

**MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY PROJECT**

**(West Lothian) SCIO**



General Terms

The Mental Health Advocacy Project (MHAP) has been in existence since the late 1980’s when care in the community began to develop. Initially, the Project was set up as a befriending service but developed into an independent advocacy service in the mid 1990’s. MHAP became a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation in May 2015.

We offer professional individual advocacy and collective advocacy services for people who experience mental health problems. We are committed to helping our service users to have their views and opinions heard. We provide advocacy services to approximately 500 people annually who experience mental health, drug and alcohol problems. We have a current staff team of 7 people and are governed by a management committee of 11 people with the majority being mental health service users.

* Our main office is in the Mental Health Resource Centre, Strathbrock Partnership Centre, Broxburn, West Lothian.
* We deal with issues such as detention, care & treatment, benefits & finance, housing, family, criminal and employment. The Project is seen as an important source of information on such issues, and we signpost people to other services where appropriate.
* The Project works closely with other voluntary and statutory agencies in West Lothian.
* The Project is a full member of the Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance.

Other Information

* Employees will be auto enrolled into a Group Personal Pension in line with current legislation – 6% contribution by employer and 2% contribution by employee (by law).
* Salary paid on 25th day of the month.
* Holidays: 30 days per year + 7 public holidays; holiday year April – March (pro-rata)
* Travel expenses paid at 45p per mile.
* Hours of work, Monday to Thursday 9am – 5pm, Friday 9am – 3pm.
* IT can be supplied for homeworking if appropriate.
* Probationary period: 6 months.