



**NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH  
CONSUMER & CARER FORUM**

## **NMHCCF Advocacy Brief**

### **Introduction to Advocacy Briefs**

#### **Background**

Advocacy Briefs have been designed to enable consumers and carers to better understand and comment on key issues in mental health.

The decision to prepare these briefs was taken by the NMHCCF at its meeting in March 2009.

#### **Key Points for Consumers and Carers**

All the briefs will be prepared using this template. The briefs have been designed to distill key points about each area of interest and provide speaking points. The briefs can be used just for information or to inform media commentary undertaken by consumers and carers.

The briefs have been prepared by either consumers or carers, or by the NMHCCF Secretariat or both.

The index of Advocacy Briefs will be maintained by the NMHCCF Secretariat and updated as required. Consumers and carers are welcome to adapt the briefs to suit their own needs.

#### **Recommendations for Change and Key Issues for the Future**

Consumers and carers can suggest amendments to briefs or ideas for new briefs. The aim is to build up a helpful set of references to better equip consumers and carers in their advocacy.

#### **Name of nominated NMHCCF contact on this issue**

Each brief will list a contact person or persons to be a designated contact person(s) on the issue covered in the brief. This person can assist other consumers and carers on the issue, or be available for the media and should be contacted through the NMHCCF Secretariat (contact details below).

*Prepared by National Mental Health Consumer & Carer Forum  
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