



**Sue Rossiter, BA; MSc** has been Chief Executive of the NFER for 4 years. Prior to that she was Norfolk's Deputy Director of Education, which followed a number of posts in Oxfordshire County Council and a brief spell in Capita. Sue's background is in mathematics and operational research.

Since joining NFER Sue has focussed on developing the range of work beyond traditional education areas and into children's services, and strengthening the links between NFER and local authorities – to better support the significant changes taking place at local level. She is passionate that NFER's work should be focussed on making a difference to practice and policy.



**Karl Napieralla OBE** is a native of the Afan Valley and spent his early career in Essex and then in Swansea before becoming Deputy Headteacher of Cwrt Sart Comprehensive where he subsequently became Headteacher. In 1995 he was appointed Assistant Director for Schools and Lifelong Learning in the newly formed Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, and following a period where he was Acting Director, he became

Corporate Director with responsibility for Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning in 2000.

Mr Napieralla has completed a major task of restructuring the Directorate bringing together Schools, Education and Lifelong Learning Services, with Leisure, Culture and Libraries. He was also responsible for setting up an Industrial Provident Society (IPS) 'Celtic Leisure' which now runs all Indoor Leisure facilities for the County Borough. From April 2006 he became the Authority's

Lead Director for Children with responsibility for the preparation and delivery of the Single Plan for Children.

He is a past Chair of the Association of Directors of Education Wales (ADEW) and serves on their Executive, as Chair of the ADEW Quality Assurance Group. In this role, he was involved in a number of national and international initiatives which included leading a delegation of Welsh Headteachers to Japan on behalf of the British Council; and represented ADEW and WAG at an ICSEI Conference in New Zealand.

He is currently the lead officer for Local Government in Wales in the development of the School Effectiveness Framework (the new National System for Education in Wales) and has recently represented his colleagues on the ICSEI Conference in January 2010 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

He is a board member of the Careers Wales West and serves on a number of local and national committees as well as being an advisor for the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)

**Robert Smith** is Head of Research and Evaluation at the NFER Welsh Unit in Swansea. He is a graduate of the University of Wales Swansea where he gained a BA, PhD and PGCE qualifications. An experienced educational researcher he has undertaken several projects with a focus on raising attainment and supporting children and young people in Wales to fulfil their potential. These include an on-going NFER-funded project on *Prompting Educational Attainment in Wales*, and several reviews of secondary education for individual LEAs, including Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, and Merthyr Tydfil.

**Liz Phillips** is a Research Officer at the NFER Welsh Unit in Swansea. She is a graduate of psychology, she has also taught the subject at degree level. Liz specialised in forensic psychology and psychopathology during her final degree year and has gained practical legal experience in the probation service and in court agency work.

Liz's research interests include offender rehabilitation, management and treatment, children and young people's voice and entitlements, public service redesign and improvement, quantitative and qualitative relationships between individual and group characteristics and educational success, and the youth justice educational policy agenda.



**Brett Pugh** is the Chief Education Officer, Newport City Council, since June 2007, previously Director of Education at Blaenau-Gwent.

Brett graduated from Warwick University with a BA Hons Sociology, he gained a PGCE, and in 1983 M.Ed in Music Education. He continued his studies at the University of Glamorgan gaining an M.Sc in Education Management. He obtained his PhD at Cardiff University which focussed on Education Policy Implementation. His teaching experiences range from Further Education lecturing, through secondary teaching to being a primary headteacher. His particular area of interest is the link between pupil and student well being and attainment.



David Egan is Professor of Education at the University of Wales Institute Cardiff, where he is Director of the Centre for Applied Education Research. During his career in education he has been successively a University researcher, senior research fellow and lecturer in History, a secondary school teacher, an Open University Tutor, a teacher trainer, Head of a University School of Education, a registered inspector of secondary schools and an educational researcher.

From 2005 to 2007 he served the First Minister and the Cabinet of the Welsh Assembly Government as their Special Adviser for Education. He specialises in educational research, policy

and practice in the distinctive educational context of Wales, but his interests and networks are UK and world- wide. He is an Academic Associate of iNet: the Network for International Transformation in Education and has recently acted as an Adviser to the Ontario Ministry for Education.

In recent years he has carried out research projects for the Nuffield Foundation, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, the Department for Social Justice and the Economic Research Advisory Panel of the Welsh Assembly Government, the General Teaching Council for Wales and a number of local education authorities in Wales.

He is a Senior Policy Adviser to the Welsh Assembly Government for the Development of the School Effectiveness Framework, is a member of the Ministerial Monitoring Group for the Foundation Phase and is currently chairing, on behalf of the Minister for Education, a review of 8-14 Education in Wales.



**Dr Simon Gallacher** is the Acting Head of the Research, Evaluation and Information Department at NFER. He worked for six years at the Training and Development Agency for Schools (TDA), modelling and managing the teacher training market in England, and was subsequently the Head of Education at The Wellcome Trust. In these roles, he has been responsible for policy development and implementation liaising with and briefing CEOs, Vice Chancellors, senior civil service staff and Ministers.