

CONSULTATION TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITHOUT A COMPETITION: SPORTS WALES

The Commissioner for Public Appointments has been consulted under paragraph 3.3 of the Governance Code by the Minister for Social Services and Public Health 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 Minister suspended the Board of Sports Wales on 23 November and has today announced that members of the Board of Sports Wales are being reinstated except for the Chair and Vice Chair to enable allegations of misconduct against the latter to be investigated.

Against that background the Minister has decided to appoint Mr Lawrence Conway CB to be the interim Chair of Sports Wales for a period not exceeding one year to allow for the investigation to be undertaken.

Appointee

Lawrence Conway CB is a former Civil Servant who from 1968 has worked in various roles in the Welsh Office including a secondment to Cardiff Bay Development Corporation in the early 1990s as Assistant to the Chief Executive. Following his appointment Mr Conway led the division in the Welsh Office responsible for sponsoring a number of arms length bodies including the Welsh Development Agency. He was appointed Head of the Cabinet Secretariat and subsequently First Minister's Department in 1998 and served in that capacity until he retired in 2010.

Commissioner's response to the Consultation

The Commissioner for Public Appointments is content with the Minister's proposal to appoint Lawrence Conway CB, exceptionally, without holding a fair and open competition for the reasons she has set out.

**On behalf of the Commissioner for Public Appointments
February 2017**