

# Ideas that are changing Wales

Achievements & Activities in 2014/15

SEFYDLIAD  
**bevan**  
FOUNDATION



# Our vision

is of a fair, prosperous and sustainable Wales.

# Our mission

is to generate 100 new ideas to change Wales and improve people's lives.



## Who are we?

The Bevan Foundation is an independent, politically-neutral charity and social enterprise, set up in 2001.

## Why are we needed?

Wales faces many challenges, now and in the years ahead:

- nearly 1 in 4 people lives in poverty today;
- there are marked inequalities between some groups of people who face real barriers to getting on in life;
- too many lives are blighted by ill-health – about 1 in 8 people say poor health limits their daily lives a lot.

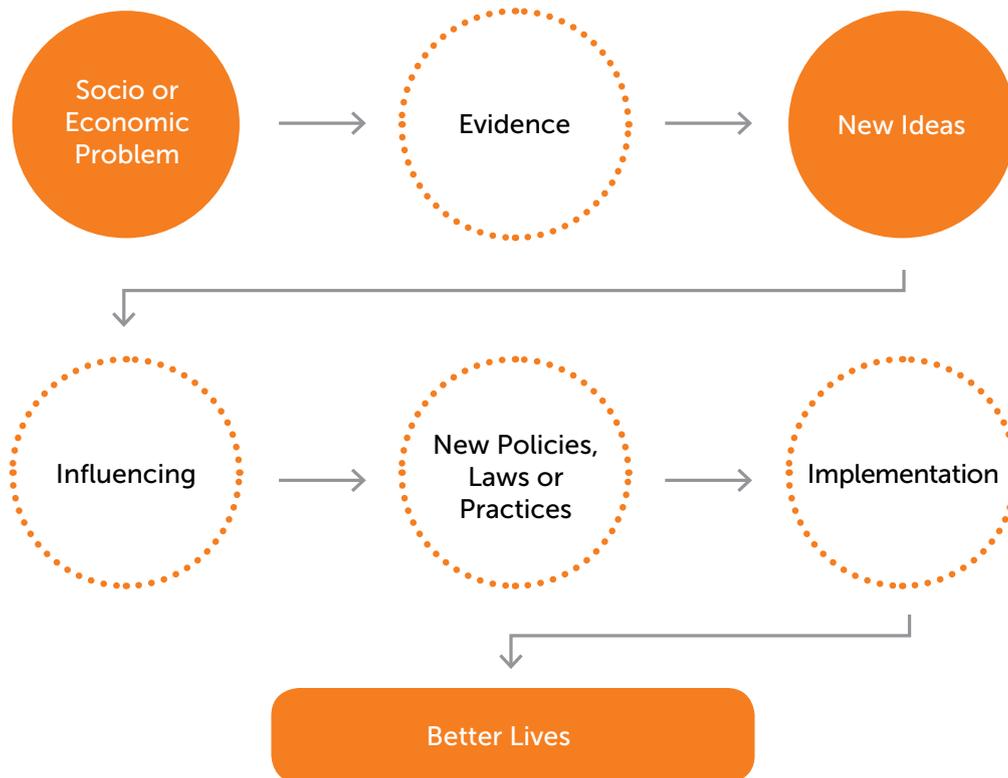
It does not have to be like this. Wales could and should be fair, prosperous and sustainable.

We believe that the right policies and action could eradicate many social and economic problems to create a better life for everyone.

# What do we do?

We are unique in seeking effective, evidence-based solutions to the challenges Wales faces. We develop ideas for change through:

- using robust evidence – including the views of ordinary people and government statistics;
- exchanging knowledge and expertise - at seminars, lectures and online;
- generating innovative solutions - through creative thinking and discussion;
- influencing the public, private and third sectors - through briefings, media comment and debate.





**CHANGING WALES****in 2014/15**

Over the year we made a real difference, generating several major reports and articles, organising high-profile conferences and seminars, and publishing valuable resources on our new-look website.

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**9** new reports

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**40** printed articles

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**56** online articles

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**500** conference and seminar delegates

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approx.

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**25,000** unique website users

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**KEY THEME:**

# Reducing poverty

- 700,000 people in Wales live in poverty – 1 in 4 people.
- More than half the people of working age on a poverty-level income live in working families.
- Poverty seriously affects life chances, such as increasing the likelihood of having a low birth weight baby, reducing attainment at school and reducing how long someone lives.

**Reducing poverty was our leading theme over the year. We made a difference in 2014/15 by:**

- shaping the recommendations of the National Assembly for Wales' inquiry into poverty and Assembly debates;
- prompting schools, colleges and community learning providers to change their policies and practices for children in poverty;
- deepening understanding of poverty and its effects on individual, family and community lives amongst the public and stakeholders.

**Our work included:**

- keynote contributions from thought-leaders such as Prof. Sir John Hills, Prof. Jane Millar and Peter Kelly;
- the experiences of leading educational practitioners working with disadvantaged children;
- high-impact reports and articles which challenged conventional thinking about poverty.

