

David Wilkin (Chairman)

David is Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at the University of Manchester. He was the founding Director of the National Primary Care Research and Development Centre and has published research on many aspects of health care delivery in the NHS. He also has a long standing interest in research in gerontology and the delivery of health and social care services to older people. Although retired from health services research, David remains involved in the NHS as Vice Chair of South Manchester Primary Care Trust.

He is also Chair of the Governing Body of a local primary school and a Justice of the Peace with Manchester City Magistrates Court.

David brings to the Board a rich background of experience in the direction and management of research, leadership in the public sector and health care delivery.

John Simmons – Vice Chair

John Simmons worked for 37 years in Social Services in Derbyshire. His work in the early years of Social Services focussed almost entirely in the area of Child and Family Care. His career went on to involve the management of Adult Services and particularly Older People Services. He became the Deputy Director of Social Services and Head of Adult Services (including Older People) in 1992 until his retirement in 2004.

Commissioned by Derbyshire, he undertook a review into all matters relating to Older People. It was at this stage that he became involved with BGOP believing fervently that older people do not need telling what is required and the principles held by BGOP reflect his views that older people should be involved at all levels of governance.

As well as being Chair of a local forum in Derbyshire he is a member of Derbyshire OPAG, Vice-Chair of OPAG East Midlands and an Individual Representative on the Transformational Government (Older People Services) Customer Group Team. As a result of this position he has been co-opted to membership of OPAG UK. John is a fervent believer in the value of Intergenerational Practice.

Dave Barlow

David worked for the Audit Commission for 15 years, examining the management and value for money of a wide range of public services during this time. This included work in education, health, social services, housing and police and production of a number of national policy reports for the Commission.

He has extensive experience of the governance of voluntary organisations through being at various times chairman of a primary school governing body, local councillor, member of an area health authority and housing association board member including chairing the Audit Committee of a large housing association.

David brings to the Board a deep understanding of the drivers in the voluntary sector and of delivering value for money

Sally Chandler

Sally is a Registered General Nurse, specialised in gerontology. She has also held a number of roles in both the voluntary and statutory sectors and so has wide-ranging experience in project development across all sectors. She has significant experience in community development and has had considerable success in developing innovative and varied engagement mechanisms.

In her current role as Programme Manager for the Valuing Older People initiative based in Manchester Joint Health Unit, she manages a number of programmes that have contributed to the national recognition of the Valuing Older People approach to improving quality of life for Manchester's older residents. The objectives of the programme closely reflect those of the Beth Johnson Foundation and Sally is firmly committed to challenging the traditional 'needs-based' model of supporting older people. She brings to the Board her experience of building effective and proactive initiatives which impact on the lives of older Mancunians, their families and communities

Eileen Fairhurst

Eileen Fairhurst is a sociologist and Professor of Health and Ageing Policy Studies at Manchester Metropolitan University. She has researched and published extensively on the sociology of ageing. Her studies have included an ethnography of rehabilitation, becoming and being older in Greater Manchester, men and women in mid-life, meanings of home in later life and more recently has led a collaborative project with Salford University and the University of Northumbria on *Older People, Regeneration and Health and Wellbeing*. In September 2008 she was made a Foundation Fellow of the British Society of Gerontology for her achievements and contribution to gerontology.

Alongside her research interest she brings longstanding experience of governance in the public and third sectors. She currently chairs Salford Primary Care Trust. She has written a number of ethnographies of policy making. She was awarded an Honorary DSc by the University of Salford in 2007 and an MBE in the 2008 New Year Honours for her contribution to the NHS.

Kalyani Gandhi-Rhodes

Kalyani currently works as an independent consultant in the public and third sector with a particular interest in ethnicity, age/generations and related issues. She was previously the Managing Director of PRIAE, The Policy Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity.

Kalyani has over 15 years experience of planning and developing specialist housing and social care services for BME older people, previously as Director at Eastwards Trust, a specialist voluntary sector agency for South Asian older people in London and then at Hanover HA, a leading national provider of retirement housing.

She has been a board member at ASRA HA and Springboard HA and now at Abbeyfield UK and participated extensively on national and regional strategic forums for older people/communities via agencies/groups like the GLA's Black Londoners Forum, The Centre for Policy on Ageing, The National Housing Federation Supported Housing committee, Newham Local Strategic Partnership amongst others. She has been chair of the (HOPDEV) BME working group and is also a member of the Housing and Older Peoples Development Group (HOPDEV), a key reference group to government/DCLG on Housing and ageing policy developments, instrumental in advising on the development of the National Housing Strategy for an Ageing Society

She also has a strong interest in social development in India and is working to develop exchanges in practice and learning between the UK/EU and India in addressing the challenges of aging, deprivation and economic growth.

Viv Mckee

Viv has worked throughout her life in youth and community education. Her roles have included direct work with young people and adults; and developing and managing local authority services. Viv worked with central government on the policy and practice of work with young people; this included supporting the set up of a number of charities and national initiatives. During this time, she worked with the Beth Johnson Foundation and other organisations on intergenerational approaches. Viv currently works freelance in support of voluntary organisations, infrastructure bodies and governments in the UK and in Europe. She is a specialist in management and organisational development and in strategies to secure participation in decision-making by under-represented groups.

Elaine Willis

Elaine has run her own consultancy business for the last 12 years. Her clients are mainly within the voluntary sector and in public service organisations at national and regional levels. Her consultancy skills include service reviews, business planning, coaching support to managers, team development, charity governance, approaches to user involvement and volunteer programme development.

Elaine worked for a short time in the Home Office as an Advisor to Make A Difference, a national volunteering programme, and previous to that was Deputy Director of what is now Volunteering England. She currently sits on the Advisory Group to the Institute for Volunteering Research.

Based in Sheffield, Elaine brings to the Board a strong interest in diversity issues and has personal experience of older people's access to health and social care through the part time care she gives to her parents.