at the Scottish Parliament around this year National Tree Week in November/December.
3. The underlying principle of the Awards is that people from across Scotland work hard to support their local community, economy and environment. The Awards provide a way to recognise and reward their achievements, and so identify exemplars for others to follow.
4. Building on a long history of woodlands awards in Scotland, SFW marked 40 years in 2025, having been established in 2005 as an independent not-for-profit company to run the annual awards programme.
5. In recent years, SFW has successfully raised the profile of the Awards, developed and expanded the Awards programme and built a strong base of funding from both the public and private sectors as well as NGO support across the forest sector in Scotland. SFW is therefore in a strong position to continue the development of the Awards programme and the Trustees seek experienced and motivated Charity Trustees to aid the effective Governance of the organisation.
6. A part-time Executive Director (ED) carries out the day-to-day management of SFW as well as being the Company Secretary. The ED is contracted to manage all aspects of SFW and the annual Awards Programme. The current ED is stepping down in August 2026 and SFW is also seeking a new ED. We engage a communications contractor to promote the Awards and build links with the media.
7. There are up to eight Trustees / Directors, one of which is also Chair. The current chair is Wilma Harper.
8. The Trustees generally meet once a year in Edinburgh in the autumn and otherwise fulfil their responsibilities by email correspondence or video conference if required. In addition, they are expected to attend the annual Awards Ceremony.

Scotland's Finest Woods - Registered office: 1 Ravelston House Loan, Edinburgh EH4 3LY
T: 07954 847055 E: admin@sfgwa.co.uk

About the Role of Trustees

Title:	Charity Trustee and Company Director of Scotland's Finest Woods, registered in Scotland as a Scottish Charity (SC039099) and as a company limited by guarantee registered (SC294388).
Location:	Scotland
Duration:	Expected to be a minimum term of three years, renewed for a second term by mutual agreement.
Time requirement:	Approximately 2 – 4 days' annually.
Annual fee:	The position of Charity Trustee is voluntary though essential expenses can be reimbursed (e.g. travel to annual meeting, Awards ceremony, etc).
Responsibilities:	See OSCR guidance and SCVO Trustee Network .

If new to charity governance, this will not be any barrier to becoming a Trustee, but you must familiarise yourself with charity trustee guidance as outlined by OSCR (Office of Scotland Charity Regulator) and the SCVO Trustee Network. Support will also be provided during Board induction and update sessions.

For more information about Scotland's Finest Woods, see: www.sfwa.co.uk or follow us on X or LinkedIn.

Essential criteria for all trustees:

- Experience of operating as a trustee or non-executive director, or evidence of transferable skills from executive roles
- Strategic capability and good judgement;
- Ability to build strong relationships and act as an ambassador for SFW
- A good understanding of, and commitment to, SFW aims and objectives
- Capacity to meet the time commitment outlined.

This time we would welcome applications from people with experience of one or more of the following to add to the skills mix of the Board:

- Communications, stakeholder engagement and public relations;
- Promotion and increasing our outward facing profile;
- Experience at senior leadership level in forestry or relevant disciplines across the Award categories.

Time commitment

Two Board meetings per year, hybrid or fully online. We encourage meetings to be held remotely, where appropriate, to avoid unnecessary travel. You will therefore require good connectivity. In addition, trustees may be asked to lead on certain topics or contribute to the development of particular projects. Trustees also attend the Awards ceremony, welcoming guests and Award winners.

How to Apply

Please email a cover letter stating why you would like to become a Trustee of Scotland's Finest Woods, outlining what skills and experience you consider you can bring to the role. This should include:

- A CV or a statement of experience;
- A detailed supporting statement that outlines your motivation for the role and for supporting SFW and addresses the specific criteria for the role described in the Trustee role requirements.

Please send applications by email to: admin@sfa.co.uk and before the closing date of **noon on Friday 15th May 2026**.

If you have any queries about SFW and the role of Trustees or wish to have an informal and confidential discussion, Guy Watt the former Chair is available by emailing gw@johnleggconsulting.co.uk to arrange a call.