

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Llais unveils new initiative to amplify Welsh language voices in shaping health and social care in Wales.**

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- *Llais has established a collaborative partnership with Yr Urdd, Merched y Wawr, Mudiad Meithrin and Mudiad Ffermwyr Ifanc Cymru.*
- *It will enable people of different ages and different backgrounds to use the medium of Welsh and be a part of making health and social services better for them and their loved ones.*
- *It is another step forward for Llais in promoting the rights and expectations of the diverse range of people who live in our communities.*

Llais has created a collaborative partnership with Yr Urdd, Merched y Wawr, Mudiad Meithrin and Mudiad Ffermwyr Ifanc Cymru.

The initiative will focus on bringing Welsh speaking voices into the conversation around health and social care services in Wales and aims to create a bridge that enables Welsh speakers from different backgrounds and localities to be involved in shaping services that directly impact their lives.

This initiative is part of Llais' mission to foster open dialogue between the public, decision makers, and service providers, and this collaborative partnership is an important step in its commitment to including all voices in the conversation.

The organisations will work together to create more opportunities to collect the opinions of individuals through the medium of Welsh across the various communities of Wales to improve the health and social care they receive.

Professor Medwin Hughes, Chair of Llais noted: “Establishing such a partnership between these national organisations recognises the linguistic and cultural diversity of Wales and its significance in shaping health and social care services. Llais was established to be an inclusive independent body that works in partnership to promote the rights and expectations of people who live in our communities throughout Wales and this partnership embodies this approach. I look forward to more developments such as this in coming months.”

Sian Lewis, Director of Yr Urdd said: “Yr Urdd is proud of the opportunity to ensure that the voices of young people in Wales are heard when refining health and social care. This is a great platform to make sure that there is an opportunity for young people to offer their opinion on various important topics.”

Tegwen Morris, National Director of Merched y Wawr noted: “Merched y Wawr places great importance on developing well-being opportunities. This collaboration will ensure that the voices of our members are heard and can influence relevant developments. We look forward to working with Llais to develop the work.”

Gwenllian Lansdowne, Chief Executive, Mudiad Meithrin noted: “Ensuring opportunities to find out the opinions of individuals who are involved in the health and well-being of children’s early years development is important to Mudiad Meithrin. That is why collaboration with Llais is important. We look forward to developing a partnership that will provide further opportunities of working together.”

Welcoming the partnership, Mared Rand Jones, Chief Executive of Mudiad Ffermwyr Ifanc Cymru stated: “We are proud of the opportunity to work with Llais. Listening to the diverse voices of our members across Wales is important, especially when considering various health and care issues in our rural communities.”

About:

*Llais was established in April this year as an independent statutory body to give the people of Wales a much greater voice in the planning and provision of health and social care services across Wales.*

*Llais believes in a healthier Wales where people receive the health and social care services they need in a way that works best for them.*

*Collecting real life stories and feedback about using NHS and social care services will help Llais develop and improve services across Wales.*

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