

Advocacy Highland's Summer Newsletter



ADVOCACY
HIGHLAND

— on your side —

What's New

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter.

We have been busy behind the scenes recently with Investors in People, recruitment and advocacy referrals.

We are also continuously looking at volunteer recruitment and hope to run some training soon.

We would love it if you could also follow us on Social media - Facebook and Instagram.

[Facebook](#)

[Advocacy Highland \(@advocacyhighland\) | Instagram](#)



Our CEO, Maya Uddin writes:

I am delighted to announce that we've just been awarded GOLD accreditation from IIP!

This is amazing that we have retained our Gold award despite the challenging times we are currently going through.

This award is a recognition of the staff's hard work and commitment – Thank you so very much for everything you do.

Well done everyone!!



Independent Advocacy Awareness Week



First ever in Scotland held April 24th - 28th

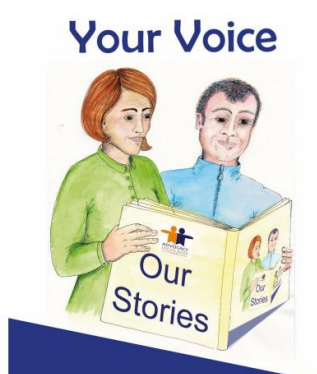
Organised by the SIAA membership, the first ever Scottish 'Independent Advocacy Awareness Week' aimed to promote independent advocacy in Scotland and highlight the difference it makes in people's lives.

The campaign took place from Monday 24 April to Friday 28 April 2023 to

- raise awareness of what independent advocacy is
- highlight the work of SIAA members across Scotland and
- share powerful stories.

We hope you enjoyed Advocacy Highland's 'Your Stories' on our social media platforms Instagram and Facebook.

There is still time to like or follow us and check them out, or go to [YOUR-VOICE-Illustrated-FINAL.pdf \(advocacy-highland.org.uk\)](#) :





In April we said a fond farewell to Mental Health Advocate **Eilidh Matheson** who has moved away. Eilidh was a great asset to our team and brought a lot of enthusiasm to her role. We wish her all the best for her next chapter.

We also said goodbye to our Chairperson **Alistair Ferns**. We thank him so much for all his hard work behind the scenes and being able to lead us through some difficult times including covid and the disruption of our office move.

We are delighted to welcome **Phillipa Cliff** as our new chairperson and **Victoria Murray** as Vice Chair.



John Ross has been appointed our new Advocacy Worker in Inverness. We welcome John to the team as a staff member, however John has been a volunteer advocate for many years and brings a wealth of experience, so he is ready to hit the ground running!! John is due to start with us on 26th June.

Welcome aboard John!

Admin Assistant Vacancy

This was readvertised and the closing date was 26th May. We are holding interviews soon.

Recovery Advocacy Project

We were successful in securing joint funding from [Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership](#) for one year for a recovery advocacy project.

This project is being undertaken jointly with [Partners in Advocacy](#).

The project will provide independent advocacy for those with drug or alcohol dependency or recovery issues and initially covers Inverness, northwards to include Dingwall, Alness and Invergordon and down to Carrbridge in the south.

We have been advertising for a Co-ordinator for this project and PiA have been advertising for an Advocacy Worker. Both posts are 17.5 hours per week and interviews for both are taking place soon.

It is hoped to expand the area in the future, funding dependent.

Volunteer



We truly value our volunteers at Advocacy Highland, and we are currently looking for friendly and dedicated people to join our team on a voluntary basis. This is a chance to make a difference and help empower people and give everyone the right to be heard.

We have a number of different volunteering roles available with differing time commitments:

- **Volunteer Advocates**
- **Volunteer Board Members**
- **Advocacy Champions**

Please get in touch for more information.

- Full training and support is provided.
- Out of pocket expenses are paid.
- Some roles are subject to a PVG check.

Advocacy Highland is 20 years old!



Advocacy Highland is 20 years old this year and hope to do something to celebrate. Watch this space...!



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info@advocacy-highland.org.uk or **First Floor Offices, Inverness Ice Centre, Bught Drive, Inverness, IV3 5SR.**

For Advocacy in your area go to: [Meet the dedicated team of Advocacy Highland, Inverness \(advocacy-highland.org.uk\)](http://www.advocacy-highland.org.uk)