

Mike Evans - biography

Mike took on the role as Independent Chair for the Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board in September 2009. He is also now Independent Chair of Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board.

Cumbria has over recent years developed a strong Board through effective partnership working. As Cumbria's Chair, Mike recognises the importance of sustaining this early work, and his role in supporting the building a firmer strategic and financial footing for the work on safeguarding with partners.

Following an early career working in forestry, work with single homeless people in Scotland initially stimulated Mike's interest in social work and he eventually trained as a social worker in Aberdeen. He has since had an extensive career in adult and children's services, working both in Scotland and England. He has held a number of senior posts including the position of Director of Health and Social Policy/Modernisation – a joint appointment - working for both Social Services and the NHS. He has led work on early intervention and prevention for the Department of Health and more recently was the Strategic Director Health and Wellbeing for Manchester.

Active in his spare time, he likes climbing mountains and has done so in the Himalayas and the Alps but says nothing compares to a good day on the West Coast of Scotland or in the Cairngorms or undertaking cycling trips with family and friends. He is also a keen DIYer and has renovated a derelict holiday cottage in the Scottish Borders. He says his only fear is that someone will try to make him spend his holidays relaxing on the beach!