



Dorset Advocacy

Annual Review

2016 – 2017



Letter from the Chair

by Graham Willets

I was honoured to be re-elected Chair in October 2016, and I am pleased that in the intervening period, the Board and the Charity have both gone from strength to strength.

Two highlights stand out in this reporting year. Firstly, Mike and his Leadership Team have grown into their responsibilities; the Board invested in a Leadership Development Programme for the CEO and Management Team and I believe we are already reaping the rewards of doing this.

Secondly, we won the Pan-Dorset Advocacy tender in conjunction with our trusted partner, Help and Care, adopting a similar collaborative approach to that significant task to that followed in the previous year's successful tendering.

In recognition of the growing demand on our services and the increasing pressure of work on staff and volunteers, we have established a "Health and Wellbeing" committee which has developed an Action Plan and begun to implement it. Two new trustees with significant HR experience will be an invaluable new input into the agenda of this most important group of managers, staff and volunteers. The work of this committee adds to that being undertaken by the Finance and Business Development committees.

We have adopted an important policy on Partnership working and identified the criteria for when working with other organisations best serves our beneficiaries. We are honoured to be able to work with all our partners, who add significantly to the quality and quantity of work that we are able to carry out.

Last year I wrote that I was convinced we had the right Chief Executive and a talented team to take us forward; this year has shown that my conviction was justified and I would like to thank them, all staff, volunteers and trustees for their tireless contributions to our welfare and fortunes. The charity sector faces ongoing significant financial and other challenges in a period of continuing austerity, but I do not think we have ever been better equipped as an organisation to rise to those challenges and serve our beneficiaries.

Chief Executive's Report

by Mike Pochin

Welcome to Dorset Advocacy's Annual Review for 2017. The past year has flown by, and there are many exciting achievements to celebrate.

At the end of 2016, we tendered with our partners at Help and Care for the Pan-Dorset Advocacy service starting April 2017. Although we already had extensive experience of delivering Care Act and Issues-Based advocacy across Dorset, we decided to design a new and improved service that is streamlined, responsive, and makes the best use of our advocates' knowledge and skills. I am delighted to report that our tender was successful, and that in its first 3 months of service, our scheme helped nearly 250 people.

Project Manager Julie Moverley and the team have done a great job in mobilising such a large service so quickly.

During the past year, we have benefited from consultancy from Paul Fredericks and colleagues at Eastside Primetimers, arranged with funding from Big Potential. This has helped us to investigate and start to develop new services that will add value to our core advocacy work, whilst reducing our dependence on local authority contracts.

The coming year will see the start of a Dorset Advocacy fundraising campaign. We already receive a significant number of donations from people who are delighted with our work, and from other supporters; we now want to approach a wider audience, and engage their support for our work in the years ahead.

As I write we are awaiting the outcome of several bids to secure the future of our Dorset Macmillan Advocacy work. This ground-breaking scheme recruits volunteers who have themselves experienced cancer, and matches them to people who are experiencing the challenges of cancer now. We have a lot of evidence that this approach brings unique benefits. If you would like to volunteer, or to help us to secure the future of this work, do please contact me.



Our Advocacy Projects

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA)

IMCA is a legal requirement, for people facing a change of accommodation or serious medical treatment, *and* who do not have an appropriate person (eg. family) to support them.

Care Act and General Advocacy

Advocacy support in Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset, including with Local Authority assessments, reviews, and support planning. In Partnership with Help and Care.

Macmillan Advocacy

Macmillan Advocates support people aged 50+ who are affected by cancer. In Partnership with Help and Care.

NHS Complaints

Independent assistance for anybody who wishes to make a complaint to the NHS in Dorset.

Appropriate Adult

Volunteers supporting vulnerable adults in Dorset Police's custody suites.

Family Carers Support

Groups, information and advocacy for carers in Bournemouth and Poole.

Continuing Healthcare support

Understanding Continuing Healthcare funding is not always easy. Advocates help people with the application and/or an appeal. Also out-of-area CHC advocacy visits.

PA Register

A service matching Personal Assistants with people who want to employ their own carers. In partnership with Ansbury.

