



Carol Lamyman-Jones
Director
Board of Community Health Councils



A fluent Welsh speaker, Carol has enjoyed a senior management career spanning the public, independent and voluntary sector. For the majority of the 1990s she had responsibility for NSPCC development and in particular national campaigns in Wales, working closely with NSPCC childcare to instigate innovative services. Prior to being Chief Officer at Carmarthenshire CHC, she was Head of Service Development at NHS Direct Wales and was instrumental in commencing the DECS strategy. Carol looks forward with much enthusiasm to her role as Director of the Board of CHCs in Wales.

Steve Bundred



Steve has been Chief Executive of the Audit Commission since 1 September 2003.

Prior to joining the Audit Commission, Steve was Executive Director of the Improvement and Development Agency for local government and before that was for seven years the Chief Executive of the London Borough of Camden, having previously been its Director of Finance. Steve has also previously worked for Lewisham and Hackney councils and London University's Birkbeck College.

Steve has been a TEC Assessor, a member of the Higher Education Funding Council, and the Chair of the Higher Education Review Group. He has been awarded an honorary Doctorate of Science by City University, of which he was formerly Deputy Pro Chancellor, and is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



Vivienne Sugar

Chair of Consumer Focus Wales

Vivienne Sugar became Chair of the Welsh Consumer Council in April 2003, shortly after her retirement as Chief Executive of the City and County of Swansea, a post that she had held since 1995.

Vivienne now works as a Consultant to Government and Local Government. Between 2002 and 2004, she was also a member of the Richard Commission, which reviewed the powers and electoral arrangements of the National Assembly for Wales.

She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Housing having previously been Director of Housing at both Cardiff and Newport. In 2005 she was appointed as Wales Advisor to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and also became a Vice President of Swansea University.

In January 2008 Vivienne was appointed as Chair of Consumer Focus Wales.

Steve Thomas

Chief Executive, Welsh Local Government Association

Steve Thomas is Chief Executive of the WLGA, taking up the post in March 2004. Appointed to the WLGA in October 2000 as Head of Strategic Policy, Steve has worked in local government since 1989. He started within the field of Economic Development and was then tasked in the early 1990s with the project management of the reorganisation of Islwyn Borough Council leading up to the establishment of the new unitary authority Caerphilly County Borough Council in 1996. At Caerphilly County Borough Council Steve was the Head of Policy, Best Value & Central Services where he managed a range of functions including corporate strategy, democratic services, elections and the Wales Programme for Improvement.

The WLGA is the representative body for the 22 unitary authorities in Wales, the 4 police authorities, 3 national parks and 3 fire authorities. Steve is Joint Secretary of the statutory Partnership Council between the National Assembly for Wales and the WLGA. He also sits on a huge range of national bodies and also on the Council of the Prince's Trust Cymru and is a Board member of RCT homes. Steve has a First Class Honours Degree in History and Politics and a Masters in Public Management.

Steve Thomas

Chief Executive, Welsh Local Government Association

Prif Weithredwr WLGA er mis Mawrth 2004 yw Steve Thomas. Ac yntau wedi ymuno ag WLGA yn Bennaeth Polisiâu Strategol fis Hydref 2000, mae Steve wedi gweithio ym myd llywodraeth leol er 1989. Fe ddechreuodd ym maes datblygu'r economi ond, yn y 1990au cynnar, ysgwyddodd gyfrifoldeb am arwain proses ad-drefnu Cyngor Dosbarth Islwyn hyd at sefydlu Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili ym 1996. Pennaeth Polisiâu, Materion y Gwerth Gorau a Gwasanaethau Canolog fu Steve yng Nghaerffili, gan reoli amryw swyddogaethau megis y strategaeth gorfforaethol, gwasanaethau democrataidd, etholiadau a Rhaglen Gwella Cymru.

