

## **Board of Trustees – July 2020**

### **Strategy Workshop**

Prior to normal Board business, the Trustees split into three workshop groups and began work on development of the future strategy, for adoption beyond the end of the current 2017/2021 strategy. As part of that work, Trustees reviewed the feedback collect by means of the 'Your opinion matters' cards that had been issued earlier to members in the year. A synthesis of the outputs of those workshops were considered later in the meeting, and will form the basis of work by a steering group, which will work over the coming months, with an initial report back to the September Board. Further stakeholder involvement will be part of the ongoing development process.

### **Impact of Covid-19**

CEO Sally Light highlighted to the Board some of the work that had been undertaken to support people with MND and their families, including having contacted almost 4,000 people, supporting over 100 children and young people and approving more than 80 applications for the emergency grant, noting that Care Committee had agreed to extend the emergency grant period to the end of October. Nick Goldup, Director of Care Improvement, reported on lessons learnt, which were being built into the next phase of the care action plan, not least the significant contribution of volunteers, the assembly of an expert clinical panel, and the adoption of virtual support meetings by many Branches and Groups.

### **2020 and 2021 Financial Forecast**

Director of Finance Mark Chapman and Director of Fundraising Linda Allen updated the projected scenario that had been presented at the May Board meeting, which now reflected an improved position and provided the opportunity to add funds back into research spending without affecting the originally anticipated deficit. The 2021 forecast was outlined, with the most negative impact on income anticipated as being in community fundraising, where traditional events would be impacted by the restrictions imposed by social distancing. Processes were starting to be put in place to manage the cost base across the Association for 2021. Based on 2020 figures, each directorate was looking at individual and shared cost savings with the aim of keeping reserves within the existing policy. The Board confirmed approval of the approach to the forecast as set out and discussed.

### **Healthcare Research Advisory Panel**

Dr. Brian Dickie, Director of Research Development proposed the appointment of Dr. Richard Sloan to the Panel. He has extensive experience initially as a GP and subsequently in palliative care. He was instrumental in the setting up a joint neurology/palliative care MND clinic at the Weldmar Hospice in Dorchester. In addition, he is currently Chair of the West Dorset Branch of the Association.