

Comisiwn Annibynnol ar Wasanaethau
Cymdeithasol yng Nghymru

Independent Commission on
Social Services in Wales

21 December 2010

CALL FOR EVIDENCE

The Independent Commission on Social Services was established to consider the provision of social services and social care in Wales over the next decade and in particular how the Assembly Government can

- support the further development of professional practice
- build inclusive social services based on the contribution of all partners who work in social care
- effect a step change in collaboration between social services and with other key services
- ensure integrated social services capable of meeting the needs of children, young people and adults and older people in the most effective way

The Commission invites interested organisations and individuals to submit written evidence on the issues outlined above. It would be helpful if the evidence could

- Identify strengths in current arrangements
- Identify specific barriers or impediments in current arrangements
- Offer possible ways of overcoming such barriers, with examples

We are keen to receive evidence from as wide a group as possible and recipients are encouraged to draw this to the attention of others who may wish to submit evidence to the inquiry. The deadline for receipt of submissions is 26th February 2010.

In order to help us give full weight to this evidence, each submission should

- be no more than 2,500 words in length.;
- begin with a short summary of the key points in bullet point form;
- have numbered paragraphs; and
- be in Word format with as little use of colour or logos as possible.

A copy of the submission should be sent by email to

socialservicescommission@wales.gsi.gov.uk

An additional paper copy should be sent to

David Rich
Secretary
Independent Commission on Social Services in Wales
4th Floor
Crown Buildings
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

All submissions will be considered by the Commission in the course of its work. A reply acknowledging receipt of submissions will be sent to each person or organisation that contributed to this process.

If you would like to be sent a copy of the Commission's final report (due November 2010) please indicate this in your written submission or covering communication.

Before making your submission you should be aware that

- Material already published elsewhere should not form the basis of a submission, but may be referred to within a proposed memorandum, in which case a hard copy of the published work should be included subject to legal requirements such as copyright.
- Any evidence submitted will be held by the Commission Secretariat for the purposes of the work of the Commission and on behalf, ultimately, of the Welsh Assembly Government. By submitting such evidence you agree to authorise the Commission to use the information contained within the evidence for the purposes relating to the work of the Commission and you authorise the Assembly Government to use the information for purposes relating to the terms of reference of the Commission.
- Information submitted will be held by the Commission Secretariat on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government. You should be aware that there may be circumstances in which the Assembly Government will be required to communicate information to third parties on request, in order to comply with its obligations under, for example, the Freedom of Information Act 2000. If there is any information you believe should not be put into the public domain, you should highlight it and explain what harm you believe would be likely to result from its disclosure. The Commission and the Welsh Assembly Government will take this into account when deciding whether to publish or further disclose the evidence.

- The Commission intends to publish in part or in full the response to this call for evidence in its reports to the Welsh Assembly Government. Normally the name and address (or part of the address) of its author are published along with the response, as this gives credibility to the process for seeking evidence. If you do not wish to be identified as the author of your response, please state this expressly in writing to us.

Professor Geoffrey Pearson
Chair, Independent Commission on Social Services in Wales