



Article “Meet our Commissioners: Lesley Bratch”

The Jersey Care Commission (the Commission) is dedicated to providing independent assurance, promoting best practice and improving health and social care outcomes for the people of Jersey. Our Commissioners play a vital role in achieving this objective.

Lesley was appointed as a Commissioner in October 2021. She is particularly aware of the importance of seeking the views of those using and providing services, as well as those involved in the planning and development of services. Over the past 18 months, Lesley has played a full and active role on the board promoting the Commission's objectives.

Personally, Lesley has always had a strong connection to Jersey's health and social care sector through her daughter who has been a user of these services since birth. Due to this experience, Lesley is passionate about being an advocate for better care and is dedicated to being a voice for everyone who uses the Island's health and social care services.

Lesley has a long history of volunteering with charities dedicated to working with the disabled community in Jersey, including Enable Jersey, Jersey MENCAP and the Youth Inclusion Project. In 2013, Lesley formed the support and lobbying group 'SNAP' (Special Needs Advisory Panel) Through this Lesley experienced the importance of local advocacy and how things can be changed for the better. 'SNAP' was designed to give a voice to service users and their families, and in doing so was able to support many new initiatives, including the introduction of the hospital passport for people with learning disabilities, the introduction of a learning disability liaison nurse into the hospital and changes to the impairment component of the income support law.

Through Lesley's daughter's complex needs the family has been a regular user of various health and social care services throughout their lives. This is Lesley's strength when it comes to what she brings to the role as a Commissioner. She understands intimately how these services operate from a user perspective.

Glenn Houston, Chair of the Care Commission said 'Lesley plays an important and equal role in the Commission, bringing to the Boardroom a highly valued local perspective on matters that impact people who use services and their carers'.

Commenting on what the Jersey Care Commission brings to the people of Jersey, Lesley said

“The Commission's ethos is to be open and transparent and reflect the needs of all Islanders who receive care. The Commission provides an important service to the Island. I look forward to more people understanding the Commission's role in promoting best practice in a wide range of health and social care settings.”