Mae WLGA yn cynrychioli 22 awdurdod unedol Cymru ac awdurdodau'r 4 heddlu, y 3 pharc cenedlaethol a'r 3 gwasanaeth tân ac achub. Mae Steve yn un o gydysgrifenyddion Cyngor Partneriaeth Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru a Chymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ac yn aelod o amryw gyrff gwladol yn ogystal â Chyngor Ymddiriedolaeth Tywysog Cymru a Bwrdd Cartrefi RhCT. Mae ganddo radd ddosbarth cyntaf yn Hanes a Gwleidyddiaeth a gradd meistr ym mhwnn Rheoli Cyhoeddus.

SARAH STONE – Deputy Commissioner, Older People’s Commission for Wales

Sarah Stone took up her position with the Older People’s Commission in November 2008.

Previously Sarah was Director of Policy and Public Affairs for Age Concern Cymru. She has been a member of the National Partnership Forum for Older People and of the Third Sector Partnership Council. Her responsibilities included leading the work of Age Concern Cymru to influence policy and practice affecting older people in Wales.

Sarah is a graduate of University College Cardiff. In 2001 she gained an MSc in Social Policy from the University of Bristol. She worked on two Welsh Office funded ‘Good Old Age’ initiative projects including one for Age Concern Cardiff and the Vale. In 1990 she moved to be the Development Officer for Cardiff and the Vale Parents Federation. In 2000 she joined Age Concern Cymru.

Professor Mansel Aylward CB MD FRCP FFOM FFPM

Professor Mansel Aylward is chair of the Wales Centre for Health, an Assembly Government Sponsored Body leading improvements in the nation's health by advocating on health issues, engaging with the public and communities, and speaking independently on health, free from corporate or economic interests. In October 2007 Professor Mansel Aylward in his capacity as Chair of the Wales Centre for Health was asked by Edwina Hart, Minister for Health and Social Services to undertake a review of Health Commission Wales' functions, including its decision-making processes and appeals mechanism. Under this arrangement, a report on key findings and advice (including the making of recommendations) was provided to the Minister in June 2008. Professor Mansel Aylward was also asked to advise the Minister on healthcare provision in Merthyr Tydfil and surrounding areas which was presented to the Minister in July 2008.

In 2006 he became Patron of The Shaw Trust which provides training and work opportunities for people disadvantaged in the labour market due to disability, ill health, or other social circumstances.

He is also Director of the Centre for Psychosocial and Disability Research at Cardiff University. The Centre offers a unique opportunity to extend knowledge and understanding of the psychosocial, economic and cultural factors that influence health, illness, recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration into rewarding work.

From 1996 to April 2005 he was Chief Medical Adviser, Medical Director and Chief Scientist to the United Kingdom's Department for Work and Pensions. He was also Chief Medical Adviser and Head of Profession at the Veterans' Agency, Ministry of Defence. He was made a Companion of the Bath in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2002. In 2001 he was appointed as The Royal Society of Medicine's Academic Sub Dean for Wales. From 1974 to 1984 he was Chairman and Managing Director of Simbec Research Ltd, UK, and President of Simbec Inc, New Jersey USA.

He is a physician and specialist in rheumatology, rehabilitation, therapeutics and clinical pharmacology. He has played a key role in development of the UK's medical assessment for incapacity (the All Work Test), the Personal Capability Assessment and the "Pathways to Work" initiative for Vocational Rehabilitation. He also led the Corporate Medical Group on the UK Government's Welfare Reform framework.



Rt Hon Sir Richard Needham

As International and Commercial Director of Dyson, Sir Richard is responsible for developing the company's manufacturing and sales operations in Europe, the US and the Far East.

Heading-up Dyson's move into China, Richard has developed unrivalled contacts both at the highest reaches within the Chinese Government and at local Party Secretary level. He knows the advantages and pitfalls of doing business in China and, with his range of contacts, is perfectly placed to help companies enter the Chinese market at the right level, in the right place and with the right partners.

Richard originally served as a Conservative MP and Michael Heseltine's Deputy at the DTI. He is credited with reinvigorating Britain's export strategy and regenerating Northern Ireland's infrastructure and economic base. He took considerable risks in insisting that Belfast's bomb-damaged city centre should be reconstructed in glass and steel to demonstrate confidence in the future. He is author of *Honourable Member*, a witty guide on how to become an MP and survive in the corridors of power.

