



Professor Ilora Finlay

The Baroness Finlay of Llandaff
Professor of Palliative Medicine
Cardiff University

Biography

Professor Ilora Finlay is the Honorary Professor of Palliative Medicine in Cardiff University. She is the first Palliative Medicine consultant in Wales (1987) and Lead Palliative Care Clinician (Wales): set up 7-day services with consultant advice 24/7, with patient/carer feedback & audit of end of life care.

From September 2015, Professor Finlay is appointed to chair the National Mental Capacity Forum for Ministry of Justice and Department of Health. Currently, she is the Chairman of National Council for Palliative Care from 2015. She is also the President of the Chartered Society for Physiotherapy, the National Vice President of Marie Curie Cancer Care and Co-Chair of Living & Dying Well, an independent think-tank on end of life issues. She is also an elected member of BMA ethics committee.

Previously, she was the Past President of British Medical Association 2014-15, the President of the Royal Society of Medicine, Visiting Johanna Beijtel Professor in Groningen University, the Netherlands and Honorary Professor Melbourne University, Australia. She was awarded the Welsh Woman of the Year 1996-97, 2008 'Woman Peer of the Year' and 2007 Parliamentary Charity Champion. Professor Finlay set up the internationally renowned Cardiff Diploma in Palliative Medicine (now e-learning MSc) and chaired Royal College of General Practitioners Commission on Medical Generalism. Founding Fellow of Learned Society of Wales.

Professor Finlay is a Crossbench Peer since 2001. She is active in tobacco control (tobacco advertising ban, smoking in public places, smoking in cars with children present ban, standardised packaging of tobacco) and children's rights. She restored the post of Chief Coroner. She chaired Science & Technology Committee Allergy inquiry. She also served on Assisted Dying for the Terminally Ill Committee and took through sunbed regulation and handling of complaints by the NHS Ombudsman to both become Acts of Parliament.

Currently, she is taking the Access to Palliative Care Bill through Parliament and is a member of the Select Committee on the Built Environment.