

## **Personal Statement: Fay Dutton, LDA nominated member for BDA Management Board**

I would like to stand for re-election as a Trustee for a second term on the BDA Management Board. I have been an active and regular attendee, missing only a couple of meetings over the 3 years. I have also volunteered to help at conferences and events.

I have 3 (now adult) children with dyslexia and a strong family history of largely undiagnosed dyslexia. I have experienced some of the issues experienced with the educational system and the steep learning curve that parents go through when their child struggles and eventually is diagnosed with dyslexia – our middle son was diagnosed aged 9, the eldest not until she was 17 and our youngest at 12.

I was fairly instrumental in keeping the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire District Dyslexia Association (PaCDDA) going, when the BDA took it over and have been a trustee and membership secretary since 2012. I was involved in setting up our successful Children will Shine project with the BDA and in updating the constitution, which gave me a good understanding of the role of trustees, charity law and the charity commission.

Since June 2014 I have been an active member of the Local Association Board (LAB) as the representative for East Anglia.

I am a Trustee and Chair of Pinpoint, the Parent Carer Forum for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Cambridgeshire, which we established as an independent Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in May 2014. I got involved with pinpoint as a parent of children with dyslexia.

I am currently working with the council and others to update the Cambridgeshire Dyslexia Guidance, part of their Local Offer.

In November 2014 I trained as a volunteer Independent Supporter to support families of children with Dyslexia in applying for an Education Health and Care (EHC) plan.

Until retiring in 2012, I worked in the NHS as the Public Health Doctor lead for the health and well-being of Children and Families, covering policy, assessing needs, service planning, evaluation, development and commissioning. I took on this role again temporarily for a year, but this time with the County Council, to cover maternity leave in 2015 and withdrew from trustee roles where there was a conflict of interest.

I am particularly interested in getting PaCDDA and other LDAs a greater and more effective social media presence and working more closely with the BDA.

