

Dementia UK and YoungDementia UK merger Frequently asked questions

Q. When is the merger complete?

A. The legal merger completed on 1 November 2020.

Q. How long have you been planning this?

A. The two charities have been collaborating for a few years and this summer, the trustees started exploring if a merger was in the best interests of our beneficiaries. Having decided it was, the Trustees undertook appropriate due diligence and discussion and were able to agree on completing the merger.

Q. How can we be sure that the focus there has been on young onset dementia will not be lost when there is no longer a charity dedicated to young onset dementia?

A. This has been considered very carefully as part of the merger discussions. Hilda Hayo, Dementia UK CEO has a specialism in young onset dementia and has been very actively involved in the Young Dementia Network (set up by YoungDementia UK), personally sitting on the steering group. The commitment from Dementia UK to young onset dementia is really clear and will also be very public from the outset including

- Continuation of, and investment in, the Young Dementia Network
- Investment in market research on young onset dementia to help inform the development of support and Young Dementia Network activity

Q. What is the impact on me as a beneficiary?

A. The impact should be only positive. You will have the same staff contact and continue to receive the same support. However, as we develop our young onset dementia work, we would hope that it will enhance the support we can offer you. We will be working with people affected by young onset dementia and their families to inform how we develop our work, and hope that you will get involved with this by answering any surveys that we will be sending out over the coming months. Dementia UK and YoungDementia UK both believe that our work needs to be informed by the people we exist for.

Q. What is the impact on me as a supporter?

A. You have helped us achieve all that we have, but there is so much more to be done. We hope you will continue to support Dementia UK and the work it is going to be doing to reach and help more people who have been affected by young onset dementia.

Q. What if I support you financially through regular payments?

A. If you support through a direct debit or standing order, you do not need to do anything.

Q. Is there anything I (as a supporter) need to do?

A. You could really help us by spreading the good news about this merger and how it will enable more people to benefit from our support. Encourage people to support us, get involved through volunteering, help us raise funds – there are so many ways



you can help in both continuing to do what you are already doing and also encouraging others to do the same.

Q. I'm a YoungDementia UK supporter - where will my money go?

A. We are really grateful for your continued support. Your money will be ring-fenced to our young onset dementia work (unless you tell us otherwise) and will help the merged charity make a real difference to people affected by young onset dementia across the UK.

Q. I am about to hold a fundraising event / activity – is there anything I need to do?

A. That is great that you are doing that for us – thank you. Please just go ahead and hold your event as planned and please do contact us if there is anything we can do to help. You can continue to pay money into the same bank account, online on our websites etc. Use the same branding and literature, we will tell you as soon as anything changes.

Q. Will all the YoungDementia UK staff stay?

A. The knowledge and experience of all the YoungDementia UK team is really important. Dementia UK wants to build on that knowledge and experience to expand its activities related to young onset dementia. We hope all the YoungDementia UK staff will join the merged team at Dementia UK and continue making a difference to peoples' lives. Tessa Gutteridge will be part of the Senior Leadership Team at Dementia UK, reporting directly to the Chief Executive, and retaining responsibility for Young Dementia Network and supporting the development of young onset focused activity within the charity.

Q. Will any of the trustees of YoungDementia UK become trustees of Dementia UK?

A. Yes. Emma Crozier has become a trustee of Dementia UK and will ensure young onset dementia is effectively represented on the Dementia UK Board. Emma has personal experience of young onset dementia.

Q. What branding will you use?

A. Dementia UK will be the primary brand. The YoungDementia UK brand won't be used in the long term, but The Young Dementia Network will continue to be used.

Q. Will the merger process be costly?

A. No. There were some legal and consultancy costs, but these were kept to a minimum. Over the coming months, some costs will be saved as systems and digital resources are integrated.

Q. Where will the office be for the merged organisation?

A. YoungDementia UK did not have an office and all YoungDementia UK staff were home based – this is not expected to change.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please send them to media@dementiauk.org and we will answer them and publish them online. If you don't want your question published, please mark your email 'Confidential'.

Further information about the merger can be found on the YoungDementia UK [website](#).