Since leaving politics, Richard has been involved as Chairman, Director or adviser to over twenty companies; from world giants such as GEC Plc down to start-ups such as Quantum Imaging Ltd. Aside from Dyson, he chairs Imperial College's DeltaDot company which introduced the world's most advanced DNA sequencer. Richard also serves as Vice Chairman of NEC Europe, and Chairman of Avon Rubber.

At a time when UK businesses are experiencing the first major downturn for over a decade, Richard Needham's experience of the ups and downs of political and commercial life provide a unique insight into what to do and what to avoid in the present climate.

In his keynote presentations, Richard sets out how to drive change and chart a course through the economic storm. He shows how setting targets only works if everyone has a clear role, and if the structure allows the strategy to succeed. He also provides a clear insight into turnarounds, risk-taking and innovation in both public and private sectors - at home and abroad.

Speech Titles

Building a strong community
Risk-taking
Maintaining innovation
Competing against the downturn

Client Comments

"Richard was hugely entertaining, an excellent raconteur with useful business insights." – ICBI

"Incredibly relevant, but also very funny. He definitely added value." – World Business Research

"We were still talking about Richard late into the evening. He was a great success." – QAS

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Biography for Andrew Davies AM, Minister for Finance & Public Service Delivery

Andrew Davies AM has been an Assembly Government Minister since the Assembly was first established in 1999, and is currently Minister for Finance & Public Service Delivery in Rhodri Morgan's Cabinet. A graduate of Swansea University, he trained as a teacher and has lectured extensively in further, higher and continuing education. He is also a qualified counsellor.

He has a detailed knowledge of the Welsh economy through his experience in education and training, industry and the private sector. He headed the Ford Motor Company's Employee Development & Assistance Programme in the early 1990s. Prior to being elected to the Assembly in 1999, he was also associate director of a public affairs company.

He is a former member of the Wales Labour Party Executive Committee and was a regional official with the Welsh Labour Party in the 1980s. One of the architects of devolution, he headed up the Wales Labour Party's successful Assembly referendum campaign in 1997. He is a member of the trade union UNITE.

Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM
First Minister for Wales

Rhodri Morgan is the Assembly Member for Cardiff West. A fluent Welsh speaker, he was born in 1939 and is a graduate of Oxford and Harvard University. He lists health, the environment, European Affairs and regional development among his political interests. He is married to Julie Morgan, MP for Cardiff North, and they have one son and two daughters.

Initially a Tutor Organiser for the Workers Education Association (1963-1965), Rhodri Morgan was employed as a Research Officer for Cardiff City Council, the Welsh Office and the Department of the Environment (1965-1971), before becoming an Economic Adviser for the Department of Trade and Industry (1972-1974). Between 1974-1980, he was Industrial Development Officer for South Glamorgan County Council before becoming Head of the European Commission Office in Wales (1980-1987).

Rhodri Morgan was elected to Parliament in 1987 but decided not to stand again in the General Election in June 2001. During his time as a MP, he was Chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on Public Administration (1997-99). He served as the Opposition Front Bench Spokesman on Energy (1988-92) and Welsh Affairs (1992-97).

He was elected as the Assembly Member for Cardiff West in 1999 and was appointed as the Assembly Secretary for Economic Development & European Affairs. He was appointed First Secretary of the National Assembly in February 2000 and retained responsibility for Economic Development matters until October 2000. The title of his office changed to First Minister in October 2000.

He has been leader of the Labour Party in Wales since February 2000. He was appointed to the Privy Council in July 2000.

BIOGRAPHY

Peter Davies (Vice Chair Wales) began his career in the education sector, initially as a teacher before being appointed Southern Area Director of the CBI Education Foundation. He was subsequently appointed by the DTI to set up the National Teacher Placement Service. It was here that he received an OBE in recognition of his work.

