

... on some things that might be of interest, in AdvoCard and beyond!

The SIAA Principles and Standards for Independent Advocacy and the SIAA Code of Practice for Independent Advocacy, which aim to make sure that people who use advocacy are getting a good quality advocacy service, were launched in May. Copies can be downloaded from the publications page of their website www.siaa.org.uk .

Copies of the Advocacy book, A Voice Through Choice – Stories about independent advocacy, can also be downloaded from their website.

If you would like them to send you hard copies of either/both of these please email them: enquiry@siaa.org.uk or phone 0131 260 5380

Policies and Procedures

AdvoCard's Policies and Procedures manual for Volunteer Advocacy Workers is now on our website, at www.advocard.org.uk/publications.php

In the office we are also featuring a 'Policy of the Month', to draw attention to each policy in turn and invite feedback on its relevance and effectiveness. Please fill in a feedback form or speak to Jane C or Jane R to give us your views.

Next training for new Volunteer Advocacy Workers:

Saturday Sept 6th	10am–4pm
Tuesday Sept 9th	6pm–9pm
Tuesday Sept 16th	6pm–9pm
Tuesday Sept 23rd	6pm–9pm
Tuesday Sept 30th	6pm–9pm
Tuesday Oct 7th	6pm–9pm
Saturday Oct 11th	10am–4pm
Tuesday Oct 14th	6pm–9pm

Please see our website or contact Jane C for more details.

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 – will come into force in Autumn 2008. The main provisions within the Act are:

- * A new power of right of entry to settings where abuse of adults is thought to be taking place,
- * The creation of banning orders so that perpetrators of abuse are removed from those settings.
- * Establishing Statutory Adult Protection Committees, operating on a multi-agency basis, to further develop strategic inter-agency working and collaboration.

More information, including downloadable guides about the Act, can be accessed at:

www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/care/VAUnit/ProtectingVA

If you would like to be kept up to date on training opportunities with regard to the Act, or would like further info, please ask Jane R or Jane C.

Welfare Reform Act 2007 –

which includes the reform of Incapacity Benefits and the introduction of the new Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) comes into force in October 2008.

Explanatory info and factsheets can be found at

www.disabilityalliance.org/ibchange.htm or on the DWP

website at

www.dwp.gov.uk/welfarereform/legislation_bill.asp

Again, for more info or training opportunities, please ask in the office.

Health in Mind Information Resource Centre includes:

- A mental health and well-being library
- Access to the internet
- Information on local services
- Self-help books and CDs

Call 0131 243 0106 for opening times and more info.

Or access their website at

www.health-in-mind.co.uk.

Contact us:

If you have anything that you would like to see included in a news sheet, please contact Jane C.

The next one will come out when it's full.