

## BRECKLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Report of:** Paul Claussen, Executive Member Place and Rob Walker, Executive Director Place

**To:** Cabinet 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Author:** Steve James, Communities & Environmental Services Manager

**Subject:** Motor Neuron Disease (MND) Charter

**Purpose:** To consider whether the Council wishes to show its support by signing the Motor Neuron Disease Charter.

### **Recommendation(s):**

- 1) That the Council demonstrates its support for local people affected by Motor Neurone Disease by signing the MND Charter.

### **1.0 BACKGROUND**

1.1 The MND (Motor Neurone Disease) Association is the only charity for MND in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and relies on voluntary donations. It dedicates a higher proportion of its income to MND-specific research than any other organisation.

1.2 It provides information and support service, financial grants and equipment loan service for people affected by the disease.

1.3 About Motor Neurone Disease:

- MND is a fatal, neurological disease for which there is no effective treatment and no cure.
- MND kills five people in the UK every day.
- Today there are 5,000 people living with MND in the UK
- Life expectancy from diagnosis is two to five years
- It can affect any adult at any age
- Being trapped inside a body that cannot move is the devastating reality of MND
- MND attacks the nerves that control movement; people with MND can still think and feel, but their muscles refuse to work. As these nerves die the muscles weaken and waste, leaving people locked in a failing body, unable to move, walk or talk

1.4 More information on the work of the MND Association can be found at [www.mndassociation.org](http://www.mndassociation.org)

### **2.0 THE MND CHARTER**

2.1 The MND Charter aims to gain support from individuals and organisations with a personal or professional connection to MND, in working towards the vision of the right care, in the right place, at the right time for people with MND and their carers.

2.2 Anyone can sign up to the MND charter. By doing so, they are showing that they have listened to the voice of people with MND and their carers, and pledge to understand and

support the principles and priorities set out in the charter.

2.3 The five-point Charter sets out the care and support people with MND and their families need to maximise their quality of life and die with dignity. The five points are:

- 1) People with MND have the right to an early diagnosis and information
- 2) People with MND have the right to access quality care and treatments
- 3) People with MND have the right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect
- 4) People with MND have the right to maximise their quality of life
- 5) Carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well supported.

2.4 The Charter is attached at Appendix A to this report and has been adopted already by Broadland Council, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council.

### 3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

3.1 Members are asked to demonstrate their support for local people affected by MND by signing the MND Charter.

### 4.0 IMPLICATIONS

In preparing this report, the report author has considered the likely implications of the decision - particularly in terms of Carbon Footprint / Environmental Issues; Constitutional & Legal; Contracts; Corporate Priorities; Crime & Disorder; Equality & Diversity/Human Rights; Financial; Health & Wellbeing; Reputation; Risk Management; Safeguarding; Staffing; Stakeholders/Consultation/Timescales; Transformation Programme; Other. Where the report author considers that there may be implications under one or more of these headings, these are identified below.

#### 4.1 Equality and Diversity / Human Rights

The five-point Charter sets out the care and support people with MND and their families need to maximise their quality of life and die with dignity.

#### 4.2 Health & Wellbeing

The Charter sets out to improve the physical and emotional wellbeing of people with MND and their families

### 5.0 WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED

5.1 All ward/communities could potentially be affected.

### 6.0 ACRONYMS

6.1 MND – Motor Neuron Disease

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Background papers:- None

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#### Lead Contact Officer

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**Key Decision:** No

**Exempt Decision:** No

**This report refers to a Discretionary Service**

**Appendices attached to this report:**

Appendix A MND Charter