

Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	01/03/13
Originator	Christine Chambers
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	Lothian Independent Advocacy Plan 2012 -2016

Please indicate if access to the document is to be "unrestricted" or "restricted", with regard to the terms of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

Unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------	-------------------------------------	------------	--------------------------

If the document is "restricted", please state on what grounds (click on grey area for drop-down menu):

For Publication

Please indicate which committee this document should be recorded into (click on grey area for drop-down menu):

East Lothian Council

Additional information:

Authorised By	<i>ajc</i>
Designation	<i>Head of Service</i>
Date	<i>14th March 2013</i>

For Office Use Only:	
Library Reference	
Date Received	
Bulletin	

REPORT TO: Members' Library Service

MEETING DATE: 31 March 2013

BY: Executive Director (Services for People)

SUBJECT: Lothian Independent Advocacy Plan 2012 -2016

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform the Members Library of the development of the Lothian Independent Advocacy Plan 2012-2016 and to seek approval for its content.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to note and approve the content of the Lothian Independent Advocacy Plan enabling its implementation within East Lothian

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The 2012-2016 Independent Advocacy Plan for Lothian has been developed by the Lothian partners noted below. The Council's involvement in the Steering Group will ensure equitable benefits for East Lothian service users and stakeholders.
- 3.2 The Lothian partners are:
- East Lothian Council
 - City of Edinburgh Council
 - West Lothian Council
 - Midlothian Council
 - NHS Lothian
- 3.3 NHS Lothian has received a recurring allocation of £73,000 per annum from the Scottish Government for investment in advocacy services in relation to the Patients' Rights Act. These monies have not yet been committed but areas already identified for consideration are the provision of training and interpreting services, increasing advocacy capacity to provide support for welfare reform issues, working with prisoners and advocacy provision in general hospital settings for older people.

- 3.4 This Plan is being progressed through NHS Lothian and Council approval routes.
- 3.5 Seven commitments are identified within the Plan:
- Continuing engagement and involvement
 - Training and awareness raising
 - Giving and receiving information
 - Raising awareness with people who may have experienced exclusion, disadvantage and/pr social isolation to support them to access Independent Advocacy
 - Working to identify gaps
 - Implementation , monitoring , annual review and action planning
 - Developing co-production and building social capital
- 3.6 To enable the implementation of these commitments and the continued engagement and involvement of providers and service users, a Providers Reference Group has been created. This group has representation on the Steering Group.
- 3.7 Demands on advocacy services in East Lothian are increasing with the introduction of new legislation, commitment to support 'hard to reach' groups and additional duties under Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007. Funding for advocacy provision by the Council has been maintained over the past 4years. Monitoring of funding to ensure best value is necessary and ongoing.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Since the last plan was published in 2008, the following are key legal and policy developments which have influenced how service are provided and influence plans for the future:
- Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007.
 - Equalities Act 2010.
 - Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010.
 - Aggravated Hate Crime 2009
 - Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011
 - Patient Rights (Scotland) Act 2011.
 - Self Directed Support - a National Strategy for Scotland 2010.
 - *Getting it Right for Young Carers: The Young Carers Strategy for Scotland 2010 – 2015.*
 - The National Dementia Strategy and associated Dementia Standards of Care, 2011
The Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance, various good practice documents.

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed and no negative impacts have been found.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial - no financial implications for the Council

6.2 Personnel - none

6.3 Other - none

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Lothian Independent Advocacy Plan 2012-2016

AUTHOR'S NAME	Christine Chambers
DESIGNATION	Strategy Officer (Adult Wellbeing)
CONTACT INFO	cchambers@eastlothian.gov.uk
DATE	8 March 2013

