

Transcript of 'Our National Advisory Board' video

Judith Hall: My name's Professor Judith Hall and I'm delighted to be asked to chair the National Advisory Board for Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales.

Care and Social Services provision affects so many lives, being part of this advisory structure, gives us a chance to make things better for the thousands and thousands of people who utilise these services in Wales.

And it's an opportunity through chairing to give a voice to the considerable expertise there is in the Advisory Board. Users, users of services and service providers themselves, it's an opportunity for them to have a voice in creating a service of excellence here in Wales.

Joe Powell: My name is Joe Powell and I'm the National Director of All Wales People First.

I'm somebody who lived in care services for many years and as somebody as director of All Wales People First, I represent a lot of people with learning disabilities who rely heavily on the CSSIW. And obviously like any organisation I've had mixed experiences so it was just my opportunity on behalf of them to help them represent their point of view but to also support CSSIW as well to deliver the best standards possible and also to help promote the work that they do so that people can see the hard work that goes on behind the scenes.

I think what I'd like to achieve from being on the National Advisory Board is to give a good reflection on the learning disability experience of our members not just at People First but people with learning disabilities generally. To help the CSSIW come to the highest standards of practice, to help them see some of the hidden loop holes that are in the care system, which sometimes includes the way we treat our staff, its not just about people with learning disabilities its about how we treat people in the workplace.

Ffion Alun: My name's Ffion Alun, I work for Estyn Llaw and we promote bilingualism in the third sector. I'm also a registered person for an after school club, so I have worked with CSSIW in that context as well.

I was approached to be part of the Board because of my Welsh language, knowledge and skills really, and I think that I'm the Welsh voice on the Board. I think it's really important that this voice is heard because there are people in Wales who need to speak Welsh- it's not a choice its an actual need. So I think it's important that their needs are part of the Board.

I feel at times that CSSIW's public image is quite negative, people are scared of inspections and staff in settings are scared when inspectors come around- and that's not always fair I think. I'd like to be part of something that could change that perception and that CSSIW are there to provide the highest standard of care, so that settings are safe and appropriate for everybody.

Judith Hall: Wales deserves good or excellent care. There is such a lot going on in

Wales at the moment in terms of care, social services well being of our citizens. And it just feels like a tipping point. I think by giving a voice to this advisory board, allowing them to feed forward into people making decisions we can create this atmosphere and this reality of good and let's face it, let's have excellence here in Wales.