In 1995 Peter joined Business in the Community UK as a Managing Director and latterly has been its Deputy Chief Executive. He led the organisation's campaigning role in improving the social and environmental impacts of business and established an international reputation for his work on corporate social responsibility.

Peter returned home to Wales in 2005 and established the Project Development Partnership, a consultancy that provides project consultancy to business, government and the voluntary sector. Peter also coordinates the work of The Prince's Charities in Wales and is chair of the West Wales branch of The Institute of Welsh Affairs.

Caroline Gardner

Controller of Audit and Deputy Auditor General, Audit Scotland

Caroline leads Audit Scotland's work through the Public Reporting Group, which supports effective accountability and improvement by reporting on governance and performance in Scotland's public services, and the Audit Services Group which carries out the audits of around 100 public bodies in Scotland. She has been Deputy Auditor General since 2000, and was appointed Controller of Audit by Scottish Ministers in 2004. She is responsible for Audit Scotland's approach to best value and scrutiny co-ordination.

She was previously Director of Health & Social Work Studies with the Accounts Commission, responsible for developing a national programme of value for money studies in the NHS and community care when the Accounts Commission took on this role in 1995.

Before this, she worked for the Audit Commission in England and Wales, managing national value for money projects on health and community care services. Her early career was spent with Wolverhampton MBC and District Audit. Caroline is a CIPFA member and has an MBA from Warwick University.

Caroline was President of CIPFA in 2006/07.



Clare Tickell, chief executive, Action for Children

As chief executive of Action for Children since January 2005, Clare Tickell has been responsible for one of the UK's largest and most important charities. Action for Children employs over 6,000 people in nearly 500 projects across the UK and in parts of the Caribbean and Africa, supporting more than 170,000 children, young people and their families.

For more information about Action for Children's work please go to www.actionforchildren.org.uk.

Throughout her career, Clare has been committed to improving the lives of our most excluded and vulnerable fellow citizens. Her previous role was as chief executive of Stonham Housing Association. She has also held many non-executive and advisory positions in the voluntary and housing sectors, as well as in the Social Exclusion Unit, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, the Department of Health and the Audit Commission.

Clare is a member of the management board of the Information Commission and the Public Interest General Council of the Office of Public Management. Clare was a Commissioner for the Howard League's national Commission on English Prison's Today from July 2007 until February 2009. Clare has just taken on the role of the children's charities nominated Trustee for Children England. Clare currently sits on the 2020 Commission on Public Services, chaired by Sir Andrew Foster and sponsored by the RSA. The Commission will consider what public services should look like going forwards.

Clare lives in West London, with her husband – an art director in the film industry – and one of her sons, her eldest son is currently away at University.

JAMIE OWEN

Jamie Owen has been a leading figure in Welsh broadcasting for many years. He is best known as the face of 'BBC Wales Today' - the country's most watched news programme. The programme won the Royal Television Society Award for 'Best News Programme'. He also presents a daily radio talk show for BBC Radio Wales. He is also a successful author and has written four books with another in the pipeline.

Jamie's broadcasting experience is diverse and ranges from Songs of Praise (BBC 1) to the Breakfast News. His broadcasting career started in London in 1989 where he delivered the Shipping Forecast on BBC Radio Four. He went on to present the 'Six O'clock News' and 'Today in Parliament'.

Away from the microphone, Jamie is the co-founder of Aspect Television, one of Wales' largest independent programme makers for the UK networks BBC1 and BBC2. Their work includes the acclaimed programme 'What Ron Said', exploring football pundit Ron Atkinson on BBC 1; 'So What Do You Do All Day', a business series featuring Richard Branson, Raymond Blanc and Jacqueline Gold for BBC2 and a major television series on the monks of Calday Island.

Jamie is the author of four books - 'Magic Islands', a sailing voyage around the islands off Wales; 'Magic Harbours', travels around the country's ports (both by sailing boat); 'Welsh Journeys', which accompanied his BBC 2 series; and 'More Welsh Journeys'. His next book for Ebury Press in London will be published in 2009.

