

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to welcome you on behalf of the Law Society to the Annual Lecture.

I am privileged to chair this session this year - as I grew up in the town and received my education at Ysgol Dewi Sant and the Boys' Grammar School. It is very pleasing to be able to take pride in the special welcome and enthusiasm that the National Festival has stimulated in Carmarthenshire. I was here at the 2000 Eisteddfod and from roaming the field today it is amazing how the Festival has evolved to offer something to everyone's taste. A bit of a challenge but the large and enthusiastic crowd prove that the offer is attractive.

The Law Society Lecture is well established on the Thursday afternoon of the Eisteddfod and it is good to see a large audience here - familiar and new faces. All of us are keen to hear what our guest lecturer has to say.

Elisabeth Jones is the Director of Legal Services of the National Assembly for Wales. Her family hails from the vicinity of Newcastle Emlyn but she

grew up in Mountain Ash in a monolingual English-speaking household. Elisabeth studied French and German at Oxford before turning to the law. After twenty years working in the City and in France for the Council of Europe she returned to Wales at the time of Devolution first with the Welsh Government's Legal Services and since 2012 in her current post.

Her topic is: What do we care about clarity? The Assembly's current and future legislative competence. Please welcome Elisabeth Jones.....

In Closing

Thank you very much Elisabeth for a powerful and timely speech. You have given us enough to chew over and stimulate several debates and discussions over the coming months.

I am sure that all of us here also echo your wish of creating a new language for the law in Wales – one that will help our citizens to understand their rights and the laws that have been drawn up in order to create a worthy society for them.

And now there is an invitation and welcome for you all to come for tea and gossip!