

## Somerset Neurological Alliance Constitution

### 1. Name

The name of the group is Somerset Neurological Alliance("the Group").

### 2. Objectives

The Group unites individuals affected by a neurological condition in Somerset and the groups and organisations who represent them. We aim to influence policy, raise awareness and contribute to changes and improvements in service delivery. We will do this by:

- Linking the whole neurological community to ensure the voice of people with a neurological condition, their families and their carers is heard in the design, delivery and monitoring of local services
- Increasing understanding of neurological conditions and of the lives of people with neurological conditions and their families and carers.

### 3. Powers

The Group shall have the following powers, which may be exercised only in promoting the above objectives:

- To invite and receive funds;
- To work with other organisations at local, regional and national level;
- To promote the work of the Group and its activities;
- To hire or buy equipment or premises;
- To advance the wellbeing of people affected by a neurological condition by ensuring they have a strong voice in all matters that affect their lives;
- To campaign, in the furtherance of the objects and purposes of the Group, to improve the lives of people with a neurological condition, their families and carers;
- To do any other activity within the law that allows the Group to meet its aims and objectives.

### 4. Membership

Membership is open to everyone with an interest in the work of the Group. For the purposes of this document a member is a person or organisation that has agreed to be on the Group's distribution list. Members will be entitled to attend any meeting and to receive copies of meeting notes.

New members will be approved by majority resolution of the existing members. The membership will make decisions by majority decision on the basis of one member:one vote.

A member can have their membership revoked if they are thought not to be acting in the best interests of the Group and the majority of the remainder agree to their removal.

Members' meetings will be Chaired on a rotating basis by members of the Group. If there is deadlock in decision making, the rotating Chair will have the casting vote.

### 5. General meetings

Notes will be taken at all meetings and distributed to the membership after the meetings.

Meetings will be convened at dates and times, and at a frequency determined by the membership.

**6. Finances**

- 6.1 The income and property shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objective of the Group as set forth in the constitution and no proportion of them shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of profits to members of the Group.
- 6.2 This provision shall not prevent the payment in good faith by the Group of out of pocket expenses reasonably and properly incurred on behalf of the Group if required by volunteers, employees, and members of the Group.
- 6.3 The Group will have a bank account in the name of Somerset Neurological Alliance. The account will have a minimum of two signatories, both of whom will be required to authorise payments and sign cheques. These two people must not be related or living together.

**7. Dissolution**

- 7.1 If the members resolve to dissolve the Group the members must collect in all the assets of the Group and must pay to make provision for all the liabilities of the Group.
- 7.2 The members must apply any remaining property or money as agreed by the majority of members:
  - a. Directly for the objects;
  - b. By transferring to any group or charities for purposes the same as or similar to the Group.

**8. Adoption of the terms of Constitution**

This constitution was adopted by the members present at the meeting held on:

Date: ..... 14/01/15 .....

Member 1:

Name: ..... MARK SWEETLAND ..... Signature: .....  .....

Member 2:

Name: ..... Geoff Vine ..... Signature: .....  .....

**9. Amendment of Constitution**

This constitution can be amended in future by a 2/3 majority vote of members.