

Dr Laura Ryan

I have been a doctor for 26 years and worked in the NHS for 23 years in Scotland. Over that time, I have seen first-hand, the impact high quality housing can have on a place and planning approach to the wellbeing of individuals and communities. I am impressed with the very person-centred approach Waverley Housing(WH) has, as well awareness as its valuable current, and future contribution to high quality housing and associated services. It is aligning its priorities with those of its tenants. I believe as an employer, that the workforce are recognised and valued as the principal resource. I have seen a very competent governance process in relation to operational, and critically, strategic planning. The Board has clear intent to deliver on climate sustainable targets. For these reasons, and my own personal interest in learning more about the functions and deliverables of the Registered Housing Landlord I chose to join the WH Board.

I was a Health Board Executive for over six years. I have a strong knowledge of strategic planning as well as operational delivery. I have been accountable for the provision of resilient, safe, person centred and effective services. Risk management and its key contribution to developing resilient and future proofing of any service is something I have delivered. I have direct experience as a doctor, of supporting people in a caring and structured way, so expectations are met, and outcomes are delivered, and measured. I have an innate curiosity for understanding, I believe I can use these transferrable skills to provide appropriate challenge, and support to the WH Board. I would like to be a champion for WH and share and celebrate its success.

I have observed a very clear commitment by WH as a registered social landlord to their clients. They have a strong ambition to develop services and high-quality housing. They demonstrate a transparent approach to planning, and I believe they take seriously the priorities of their tenant, and workforce in doing so. I have had a strong introduction to the Board and a warm welcome from Executive members. The induction process is robust. Digital ways of working, including the induction process have been clear and very useful.

I play the fiddle a few times a week, and perform in small venues with local bands, including ceilidhs. Recently, I have taken up a few more creative pursuits, including pottery and oil painting. I am from the South of Ireland, where my family still live, so I travel home to see them, as well as regularly hosting them in the beautiful Scottish Borders. I like to keep fit and go to the gym. I recently completed the Camino de Santiago, walking 66 miles in 6 days in Spain. I believe the outdoors is a real resource we can tap into, to help our wellbeing and we have such beautiful scenery around us.