Jamie has also joined the BBC National Orchestra of Wales to narrate Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf for BBC Radio 3.

One of the most popular after dinner speakers in the UK, Jamie is known for his smooth delivery of extremely interesting, anecdotal speeches which are interspersed with clever, subtle humour.

Jamie is also in high demand to act as host of high profile events throughout Wales and the UK. His experience of broadcasting live every day on BBC Radio and delivering the news live on BBC Television at peak viewing times makes him the perfect choice to host, chair, compere or present any event.

LORD DIGBY JONES



Born in Birmingham on 28th October 1955, he began his schooldays at Alvechurch Primary School Birmingham (1960 – 1966) before winning a major scholarship to Bromsgrove School (1966 – 1974). He gained an Upper Second class Honours Degree in Law at University College London in 1977. He was awarded a University Cadetship in the Royal Navy (1974 – 1977) then took articles with the Birmingham corporate law firm Edge and Ellison in 1978. He was admitted as a Solicitor in 1980.

He made Partner at Edge and Ellison in 1984 and it was in corporate finance and client development that he made his name. He was responsible for developing the firm's London presence and establishing its representation in many European countries and several states in America. He was made Deputy Senior Partner in 1990, becoming the Firm's Senior Partner in 1995. In 1998 he joined KPMG as vice chairman of Corporate Finance, acting as close adviser to many public companies across the United Kingdom and in KPMG's global markets.

Digby served as Director-General of the CBI, the Confederation of British Industry, the UK's 'Voice of Business', from 1 January 2000 to 30 June 2006 where he regularly visited businesses in the UK and worldwide – taking their views back to those who make the rules.

Following his departure from the CBI he held a number of senior corporate advisory positions as companies such as Deloitte, Barclays Capital, Ford of Europe and its Premier Automotive Group and JCB amongst others. He was also Special Advisor to His Royal Highness the Duke of York in connection with his role as the UK Special Representative for International Trade & Investment.

In 2007 he served as the UK's Skills Envoy, campaigning for both private and public sector employers to raise the level of skills of all of their employees to Level Two by 2010.

Digby served as an Ambassador for Investors in People (2004 - 2007), was President of the Diversity Works Initiative (2004 - 2007) – a programme led by the disability organisation, Scope. He was a Director of Birmingham Hippodrome Theatre (2004 – 2007). President of Heads, Teachers and Industry (2004-07), Deputy President of the Institute of Export (2005 - 2007) and Vice President of the Friends of the British Library (2005 - 2007). He was President of the Ambassadors for the West Midlands region (2004 - 2007) and Honorary President of Birmingham Forward (2006 - 2007), the professional services lobby group.

Digby is a Corporate Ambassador for Cancer Research UK, Chairman of the Corporate Development Board of Sense, helping those born deaf and blind and a Fellow of UNICEF. He is a Patron of numerous other charities. He is a member of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Development Trust, a Patron of FI in Schools and Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

He appears regularly on television, radio and in the newspapers, being known for his firm views on several aspects of life in a globalised economy. He is an active public speaker at events and engagements all over the world. He is the Association of Speaker Clubs Speaker of the Year 2008.

He was appointed a Knight Bachelor in the 2005 New Year Honours' List.

From 01 July 2007 to 04 October 2008 he served as the United Kingdom Minister of State for Trade & Investment accepting a lifetime peerage in the House of Lords where he now sits on the cross benches and is known as Digby, Lord Jones of Birmingham. During his 15 months in Ministerial office he made 45 overseas visits, travelling to 31 different countries and meeting with the world's top business leaders and politicians. He changed the way that UK Trade & Investment was perceived in delivering a record year for inward investment and expanding the UK's presence in all of the major international markets. Following his departure from Ministerial office he was appointed as a Business Ambassador for UK Trade & Investment.

Digby is married to Pat. They live in Marylebone and Warwickshire. He enjoys the theatre, skiing, football, rugby and cricket and has more than a passing interest in military history.

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