



CONSULTATION TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITHOUT A COMPETITION: ADVISORY PANEL ON SUBSTANCE MISUSE

The Commissioner for Public Appointments has been consulted under paragraph 3.3 of the Governance Code on Public Appointments (the Governance Code) by the Welsh Government to make an appointment, exceptionally, without a competition.

The Governance Code requires the appointing authority to consult the Commissioner in good time before the appointment is made and to make the decision public alongside their reasons for doing so.

Appointing authority's reasons for making an appointment without competition

The Welsh Government has decided to appoint Richard Ives as Chair of the Advisory Panel on Substance Misuse (APoSM) without putting the post out to open competition.

Mr Ives was previously appointed under exemption under the 2012 Code of Practice to be interim Chair of APoSM for a period of six months following the unexpected resignation of the previous Chair. As the Panel has an outstanding piece of work to consider in the coming months an Interim Chair is required to be in place whilst at the same time an open competition is being held under the Governance Code to recruit a new Chair.

Mr Ives's appointment will be for a period of up to three months from 1 March 2017.

Appointee

Richard Ives' work has focused on children and young people with an emphasis on prevention and education around undesirable behaviours, especially drinking, smoking, and other drug use, and gambling; and in project evaluation.

He is a member of the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board and chairs its subgroups on young people and on education. He has published widely and is a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal, *Drugs: Education, Prevention, and Policy*. He has worked with local, national and international organisations,

and has been Advisor to the Council of Europe Pompidou Group Young People's Jury for the European Drug Prevention Prize since its inception in 2004.

Mr Ives has declared some political activity: he has canvassed on behalf of the Green Party and stood as a candidate in District Council elections in May 2015.

Commissioner's response to the Consultation

The Commissioner for Public Appointments has considered the assessment of the Welsh Government and is content with the proposal to appoint Mr Ives without competition to the post of Chair of the Advisory Panel on Substance Misuse for a period not exceeding three months in order to allow APoSM to take forward its work and is pleased to note that an open competition for the post of Chair is being taken forward in parallel.

**Commissioner for Public Appointments
March 2017**