



## Press Release

**Date:** 3 April 2018

### **Bolton mental health charity BAND merges with national charity Family Action**

National charity Family Action and Bolton based mental health charity Building A New Direction (BAND) are delighted to announce they will be formally merging from the beginning of April. BAND will join the portfolio of services that Family Action provides to support people and families across the UK, including those affected by mental health issues.

For over 30 years, BAND has worked alongside people with lived experience of a mental health condition, supporting them through their recovery journey. Together with Family Action, BAND's staff will continue to offer this valuable help and support to the people of Bolton.

Rita Liddell, Chief Officer, BAND said

*"We are very much looking forward to joining Family Action. Merging with Family Action – a charity which is known and respected nationally - will allow BAND not only to continue supporting the people of Bolton, but to extend and strengthen our service and impact."*

David Holmes CBE, Chief Executive, Family Action said

*"We are delighted that BAND and its excellent Chief Officer and staff group are joining Family Action. BAND brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in effectively supporting people affected by mental health issues. It is a fantastic addition to Family Action's "family" of services and we look forward to working with everyone to continue and expand BAND's fantastic work."*

**ENDS**

#### **For further information and interviews please contact:**

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## **Notes to Editors:-**

### **About Family Action**

Family Action is a charity committed to building stronger families and brighter lives by delivering innovative and effective services and support that reaches out to many of the UK's most vulnerable people. We seek to empower people and communities to address their issues and challenges through practical, financial and emotional help.

Our work is wide-ranging and includes help for parents-to-be, the provision of many Children's Centres in local communities, intensive family support, emotional health and wellbeing services, counselling, mediation and therapies, support in schools and financial grants programmes. Family Action is also recognised as a leading provider of training.

**Registered Charity Number: 264 713**

**Website: [www.family-action.org.uk](http://www.family-action.org.uk)**

**Twitter: @family\_action**

**Facebook: Family Action**

### **About BAND**

#### **BAND - Building A New Direction**

BAND is a voluntary sector organisation operating mostly within the Borough of Bolton and we are proud to have been working alongside people with lived experience of a mental health condition for over 30 years.

We believe that everyone has the right and capability to lead an inclusive and meaningful life and our services are designed to support people to take steps towards achieving this. We have close relationships with people who come to BAND. Our awareness of the changing mental health environment over the years and the impact of these changes on the support requirements of service users has enabled us to continually develop our services so that they are responsive and appropriate to the people who use them. We offer one to one support through befriending and mentoring, a range of shared interest, activity and social groups, life skills training and support with every day issues such as benefits, housing and access to services. We work to support the service user voice in the development and delivery of services.