

## **Cross-Party Group Annual Report**

**17 December 2020**

### **Cross Party Group on Funerals and Bereavement**

#### **1. Group membership and office holders.**

**Chair:** Mark Isherwood MS

Neil Hamilton MS

Darren Millar MS

Russell George MS

Janet Finch-Saunders MS

Paul Davies MS

Andrew RT Davies MS

**Secretary:** David Beamer, Brevia Consulting ([www.brevia.co.uk](http://www.brevia.co.uk))

#### **Other external members and the organisation(s) they represent**

Lorraine Barrett – Wales Humanists

Martin Birch - Cardiff County Council

Janette Bourne – Cruse Cymru

Jeremy Field – National Association of Funeral Directors

Gwyneth Sweatman – Marie Curie

Morgan Harris – National Association of Funeral Directors

Gordon Hector - Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Jon Levett - National Association of Funeral Directors

Kate Edwards - National Association of Funeral Directors

Carol Humphreys – Care for the Family

Jean Letton - BASW-Cymru Committee Member & Independent Social Worker

Kim Bird - About the Funeral

Philip Blatchly - National Association of Funeral Directors

Carys Moseley - Eglwys Bresbyteraidd Cymru

David Beamer - Brevia Consulting

Nigel Lymn Rose - National Association of Funeral Directors

Gordon Swan – Golden Charter

Patrick McGlinchey – Golden Charter

Terry Tennens - SAIF

James Tovey – SAIF Charter

Peter Hutton - Unllais

David Teague – ICO

Lesley Parry – NEWCIS

Aubrey Kirkham – Aubrey Kirkham Funeral Directors

Wendy Hobbs - Ambassador of Dreams and Wishes Charity

Gemma O'Driscoll – Funeral Director

Angela Huang – Maggies Centre

Sarah Hughes – Maggies Centre

Amir Alsisi – White Rose Funerals & Memorials

Ahmed Alsisi - Muslim Community Leader; White Rose Funerals & Memorials

Emma Kneebone - 2 Wish Upon A Star

Deb Smith – Wordsmith Communications  
 Andrea Williams - COVID19 Families Wales

## **2. Previous Group Meetings since the last AGM.**

### **Meeting 1.**

**Meeting date:** 16 June 2020

**Attendees:** Mark Isherwood MS (Chair), Darren Millar MS, Janette Bourne (Cruse Bereavement Care), Kate Edwards (NAFD), Jake Smith (Marie Curie), Jon Levett (NAFD), James Tovey (SAIF Charter), Terry Tennens (SAIF), Patrick McGlinchey (Golden Charter), Philip Blatchly (NAFD), Jean Letton (BASW), David Beamer (Secretary), Ahmed Alsisi (White Rose / Acceptance), Emma Kneebone (2 Wish Upon A Star), Gemma O’Driscoll (SAIF).

**Summary of issues discussed:** COVID-19 including: Modelling of a Second Peak and the impact on Wales (Europe Economics research); Impact of COVID-19 on the funerals sector / revised timetable of the CMA Funerals Market Investigation; Bereavement Support for the BAME Community; Service provider discrimination to BAME / faith funerals; Support for Families in Financial Hardship / Funeral Crisis Loan proposal.

### **Meeting 2.**

**Meeting date:** 26 November 2020

**Attendees:** Mark Isherwood MS (Chair), Darren Millar MS, Dr Dai Lloyd MS, Martin Birch (Cardiff Council), Janette Bourne (Cruse Bereavement Care), Jon Levett (NAFD), Kim Bird (About the Funeral), Philip Blatchly (NAFD), David Beamer (Secretary; Brevia Consulting), Terry Tennens (SAIF), Ahmed Alsisi (White Rose / Acceptance), Emma Kneebone (2 Wish Upon A Star), Deb Smith (Wordsmith Communication), Donna Humphrey (Shalom House), Deborah Ho (Ty Hafan), Liz Andrews (City Hospice), Jonathan Ellis (Hospice UK), Rebecca Lewis (Marie Curie), Tracy Jones (Ty Hafan), Marika Hills (Macmillan), Emily Harrop (Cardiff University and Marie Curie Research Centre), Andy Goldsmith (Ty Gobaith), Laura Hugman (Paul Sartori Foundation), Tom Davies (Macmillan), Bethan Edwards (Marie Curie), Sam Njoku (EYST mentee), Dom Carter (Hospice UK), Tracy Livingstone (Nightingale House Hospice), Catrin Edwards (Hospice UK), Jonathan Pearce (Hospice of the Valleys), Andrea Williams (COVID19 Families Wales), Fiona McDonald (MS Society).

**Summary of issues discussed (joint meeting with the CPG for Hospices and Palliative Care):** Election of Officers; COVID-19; CMA Funerals Market Investigation; Service provider discrimination to BAME / faith funerals; National Bereavement Framework; National Grief Awareness Week 2020 (2 – 8 December 2020).

**3. Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities with whom the Group has met during the preceding year.**

<p><b>Brevia Consulting</b> 5 Salamanca Place London SE1 7HP</p>	<p><b>Cruse Cymru</b> Ty Energlyn Cwrt Llanfabon Caerphilly CF83 2TP</p>
<p><b>About the Funeral</b> 5<sup>th</sup> Floor One Central Square Cardiff CF10 1FS</p>	<p><b>National Association of Funeral Directors</b> 618 Warwick Rd Solihull B91 1AA</p>
<p><b>Golden Charter</b> Canniesburn Gate 10 Canniesburn Drive Bearsden Glasgow G61 1BF</p>	<p><b>SAIF Charter</b> 3 Bullfields Sawbirdgeworth Herts CM21 9DB</p>
<p><b>SAIF</b> 3 Bullfields Sawbirdgeworth Herts CM21 9DB</p>	<p><b>Marie Curie</b> 89 Albert Embankment London SE1 7TP</p>
<p><b>BASW Cymru</b> Wellesley House 37 Waterloo Street Birmingham B2 5PP</p>	<p><b>2 Wish Upon A Star</b> Ground Floor Unit 7 Magden Park Llantrisant CF72 8XT</p>
<p><b>White Rose Funerals &amp; Memorials</b> 27-29 Splott Road Cardiff CF24 2BU</p>	<p><b>Cardiff Council</b> County Hall Atlantic Wharf Cardiff CF10 4UW</p>
<p><b>Wordsmith Communication</b> 40 Rumbush Lane Dickens Heath Solihull B90 1RA</p>	<p><b>COVID19 Families Wales</b> Facebook Support Group</p>

**Annual Financial Statement.**

17 December 2020

**Cross Party Group on Funerals and Bereavement****Chair:** Mark Isherwood MS**Secretary:** David Beamer, Brevia Consulting ([www.brevia.co.uk](http://www.brevia.co.uk))

<b>Group's Expenses.</b>	None.	£0.00
<b>Costs of all goods.</b>	No goods purchased.	£0.00
<b>Benefits received by the group or individual Members from outside bodies.</b>	No benefits received.	£0.00
<b>Any secretariat or other support.</b>	David Beamer (a Director of Brevia Consulting; <a href="http://www.brevia.co.uk">www.brevia.co.uk</a> ) provided secretariat support on behalf of the National Association of Funeral Directors - cost to the organisation of £500 plus VAT per month.	£6000 per annum
<b>Services provided to the Group such as hospitality.</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Description and name of provider</b>	<b>Cost</b>
None held		
	<b>Total cost</b>	<b>£0.00</b>