

## CABINET

THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018

### REPORT OF THE HEALTH & WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

#### ADOPTION OF THE MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION (MDNA) CHARTER

#### EXEMPT INFORMATION

Not applicable

#### SUMMARY

Issues regarding Motor Neurone Disease were brought to the attention of the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee in June, via a member of Staffordshire County Council. Emails were exchanged and it was ultimately decided that the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee at Tamworth Borough Council should take this item forward as a potential item for the work plan, which was confirmed for the meeting to be held in July.

During the meeting the Chair introduced a representative from the MDNA, an MDNA volunteer and members of a local family affected by Motor Neurone Disease (MND).

The representative from the MND provided a presentation to the members of the Committee on the MND Charter and explained thoroughly how it could support residents affected by MND and how Tamworth Borough Council could potentially improve the lives of those affected by MND.

He conveyed strongly the five principles of the MND Charter:

- the right to an early diagnosis and information
- the right to access quality care and treatments
- the right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect
- the right to maximise their quality of life
- carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well-supported

A link to the Charter is provided below:

<http://www.mndcharter.org/the-mnd-charter/>

**If the Council were to adopt the MND Charter, the MND could work in partnership with the Council to raise awareness in respect of MND and also to provide training to staff.**

A family in Tamworth, with a member who has been diagnosed with MND, attended the meeting and shared their personal experiences of the disease and their interactions with local authorities. They highlighted the importance of staff at the Council who had an awareness and understanding of the progressive nature of the disease and the need for expeditious decisions.

If Cabinet agreed with the recommendation to adopt the MNDA Charter, consideration could be given to requesting officers to assess the steps required for Tamworth Borough Council to implement the Charter and the extent to which a review is required to any existing policies to support implementation.

**RECOMMENDATIONS** that Cabinet either:

- approve the adoption of the MNDA Charter; or
- support the proposals, and if it is necessary/required recommend the proposals to adopt the MNDA Charter to Full Council