

Scottish Mental Health Law Review

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Collective Advocacy

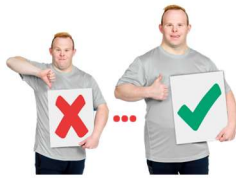
What people told us



Scottish Mental Health Law Review: Collective Advocacy



The **Scottish Mental Health Law Review** is a group of people looking at our laws about mental health.



We are checking to see if we need to improve the laws.



Collective advocacy is when a group of people with shared experiences come together to try to improve issues that affect their lives.



We asked 23 different groups what they thought about collective advocacy. 14 groups responded. Here is what they said.

The power of collective advocacy



Collective advocacy groups are powerful and important.



They support people to speak to service providers about issues.



They help make positive changes in society.



They have an important role helping people to understand their human rights.



They help organisations understand about human rights.



They are independent.

This is important.



Being part of a collective advocacy group stops people feeling alone. It also makes people more confident.

The issues collective advocacy groups face



People don't always know what collective advocacy does.



There is a lack of funding for groups.
This effects how many people they can reach.



Funding is often short term.
This means groups can't plan ahead.



Groups often don't get a say on matters that are important to them.

What would help collective advocacy groups do their job



To have a say in decisions and services they use and need.



To not have to worry about funding all the time.



For everyone to have a right to collective advocacy.



For everyone to know what collective advocacy is.



For people to agree how service providers and groups work together.



For groups to be able to go to court on behalf of its members

Or



For groups to be able to pass any issues they can't solve alone to another organisation.



Access to training for advocacy workers and group members.



A system that checks groups are working for their members.

What happens next?



Thank you for telling us what you think.



We will look at what people have said and use it to think about what could be changed to make things better.

Contact



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