



## FORUM

for COUNSELLORS & PSYCHOTHERAPISTS  
Ar gyfer CWSELWYR a SEICOTHERAPYDDION

### Chair's Report 2019-20

In the opening months of becoming Chair, I and the Events Team realised that there were many aspects of the way Forum operated that could be improved in order to enhance Members' experience of its CPD training events. In addition, a more over-arching issue that needed addressing was a persistent ambiguity about the organisation's exact legal status, and how this might potentially affect all Members.

Tackling these concerns set us an agenda to improve the booking process for all events, which went hand-in-hand with redesigning and upgrading our website. At the same time we began researching the legal and financial aspects of running organisations. It became clear that Forum operated as an *unincorporated association* (or society or club), which confirmed how we should operate legally and financially. As well as giving members greater protection, it paved the way for a new constitution that will guide how we organise, manage and develop Forum in the future, while preserving its ethos of community.

Over the course of the year, while the Events Team worked hard on making these changes, a number of very experienced office bearers needed to step down after many years of contribution to Forum. Without the compassionate support and commitment of the Events Team, the difficulties of recruiting, of cancelling our event *The Neuroscience of Transformation*, and managing the effects of a pandemic, would have been severely thwarted.

I would like to personally thank the Events Team, including those who stepped down, and all Members, for the support and encouragement I experienced while holding the role of Chair. I look forward to us coming together for future Forum events.

Duncan Stoddart, outgoing Chair

September 2020