

IRISS APPOINTS NEW CHAIR

The Board of Trustees and the staff group of IRISS (Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services) are delighted to announce the appointment of Peter Macleod as the new Chair of the Board. Peter is currently Director of Social Work in Renfrewshire and brings a wealth of experience from both a local and national level. He was President of the Association of Directors of Social Work (now Social Work Scotland) in 2012, has been instrumental in commissioning local research on outcomes for children, and is involved in a number of national strategy groups. He is ideally placed to lead the organisation as it embraces the implications and demands of integration. Peter succeeds Sandy Cameron who led IRISS and its predecessor SIESWE since its inception, skillfully steering the organisation from a university base and a focus on social work education to a third sector partner supporting all sectors of the social services workforce.

Peter Macleod commented: 'I am delighted to have been offered the position of Chair of IRISS. It is a real privilege to be involved with such an eminent research and innovation team with a strong national and international reputation. I would pay tribute to the outgoing chair, Professor Sandy Cameron and the Board and staff team for leading the organisation to success in recent years. I hope that my contribution will assist in further developing IRISS and I look forward to working with the Board, staff members and partners in this objective.'

The Director of IRISS, Alison Petch, added 'On behalf of my colleagues I would like to say how pleased we are that Peter will be our new Chair. His contribution will be invaluable as we support the workforce to deliver positive outcomes for individuals through innovation, creativity and the use of evidence. In particular we look forward to his wisdom as we develop our next three year strategy for 2015-8.'

Notes for Editors

The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (IRISS) is a charity **organisation** that promotes better outcomes for people who use social services in Scotland. It works to enhance the capacity and capability of the social services workforce to access and make use of knowledge and research for service innovation and improvement.