

Jo Smith



Role

Committee Member for England, Midlands & East

Jo is Chief Executive Officer at Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, leading efforts to protect and restore nature while ensuring that conservation is equitable, inclusive and accessible to all.

Under Jo's leadership, the Trust has championed landscape-scale nature recovery, driven nature-based solutions to the climate crisis, tripled the organisations scale and impact and worked to involve diverse communities in environmental action.

A strong advocate for equity and inclusion, Jo is committed to ensuring that everyone, regardless of background, can connect with and benefit from natural heritage. This principle underpins her work across policy, partnerships and grassroots initiatives.

Beyond Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Jo's expertise is sought regionally and nationally, as an advisor to many organisations including Natural England, Derby University, and the East Midlands Combined Authority. In these roles, Jo helps shape policies, research and funding strategies that drive meaningful, long-term change for both people and wildlife.