

Munwar Hussain

NHS Tayside

(Voice off screen) How do you think a non-executive board member can begin to lead on health inequalities in that agenda?

(Munwar Hussain) I think ensure that it's visible, so not just pay lip service. Because of the way committees are usually governed, we have papers, covering papers, to ensure that health inequalities is actually a constant within that. The organisation is just now working on an integrated clinical strategy and ensuring that health inequalities is actually not just an ad hoc, but actually confident throughout this strategy for the organisation as well. And part of that has being obviously visible, but also questioning and ensuring that you're advocating for health inequalities. That's something I think the non-exec director is a real critical role around.

So, as well as that within the board and committee settings - championing areas, so if there's good practice going on making sure that you raise that within the board meetings or committee meetings. And visibly going out. I've had the opportunity as part of some of my roles to visit communities and visit local community settings and that really enriches your experience and allows you to bring back more knowledge, so you're actually advocating or questioning from a knowledge or evidence perspective.

I think there's a lot that a non-executive can do and it's not about just the traditional constructively challenging, but actually that opportunity to observe good practice and engage with a wide variety of stakeholders as well as communities that are maybe challenged.