**Opposite:**  
Prof. Sir John Hills speaking on 'Good Times, Bad Times - the Welfare Myth of Them and Us'.

*"I found it a very useful event and thought that the level of engagement between speakers and attendees was much better than other similar events that I've attended."*

**Delegate Feedback,  
Poverty and Education Network.**

**Bevan Foundation Director Victoria Winckler (right) gives evidence to an Assembly inquiry.**





Half of delegates who attended our seminars on poverty and education said that they had made some changes to their policies or practices as a result of participating.

**KEY THEME:**

# Equality and human rights

*Whenever I raise the issue of women's inequality today I'm asked about the research and data to back it up. I'm delighted that WEN is working with the Bevan Foundation - it will support action and change-making to enable women across Wales to achieve equality and thrive in all aspects of their lives.*

**Lizz Roe, Director WEN Wales January 2015**

Delegates enjoy the briefings for Women's Equality Network Wales.



- On average a woman earns £2 an hour less than a man – equivalent to losing £170,000 over her working life.
- A woman has a 50:50 chance of being an unpaid carer by the age of 59.
- Disabled people are less than half as likely to have a job as non-disabled people.

## **In 2014/15 we helped to increase equality by:**

- prompting action to address the needs of women who are unpaid carers;
- encouraging action to reduce poverty amongst women in Wales;
- shaping the future priorities of the Equality and Human Rights Commission in Wales.

We did this by raising the profile of inequality in Wales and by informing policy and action to close the gaps between different groups of people.

## **Our work included:**

- four authoritative briefings on Women's Equality Now, for Women's Equality Network Wales, covering unpaid care, poverty, devolution and diversity;
- organising six preliminary discussions on 'Is Wales Fairer?' than in 2010, with the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

**KEY THEME:**

# Health and social care

- The leading causes of death in Wales are cancer, circulatory and respiratory diseases.
- The incidence of cancer is 22.5% higher in the most deprived areas than in the least.
- Hospital admissions in the last year of life account for one quarter of all NHS bed days.

Our findings raised awareness of the value of palliative care and contributed to improving health and health care services for people in the last year of life.

We did this through our flagship report on death and dying in Wales for Marie Curie Wales, which highlighted the urgent need for more specialist palliative care and the benefits to the NHS of providing it. We also raised the profile of the founding principles of the NHS through the 2014 Bevan Prize for Health and Wellbeing.

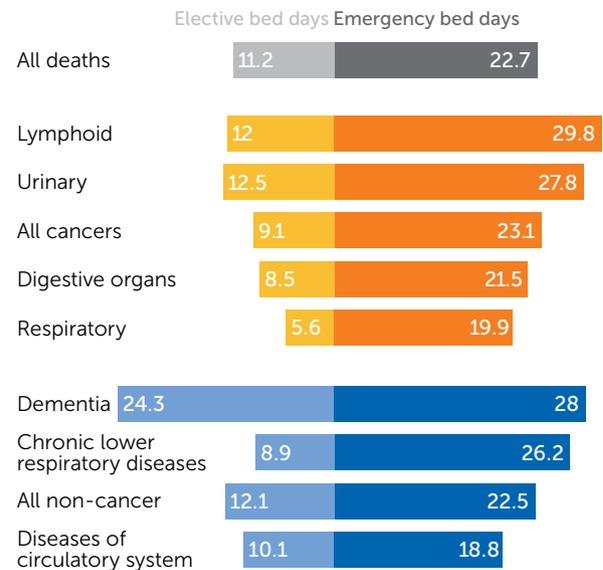
Baroness Ilora Finlay of Llandaff (left) presents Professor Dame Carol Black (right) with her Lifetime Achievement award.



## Death and dying in Wales

Each year approximately 32,000 people in Wales die. The number of bed days and access to specialist palliative care in the last year of life varies considerably for both **cancer** and **non-cancer** diagnosis.

## The number of bed days varies by diagnosis:



The average number of bed days per person in the last year of life varies considerably by diagnosis



# How you have helped

The Bevan Foundation is reliant on charitable funding and on contracts to survive and preserve our independence. Our subscribers, donors and those who commission projects help to bring about the changes we all want. We are extremely grateful to them all.

**Where the money came from 2014/15**



All together we received £139,283 in 2014/15.

**Where the money went 2014/15**



Over 2014/15 we spent £145,505.

# How you can help

The people of Wales face huge challenges over the next five years:

- a lagging economy and shortage of jobs;
- a housing crisis in some areas;
- gaps in skills and qualifications, especially for young people;
- extreme weather associated with climate change;
- rising poverty especially severe poverty;
- insecurity of energy and water supply;
- growing numbers with long-term health conditions;
- rapid technological change.

We are uniquely well-placed to find innovative solutions because of our expertise, and independence from all vested interests.

Help us to improve the lives of the people of Wales by:

- subscribing to our outstanding membership scheme, which offers exclusive benefits to individuals and organisations;
- making a one-off donation;
- grant-funding a key project;
- sponsoring a debate or project.

To find out more or discuss how you can contribute to ideas that change Wales please visit [www.bevanfoundation.org](http://www.bevanfoundation.org) or email [info@bevanfoundation.org](mailto:info@bevanfoundation.org)



## *Ideas That Change Wales*



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