Dementia Advocacy and Memory Records

Specialist Advocacy support for people with Dementia and their carers.

Experts by Experience

Our team of Experts are people with learning disabilities, who visit a range of CCG-funded placements.

Shared Lives Reviews

Visits and reports, to listen to the experiences of people in Shared Lives placements in Poole.

Direct Payments Advice and Guidance

We help people to consider, obtain, and manage Direct Payments. Help is given over the phone and face-to-face.

Memory recording makes a difference!

By Edward Lander, Volunteer



Dorset Advocacy's memory recording project enables people with dementia to keep their precious memories forever. Advocate Sonya Threse has been working with dementia sufferer Joyce, to create a memory record; the story of Joyce's life, which she can remember in vivid detail.

"I joined the RAF when I was 18," she recalls. "I said I wouldn't leave home until I got somewhere to live, a wage packet and a job. And then there was a big poster: Kitchener said ... 'we need you!' And that's when I joined the RAF and met my husband."

The book helps when Joyce is upset or disoriented. Joyce said "It's nice to be able to use the photos just to slowly ... put it into focus". The sessions with the advocate have been a welcome break from daily life.

The memory record also gives her carers a better understanding of who Joyce is and what is important to her. This is particularly useful when it becomes less easy for a person with Dementia to communicate their feelings.

When we first met to write this article, Joyce spoke in short, polite sentences. She had difficulty answering questions, but as soon as she opened her memory record, Joyce suddenly became animated, recalling moments of her adventure-filled experiences –in vivid, humorous detail.

"We've left some pages blank, haven't we?" says her daughter Carole. "We've got your hundredth birthday to look forward to."

"You speak for yourself," says Joyce. "I don't look further than tomorrow."

Financial Summary

Trustees

(at September 2017)

Graham Willetts (Chair)

John Smith

Christopher Kippax

Frances Stevens

Susan Oliver

Richard Wills

Charity Number:

1096040

Company Number:

04614863

Date Registered :

8th February 2003

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Notes	£	£	2017 £	2016 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies		7,153	-	7,153	3,370
Charitable activities	4	83,437	945,856	1,029,293	982,454
Other trading activities - room hire		867	-	867	2,600
Investment income - bank interest		22	-	22	28
Total		91,479	945,856	1,037,335	988,452
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	5	77,142	1,002,207	1,079,349	954,886
Total		77,142	1,002,207	1,079,349	954,886
Net income		14,337	(56,351)	(42,014)	33,566
Transfers between funds	11	(3,498)	3,498	-	-
Net movement in funds		10,839	(52,853)	(42,014)	33,566
Reconciliation of funds					
Funds brought forward		90,530	70,330	160,860	127,294
Funds carried forward	11/12	101,369	17,477	118,846	160,860

Thank you to our funders:

Dorset CCG
Dorset County Council
Bournemouth Borough Council
Borough of Poole
Macmillan Cancer Support
Alzheimer's Society
Local Volunteering Fund
WDDC Social Inclusion Fund
Help Through Crisis Dorset

Thanks also to our Treasurer:

John Smith

and our Finance Officer:

Eric Henson

Accounts were approved by
the trustees on 12th
September 2017

*The full version of our annual financial report is available
from our office (address on next page) or online at:
www.charitycommission.gov.uk*

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2017

		2017		2016	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7		10,531		13,678
Current assets					
Debtors	8	62,639		53,431	
Cash at bank and in hand		106,289		162,526	
Total current assets		<u>168,928</u>		<u>215,957</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(60,613)</u>		<u>(68,775)</u>	
Net current assets			108,315		147,182
Net assets	12		<u>118,846</u>		<u>160,860</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted income funds	11		101,369		90,530
Restricted income funds	11		17,477		70,330
Total charity funds			<u>118,846</u>		<u>160,860</u>



Dorset Advocacy
13-15 Jubilee Court
Paceycombe Way
Dorchester, Dorset
DT1 3AE
Tel: 01305 251033

Email: enquiries@dorsetadvocacy.co.uk

www.dorsetadvocacy.co.uk