

On 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017 members of the Isle of Wight Branch attended a full Council meeting to request that the Isle of Wight Council vote to adopt the MND Charter.



The meeting was the culmination of many months of work to raise awareness among members of the council as to the challenges faced by people living with their MND and their carers. Below is what we asked:

*The Isle of Wight Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association would like to request that the Isle of Wight Council adopt the MND Charter in order to positively influence the lives of people living with MND and their loved ones within the local community.*

*While the much needed research is carried out to find a treatment and eventually cure for MND, in the meantime we must focus on the support those suffering with MND receive, which should be the right care, in a setting of their choice, and in the best timescales possible.*

*The MND charter is made up of 5 points:*

- 1. The right to an early diagnosis and information**
- 2. The right to access quality care and treatments**
- 3. The right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect**
- 4. The right to maximise their quality of life**
- 5. Carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well-supported.**

*While councils aren't responsible for everything outlined in the MND Charter, they are a vital part of the jigsaw. Various decisions made by local councillors can have significant impact regarding the services and care available for people with MND, such as social care, housing adaptations and support for carers.*

*When services are provided in a timely person-centred way, this has a hugely positive impact on the person with MND and their family.*

We are thrilled to say that Councillors voted unanimously to adopt the Charter. This brings the IOW in line with other Councils along the south coast. Now that the Charter has been

adopted the Branch will work hard to develop and maintain links with those responsible for making decisions.



What a fantastic result!

*If the council were to adopt and 'live' the Charter, it could prove positive not only to people with MND but also to all the other neurological diseases/conditions that are not as aggressive and progressive as MND. If we can get it right for people with MND, we can get it right for many other people.*