

Minister for Open Government
Gweinidog dros Llywodraeth Agored

DP/341/99-03



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Our ref: SF/CJ/0067/03

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Political membership of political parties (ASPBs)

You recently asked a series of questions about the registered membership of political parties of board members of Assembly sponsored public bodies (ASPBs) (WAQ22715; WAQ22716; WAQ22717; WAQ22719; WAQ22720; WAQ22721; WAQ22722).

In my reply I explained that information on appointees' membership of political parties is not collected. However all candidates for public appointment are asked to complete a question on political activity in their application form. A copy of the form they are asked to complete is at annex B.

This information has now been collated and is shown in the table at annex A.

You will see that, for a small minority of post holders, the information is not available. In two cases the post holder has indicated that they have been involved in political activity but have not specified the political party. There are also some ASPBs that either have no appointees in post at present or whose members are not appointed by the Welsh Assembly Government.

A copy of this letter is being placed in the Library.

Yours sincerely

Carwyn Jones/AM



BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning – Jane Davidson

Body	No of Appointments made by WAG	No declared political activity	Conservative	Labour	Lib-Dem	Plaid Cymru	Not specified	Information not available
Higher Education Funding Council for Wales	12	10		1		1		
National Council for Education and Training for Wales	11	9		1	1			
Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales	11	9		2				
Wales New Deal Task Force	14	12		2				
Total	48	40		6	1	1		

Minister for Environment - Sue Essex

Body	No of Appointments made by WAG	No declared political activity	Conservative	Labour	Lib-Dem	Plaid Cymru	Not specified	Information not available
Ancient Monuments Board for Wales	9	5						4
Countryside Council for Wales	12	6		1				5
Environment Agency Wales	2			2				
Historic Buildings Council for Wales	6	2						4
Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales	4	4						
Total	33	17		3				13

Minister for Health and Social Services - Jane Hutt

Body	No of Appointments made by WAG	No declared political activity	Conservative	Labour	Lib-Dem	Plaid Cymru	Not specified	Information not available
Advisory Panel on Substance Misuse	12	9		1				2
Care Council for Wales	20	14		5			1	
Social Services Inspectorate for Wales Advisory Group	0 ¹							
Welsh Committee for Professional Development of Pharmacy	0 ²							
Welsh Dental Committee	0 ²							
Welsh Medical Committee	0 ²							
Welsh Nursery and Midwifery Committee	0 ²							
Welsh Optometric Committee	0 ²							
Welsh Pharmaceutical Committee	0 ²							
Welsh Scientific Advisory Committee	0 ²							
All Wales Medicines Strategy Group	14	11		1				2
Total	46	34		7			1	4

¹ No appointees currently in post

² These appointments are made from area committees and the Minister has no involvement

Minister for Culture, Sport and Welsh Language - Jenny Randerson

Body	No of Appointments made by WAG	No declared political activity	Conservative	Labour	Lib-Dem	Plaid Cymru	Not specified	Information not available
Arts Council of Wales	14	8		1		4		1
Library and Information Services Council	8	5		1				2
National Library of Wales	4	2				1		1
National Museums and Galleries of Wales	6	5		1				
Sports Council for Wales	14	11						3
Welsh Language Board	11	7		1				3
Total	57	39		3		5		10

Minister for Finance, Local Government and Communities - Edwina Hart

Body	No of Appointments made by WAG	No declared political activity	Conservative	Labour	Lib-Dem	Plaid Cymru	Not specified	Information not available
Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales	3	2						1
Total	3	2						1

Minister for Rural Development and Wales Abroad - Michael German

Body	No of Appointments made by WAG	No declared political activity	Conservative	Labour	Lib-Dem	Plaid Cymru	Not specified	Information not available
Agricultural Dwelling House Advisory Committees [x 6]	0 ³							
Agricultural Wages Committees [x 6]	0 ³							
Hill Farming Advisory Sub-Committee for Wales	0 ³							
Independent Appeal Panel for Farmers	16	11						5
Total	16	11						5

Minister for Economic Development - Andrew Davies

Body	No of Appointments made by WAG	No declared political activity	Conservative	Labour	Lib-Dem	Plaid Cymru	Not specified	Information not available
Wales Tourist Board	7	5						2
Welsh Development Agency	13	9		3			1	
Welsh Industrial Development Advisory Board	7	6		1				
Total	27	20		4			1	2

³ No appointees currently in post

Annex B: Political activity question

All applicants for a public appointment should complete the question below.

This question is asked for two reasons:

- it enables the monitoring of political activity of candidates for a public appointment in so far as it is already in the public domain. Neither activity nor affiliation is a criterion for appointment (except where statute dictates specific representation);
- involvement in political activities enables individuals to gain and to demonstrate skills and experiences they may not otherwise have obtained. You may be asked about these if they are relevant to your application.

If you are successful, the information provided will be published with the announcement of your appointment.

Please indicate which of the following activities you have undertaken during the past five years by ticking the appropriate box and by providing details of your involvement. Name the party or body for which you have been active. If you have been or are an Independent or have sought or obtained office as a representative of a particular interest group, you should state this. You should tick all relevant categories.

- Obtained office as an Assembly Member, a Local Councillor, MP, MEP etc.
 Stood as a candidate for one of the above offices
 Spoken on behalf of a party or candidate
- Acted as a political agent
 Held office such as Chair, Treasurer or Secretary of a local branch of a party
 Canvassed on behalf of a party or helped at elections
 Undertaken any other political activity which you consider relevant
- Made a recordable donation to a political party¹
- None of the above activities apply

Details of involvement:

¹ The Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 requires the Electoral Commission to publish a register of recordable donations (donations from any individual totalling more than £5,000 in any calendar year, or more than £1,000 if made to a subsidiary accounting unit such as a constituency association, local branch, women's or youth organisation). These provisions became effective from 16 February 2001.

Name of Party for which activity undertaken:

NAME.....SIGNATURE.....

.....

DATE.....