Applicant A

Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board

## Representation Request

I am writing to express my interest in serving as the Voluntary Sector Representative on the Health & Wellbeing Board. With extensive experience as a charity CEO and a strong network within the sector, I am confident in my ability to contribute effectively to the Board's initiatives.

Demonstrable Understanding of Key Issues:

As the CEO of my organisation for the past six years, I have gained a deep understanding of the key issues faced by communities across Lancashire. My role has involved direct engagement with these communities & services, allowing me to see firsthand the challenges and opportunities that exist.

I was involved when the Health Equity Commission was established and contributed to its work and would be keen to further progress work on health inequalities with the H&WBB.

Prior to my current role, I have worked with most disadvantaged customer groups including victims & perpetrators of domestic abuse, housing & homelessness, care leavers, sight loss & disability, offenders, young people and vulnerable women, so would bring a breadth of knowledge and awareness, of course, including that of the needs and challenges of older people in health & social care.

Well-Developed Relationships:

Over the past six years, I have established strong relationships across the voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector. These connections have been crucial in fostering collaboration and driving positive change. I also believe that I am someone who would be identified as being able to represent the sector, rather than myself or my organisation, which is vital in this role.

Clear Understanding of H&WBB Role:

I possess a clear understanding of the role of the Lancashire Health & Wellbeing Board (H&WBB), as well as the importance of governance and assurance within our system and am familiar with the Lancashire Health & Wellbeing Strategy. My experience on the Lancashire Place Board during its first year in shadow has equipped me with valuable insights into strategic planning and cross-sector collaboration required to be successful. I was disappointed when VCFSE were no longer included in the H&WBB and am delighted that this opportunity now exists. In this and previous roles, I have served on various boards and committees related to health & wellbeing, where I have contributed to strategic decision making and policy development.

Developing the Role and Increasing Effectiveness:

I am passionate about developing both the role and effectiveness of the VCFSE in the work of the H&WBB. It is vital that the voluntary sector, as an integral part of communities across Lancashire, has a strong voice in the decision-making processes that affect those communities. I am committed to working with the chair to enhance the VCFSE Assembly's participation and impact.

Capacity for Meaningful Preparation:

I have the capacity and the full support of my trustees to dedicate the necessary time and effort to prepare for Lancashire H&WBB meetings. This support ensures that I can contribute meaningfully and effectively to the Board's work.

Effective Communication and Representation:

I am adept at communicating with and gathering the views of the Lancashire & South Cumbria VCFSE Assembly, particularly in situations where a vote is required. My ability to represent these views accurately and effectively is a key strength. Evidence of this is from my time on the Lancashire Place Board when I gathered the view of the sector to contribute to specific topics.

Commitment to the VCFSE Alliance:

I am already an active member of the Lancashire & South Cumbria (LSC) VCFSE Alliance, attending quarterly and ad-hoc meetings, providing updates, and contributing to plans. I am committed to acting within the VCFSE Alliance representatives' role description and ensuring that our sector's voice is heard.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the Health & Wellbeing Board and to work alongside other dedicated professionals to make a positive impact.