

CLAIRE WARD

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Job title: Partner



PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a local government lawyer. I have 20 years of local government experience, having been monitoring officer and director of governance and legal services at Herefordshire Council, where I also served as acting deputy chief executive. Prior to taking up post in Herefordshire, I worked for Cumbria County Council.

I moved to Anthony Collins in March 2022 when the opportunity to work regionally and nationally occurred. I now support local authorities nationwide and act as a sounding board for council monitoring officers, chief executives and other senior officers on governance issues.

We have recently been instructed to support Childrens Commissioning Consortium Cymru to advise on the Welsh governments consultation on eliminating profit from the care sector. This has used my experience in children services and enabled me to appreciate the catalyst that co-operative principles could make to children's lives.

More widely, it has opened my eyes to the bigger role that co-operative thinking could play in local government where innovation and community led initiatives will make a difference to how services have been traditionally delivered. I like the fact that co-operation disrupts (or should disrupt) the usual approach and would like to be part of enabling councils to take the step into the unknown and see what they can achieve.

I see the role on the Values and Principles Board as enabling me, working with colleagues, to help to embed co-operative Vs and Ps in the hard-wiring of how Councils work, and so enabling them to do things differently and think outside the box! I see it as a learning opportunity to understand more about how the Network supports councils and influences policy making.

I want to positively support the CCIN and see this as an ideal opportunity to use my experience and knowledge as an officer in local government.

I am passionate about local government and would bring enthusiasm, drive and commitment to the work of the Board.