

## 15. Methodist Homes (MHA)

<b>Contact name and details</b>	The Revd Dr Chris Swift Director of Chaplaincy and Spirituality chris.swift@mha.org.uk
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### 1. General report

- 1.1 MHA provides high-quality care and support to over 17,800 residents and scheme members across England, Scotland and Wales through its care homes, retirement living schemes and community-based Live at Home schemes. Through its charitable work, it provides chaplains in all homes and retirement living schemes, music therapy for people living with dementia in its specialist care homes and many of the services provided through Live at Home.
- 1.2 It was been a year of change at MHA, with the Chair, Graham Smith, leaving after many years of service with the Board. He was succeeded by John Robinson, who was brought up in the Methodist Church and continues to be a practising Christian. We said farewell to Adrian Bagg as CEO and welcomed his successor, Sam Monaghan, in February 2018. Sam is actively involved in his local Methodist church and comes to MHA with a strong track record of executive leadership in the charity sector.
- 1.3 After 16 years the Revd Dr Keith Albans left as Director of Chaplaincy and Spirituality. Keith's contribution was fundamental to the success of MHA's development in the opening decades of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, not least in supporting the transition of chaplaincy from a voluntary activity to fully employed ministry. All residents and staff in MHA facilities with care have a dedicated chaplain to serve them. Keith handed on his responsibilities to the Revd Dr Chris Swift, who comes to MHA after 20 years of chaplaincy in the NHS.
- 1.4 This year is MHA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and several activities are taking place to affirm the continuing importance of our relationship with the Methodist Church. These include the distribution of a letter from the CEO to all Methodist ministers along with materials to support the celebration of Methodist Homes Sunday. A Service of Thanksgiving for MHA's contribution to the care of older people will also be held in Derby Cathedral on Saturday 13 October 2018. Tickets can be booked at [www.mha.org.uk/75](http://www.mha.org.uk/75) years.
- 1.5 In April 2018 we were delighted to extend to all staff employed by MHA the pay level advised by the Living Wage Foundation. This is a major achievement set against a challenging financial context for all organisations operating in the care sector and reflects MHA's commitment to be an ethical employer and employer of choice in social care.
- 1.6 Other notable successes for the year include:
  - The MHA Chaplaincy Team winning the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector Care Award for creative and innovative ways to achieve excellence in End of Life Care
  - The number of MHA schemes judged to be "Good" and "Outstanding" by the independent regulator, the Care Quality Commission, rose to 87%, with Willersley House Care Home near Hull achieving "Outstanding" in all five areas of assessment, becoming one of just eight homes in England to receive this accolade; whilst The Martins Care Home in Bury St Edmunds was also rated overall as "Outstanding"
  - Two new homes opened during the year: Montpelier Manor in Stainton, Middlesbrough, and Oak Manor in Shefford, bringing the total number of MHA homes to 90

- The Starr Hills Care Home in Lytham was featured in Radio 2's Christmas Day breakfast programme with staff and residents taking part; whilst MHA's Music Therapy Service and Torrwood Care Home resident, Paul Mosby, featured in BBC Radio 4's documentary series 'The Untold'
  - In Hampshire eight new 'Live at Home' schemes opened with the support of the County Council. This means that all areas of Hampshire are now covered by the service
  - Residents moved into new retirement living facilities at Nethanvale in Auchlochan and at Maidment Court in Poole
  - The President of the Conference made an official visit to our care home at Claybourne
- 1.7 During the year MHA extended its mission to provide chaplaincy and spiritual care to older people with the introduction of chaplains to the four homes previously operated by the Silk Healthcare Group. MHA employs the highest number of chaplains outside the public sector.
- 1.8 Live at Home schemes now serve over 10,300 older people across the UK and more schemes are being added every month. MHA's 'Live at Home' schemes were the theme of a Radio 4 appeal which featured scheme member, Annie Ashby, talking about its positive impact on her life.
- 1.9 Since 2016 the number of music therapists working with MHA has increased by 20% and their work continues to grow. Our Lead Music Therapist, Ming Hung Hsu, was awarded his PhD during the year based on research into the therapeutic impact of the service.
- 1.10 Methodist Homes Sunday in 2017 raised over £190,000, for which we offer grateful thanks. This year the official date for the Sunday is **10 June** although it can be moved to suit local needs. Our theme for worship is '**Full of Years**' and a range of materials is available to download from our website ([www.mha.org.uk](http://www.mha.org.uk)).
- 1.11 In addition to its 7,000 members of staff, MHA benefits from the contribution of over 5,000 volunteers. These volunteers add a vital dimension to the work of MHA supporting all elements of our operation, including chaplaincy. Many volunteers come from Methodist congregations and help us retain our links with the Church.
- 1.12 We believe that MHA has a unique approach to care and that this can make a valuable contribution to the debate about social care in the UK. Addressing the needs of the whole person; enabling the expression of spirituality, and providing pastoral care to older people, relatives and staff as a community, are at the core of this approach. Communicating this more widely is an important priority for the Board and MHA shares aspects of its work across a range of media platforms. During the year over 1.7 million people saw our posts on social media and MHA provided expert consultancy for an award-winning dementia storyline in ITV's *Emmerdale*.
- 1.13 MHA held a number of events in Methodist churches across England to provide supporters with direct updates about our work, including music therapy and chaplaincy. One of the key priorities of our new CEO, Sam Monaghan, is to establish a stronger partnership with the Church and he has already met with Secretary of the Methodist Conference to explore how this will be progressed.
- 1.14 The latest audited accounts are available on request from our website or from Epworth House. Our latest Annual Impact Statement, which tells the story of MHA's activities, is also available on the website or from Epworth House.
- 1.15 During the year our Director of Care Homes, Carol Artis, announced her retirement. Carol served on the Leadership Team for 13 years overseeing significant enhancement of both the quality and efficiency of our homes and she leaves with the best wishes of her colleagues.

1.16 The Trustees who oversee the work of the charity continue to offer excellent advice and guidance, sharing between them considerable expertise across the range of MHA's activities. The focus of MHA's holistic approach to care is at the root of their willingness to serve as Board members and they bring a range of spiritual and belief commitments to the role.

## **2. Church appointment to the Boards of MHA**

2.1 Through our Governance Committee we continue to strengthen the Charity's Board with new members bringing wide experience, particularly around marketing and social care. In accordance with SO 241, we ask the Conference to continue to recognise Dr David Hall as the Church's nominated Board member. David was first appointed to this role in 2015.

### **\*\*\*RESOLUTIONS**

**15/1. The Conference received the General Report of Methodist Homes.**

**15/2. The Conference, in exercising its power under Standing Order 241, nominated David Hall to the Board of MHA.**