

**Oban Hospice Ltd**

**Company Ltd by Guarantee**

**Director's Report for Year ended 31 December 2022**

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## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Overall structure of charity**

Oban Hospice Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. It is governed in accordance with its Memorandum & Articles of Association.

### **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

A person shall not be eligible for election/appointment as a director unless they are a member of the company.

### **Election, retiral, re-election**

The directors may at any time appoint any co-opted member (providing they are willing to act) to be a director. Board members shall be elected by the directors of the association at an Annual General Meeting for a period of 3 years.

Members of the board having served one or two terms of three years will be eligible for reappointment to the board for a further term of three years. Members of the board having completed nine years of continuous service will not be eligible for reappointment to the board for a period of twelve months unless they have during that time been appointed by the board as an officer of the association.

### **Key Management Personnel**

The key management personnel of the charity comprises the Board of Trustees. Decisions as to the operation of the charity are taken at Board level.

### **Objectives and Activities**

Oban Hospice Limited is established for charitable purposes only and in particular to relieve the suffering and distress and to further the health and wellbeing of people with cancer as the primary diagnosis, their families and carers, whose usual place of residence is in Oban, Lorn and the Isles as a non-residential, community based service. In certain circumstances, we may also support people with certain life-limiting conditions, such as Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease and Motor Neurone Disease.

### **Strategic Report**

The following sections for achievements and performance and financial review form the strategic report of the charity.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Introduction**

The past few years have been particularly challenging for many people and organisations and Oban Hospice was no exception. Thankfully 2022 has seen a steady increase in the number of people attending group sessions in the Dove Centre. The workload of Oban Hospice Limited (OHL) continues to thrive post pandemic with significant efforts made by the staff, together with a range of therapists and volunteers who have all played their part in maintaining and developing a high level of service delivery.

### **Lorn and Islands Hospital**

OHL staff continue to maintain good contact with the local hospital and community health centres in seeking to support people in the community and hospital. As a result of this, the number of referrals made to OHL had increased.

OHL remains committed to supporting the maintenance of the relatives room. Good working relationships with local managers and practitioners eg Mcmillan nurses and Marie Curie staff continues.

In consultation with hospital staff, OHL is planning to replace the furniture of the relatives' room in addition to providing a small fridge and new bedding.

### **The Dove Centre**

In November 2022, the Dove Centre in Stevenson Street marked the fifth anniversary of its opening. It continues to go from strength to strength and provides help, companionship and advice for those with cancer and certain life-limiting conditions. Support is also available for their families and carers.

It is pleasing to report that all groups and therapy sessions, which were in place at the Dove Centre pre-pandemic are now once again functioning fully. This includes a range of groups, individual therapy sessions, counselling, crafts and selective short courses such as the HOPE course. Organisations such as Parkinson's Support Group and Blind Vision are once again using the centre on a regular basis. The centre co-ordinator continues to oversee and support these activities.

### **Cairdeas Befriending and Support Service**

Our befriending service, in partnership with Highland Hospice, is now up and running with volunteers already befriending people locally. This is an exciting development complementing our existing support service which continues to aid people with practical, non-medical help and assistance through home visits, telephone calls and outings. The Cairdeas co-ordinator's expertise in completing official documents such as Attendance Allowance and Blue Badge application forms in addition to liaising with other agencies locally to access different sources of income and support is greatly appreciated.

### **Therapists and Volunteers**

A number of therapists offering a range of complementary therapies continues to operate at the Dove Centre, including specialist lymphoedema massage and bandaging.

Volunteers continue to support OHL, regularly assisting with activities both in the Dove Centre and in the Community.

## **Finance**

OHL remains in a good position financially, despite fluctuations in markets recently. A range of continuing donations and other forms of giving exist. The generosity of local people should not be underestimated, as we continue to seek alternative forms of funding and make the best use of publicity.

Members of the “Friends of Oban Hospice” decided to wind up their charity and some former members have been successfully integrated into the working business of OHL board. This new fundraising group, now known as the OHL Fundraisers, has produced an exciting programme of fundraising activities, eg a Superdraw was introduced in November 2022 with a steady income coming from this source. In addition, we continue to receive a number of generous donations and support from local businesses. We are particularly pleased with the strong links now established with Oban High School which has proved to be beneficial both in terms of fundraising and increasing awareness particularly in our young people.

## **Business Plan**

Following board discussions, it was agreed that a strategic and business plan should be written and agreed by April 2023. This document will be formally adopted at the AGM in late May.

## **Hospice Board**

It is important to retain the necessary skill mix of potential new board members.

Dr Adrian Tully resigned from the board in 2022 as a result of a move away from Argyll.

Dr Brendan Martin, who is not permanently resident in Oban Lorn and the Isles has agreed to act as adviser to the board.

The board is aware that a number of long serving members will retire at the AGM in May 2023 and new board members with appropriate skills are actively being sought.

## **Conclusion**

All services provided by OHL before the pandemic have now been re-established and our Ciardeas befriending service in partnership with Highland Hospice is now up and running. The board continues to seek alternative forms of funding and to make best use of publicity. Communication has been enhanced by the development of our new website. Partnership working with other organisations continues and positive relationships established.

A big thank you to all board members, fundraisers, staff, therapists and volunteers for making the service work well in providing various forms of support to a whole range of people and their families.

Adoption of the Business Plan in May 2023 will inform decisions for the future of the service.