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| <b>DATE OF MEETING</b> | Wednesday 22nd April 2026 09:30-12:30 |
| <b>VENUE</b>           | Microsoft Teams                       |

## Aneurin Bevan University Health Board –Charitable Funds Committee: Meeting Summary

**Committee Papers:** [Agenda and Papers](#)

### Committee Members:

Paul Deneen, Chair

Neil Patrick, Vice Chair

Akmal Hanuk, Independent Member

Robert Holcombe, Director of Finance & Procurement

Nicola Prygodzicz, Chief Executive

- **Meeting Administration & Attendance:** The meeting was opened with apologies noted and attendance confirmed.
- **Financial Position and Investments:** The Committee noted the financial report for the period ending December 2025. The Committee discussed the effect of wider economic volatility on investments, including an unrealised reduction in the value of investment holdings. It was emphasised that these fluctuations do not represent realised losses unless investments were sold. The Committee agreed that further engagement with the investment fund manager would be helpful to provide reassurance and inform future investment decisions, particularly in advance of a forthcoming re-tendering exercise.
- **Use of Funds and Financial Sustainability:** The Committee reviewed the balance of funds available to the Committee, including existing commitments approved earlier in the year. The Committee recognised the importance of balancing active use of charitable funds with financial sustainability and agreed an approach that would allow current and future commitments to be met while remaining financially prudent, particularly in light of market uncertainty.
- **Bids, Grants and Governance Improvements:** The Committee approved new funding requests, including support for a volunteer recognition event and investment in additional clinical equipment funded from a ring-fenced donation. The Committee welcomed the work of a new sub-group established to strengthen governance and



scrutiny of funding requests and agreed that application processes would be refined to ensure clearer alignment with charitable objectives and to distinguish more explicitly between charitable funding and core NHS provision.

The Committee also agreed that funded projects would increasingly be reviewed on an annual basis, supported by proportionate progress and impact reporting, to provide assurance that funds are delivering identifiable benefit to patients and staff.

- **Marketing, Fundraising and Public Engagement:** Progress against the charity's marketing and fundraising plans was noted. The Committee welcomed the introduction of a refreshed charity brand and logo, registration with the Fundraising Regulator, and steps to modernise fundraising activity, including the use of digital donation platforms and improved visibility at events. The Committee recognised the importance of raising awareness of the charity's work while ensuring activity remained proportionate to available capacity.
- **Collaboration and Other Charities:** The Committee received a mapping of other charities operating within the Health Board area. The Committee discussed opportunities for collaboration and shared learning, while recognising the need to avoid duplication or dilution of the core charitable identity. This information was welcomed as a helpful foundation for future engagement.
- **Oversight of High-Value and Dormant Funds:** An update was provided on funds with larger balances or limited recent expenditure. The Committee agreed to strengthen oversight by inviting fund holders to present future spending plans, ensuring that charitable donations are used effectively and in line with donor intent. The Committee also discussed options for managing long-standing or under-used funds in a fair, transparent and proportionate manner.

