

## 1. Details

**Role Title:** Advisory Panel Member

**Time Commitment:**

3 meetings per year in locations across Wales and an optional additional 4 meetings, if appointed also as a non-executive member of the Commissioner's Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

One or two members may be invited to join up to 3 meetings of the Commissioner's Young People's Advisory Panel each year to represent the advisory panel.

Members will also be available on an occasional basis between these meetings, by telephone or email, to provide views, advice and guidance.

## 2. Main purpose of the role

As an Advisory Panel Member you will contribute as part of a group of up to 18 people providing strategic advice, support, scrutiny and challenge to the Commissioner and her staff team, acting as a critical friend as necessary, so that the effectiveness of the staff team's work is enhanced and the Commissioner's statutory remit and responsibilities is fulfilled.

The main responsibilities of your role include:

- Providing the Commissioner with strategic support and advice, challenging her particularly on the creation and delivery of her strategic and annual work plans, and the process by which the work priorities of the staff team are determined and delivered.
- Acting as a confidential sounding board for the Commissioner and her staff team, informing the development of operational policies and business proposals.
- Helping to ensure that the impact and capacity of the Commissioner's work is maximised, that her powers are used to best effect to promote and protect children and young people's rights in order to secure the best outcomes for children and young people in Wales.
- Helping to ensure that the Commissioner's work is appropriately aligned with legislation, policy and practice developments for children and engaged with key stakeholders to avoid duplication.
- Providing the broader context within which the Commissioner and her office operates, advising her about opportunities and risks and in particular providing her with information about external stakeholders' perceptions of, and potential support for, the Commissioner and her office's work.
- Scrutinising the Commissioner's Annual Report and Accounts which are laid before the National Assembly for Wales on an annual basis.

## Advisory Panel Member - Role Description

### 3. Person Specification for an Advisory Panel Member

#### Essential Skills and Knowledge:

- Extensive knowledge and understanding of the experiences of children and young people in Wales;
- Ability to provide constructive, ideally evidence-based challenge to policy proposals and/or established ways of thinking;
- Able to fulfil the role with professional integrity, exemplifying the highest standards of behaviour in public life. As this role will involve working closely with the Commissioner, you will be expected to handle information sensitively and behave according to the ['Nolan Principles'](#);
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills;
- Ability to maintain independence of judgement;
- Ability to quickly analyse complex problems and present information in a clear and compelling way;
- Team working skills, and in particular an ability and positive attitude to working effectively with children and young people;
- Knowledge of organisational governance and accountability frameworks.

#### Desirable criteria:

- An understanding of the environment within which the public sector operates

#### Additionally applicants should be able to demonstrate knowledge and experience in at least ONE of the following areas:

- Proven experience of working influentially across either the public, private or voluntary sectors
- Proven knowledge of services in Wales relevant to children young people and families. This may have been acquired through personal experience of using services;
- Proven knowledge and experience of the policy making process at local and national government levels;
- Knowledge of (or a commitment to gaining knowledge of) the role, remit, powers and duties of the Children's Commissioner as defined in legislation;
- Experience of working with local and national media outlets;
- An understanding of Wales, the Welsh language and Welsh culture.
- Ability to communicate in Welsh.

#### Applicants will be expected to possess the following personal characteristics as defined by the Nolan Principles :

- Selflessness
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Openness
- Honesty
- Leadership