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# The British Psychological Society Dementia Advisory Group (DAG)



**Linda Clare PhD ScD CPsychol**

Professor of Clinical Psychology of  
Ageing and Dementia,  
University of Exeter

Chair, Dementia Advisory Group



## Development of the DAG

- Dementia was identified as a priority under the Society's thematic priority on Health and Well-Being.
- The Dementia Advisory Group was commissioned by the Professional Practice Board (PPB) and Research Board (RB), to operate under the aegis of both Boards.
- Formation of the Dementia Advisory Group was announced in 2014 with a duration of 12 months in the first instance, which may be extended.
- The Chair was appointed, Terms of Reference prepared and members recruited during 2014.
- The first meeting took place in February 2015.



## Terms of reference

- The DAG is a reference group to support the Policy Team and the Society generally.
- The DAG provides advice and expert input to the Policy Team and the Society.
- The remit includes: developing resources; providing evidence to support the Society's external engagement and public affairs work; stakeholder identification; advising on Society responses to relevant consultations; co-ordinating the Society's activity under the Dementia Action Alliance; consulting with Member Networks; and identifying appropriate further work.



## Identification of members

- Members appointed by the PPB and RB.
- Membership to consist of experts in dementia whose expertise is applicable across a variety of policy areas (e.g. health, social care, workforce development).
- To include a balance of practitioners and academics/researchers.
- To reflect a breadth of expertise in dementia and not representation of Member Networks.
- Maximum of 8 members plus the Chair, with option to co-opt up to 4 additional members.



## DAG members

- Dr Nicky Bradbury
- Professor Dawn Brooker
- Professor Rik Cheston
- Dr Sebastian Crutch
- Dr Karen Dodd
- Mr Reinhard Guss
- Professor Marjan Jahanshahi
- Professor Matt Lambon-Ralph
- Professor Robin Morris
- Professor Elizabeth Warrington
- Professor Bob Woods
- Professor Linda Clare (Chair)
- Policy team:
  - Lisa Morrison-Coulthard
  - Tanja Siggs
  - Matthew Smith-Lilley (to 06/15)



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## DAG Meetings

- Four meetings per year, 2 face-to-face and 2 via teleconference
- So far the group has met face-to-face once, in February 2015, and held one meeting via teleconference, in April 2015.
- The first main task for the DAG is to prepare a position paper on dementia for the Society.
- A draft of the position paper is currently out for consultation and the aim is to have the final version of the position paper available later in 2015.



## Draft Society position paper on dementia

- Gives an overview of dementia and its impact.
- Explains the unique contributions that psychologists make to understanding dementia and supporting people affected by dementia.
- Examines possibilities for dementia prevention and risk reduction.
- Outlines psychological aspects of dementia care from initial assessment to end of life care, and describes the provision of psychological support and interventions for people with dementia and families, and supervision and training for care staff.
- Indicates that psychologists contribute to developing and leading services that are accessible and responsive to the needs of people with dementia and their families.



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## Plans for future work

Plans include:

- Preparation of evidence briefings on key topics
- Strengthening of links with DAA
- Engagement in consultations
- Involvement in guideline development





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# Thank you



## Further information

- Lisa Morrison Coulthard  
[lisa.morrisoncoulthard@bps.org.uk](mailto:lisa.morrisoncoulthard@bps.org.uk)
- Linda Clare [l.clare@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:l.clare@exeter.ac.uk)