

Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Submitted via email - fairerfuturesmailbox@wales.gsi.gov.uk

25th November 2015

Dear Sir / Madam,


Call for Evidence: Increasing the representation of women and other under-represented groups on Public Sector Boards.

I refer to the Call for Evidence on *increasing the representation of women and other under-represented groups on Public Sector Boards*, launched by the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty. As a relatively new public body, to which our Board members are appointed by Minister's based on a public appointments process for which the Welsh Government is responsible, we do not have any clear evidence in response to the consultation questions based on our role and experience to date.

However we would like to confirm our support for the Minister's drive to ensure that all Public Sector Boards fully represent the communities that they serve. We are fully committed to playing our part in helping the Welsh Government to achieve this aspiration through future appointments to our Board and in support of the recent recruitment exercise, we organised 3 very successful 'Come on Board' events which were attended by more than 120 people in total. In addition, we built up a database of interested stakeholders to which we were able to forward relevant information from the Welsh Government on the appointment process, earlier this year. We have also played an active role on the Public Appointments Working Group, which aims to develop the appointments process 'top to bottom' to help to achieve similar objectives to those that are the subject of this Call for Evidence.

Finally, we would like to offer the observation that the objective to achieve gender balance in Public Sector Boards appears to be the most easily achieved, as evidenced by our gender balanced current Board. We believe the real challenge lies in achieving better balance in the other currently under-represented groups including socio-economic status, welsh language and ethnicity.

Yours faithfully,



Clive Thomas
Director of Governance

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