

How to contact us?

Friendship Care and Housing
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For a different language or
format, please contact us.

如果您需要其他语言或格式的帮助，请联系我们

В случае необходимости получить информацию на другом
языке или в другом формате просим связаться с нами.

Pour tout autre langue ou format, veuillez nous contacter

بۆ ھەر زمانىكى تىرىيان ھەر شىۋازىكى تىرى، تىكايە پەيوەندىيىمان بېئو بە

बिसै ही ठेव ब्राम्हा नां त्रुप लयी विरथा वरवे साञ्जे नास मपवव वते।

Haddii loo baahdo luqad kale ama qaab kale loo
sameeyo, fadlan nala soo xiriir

অন্য ভাষা অথবা তর্জমার জন্য আমাদের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করুন

لأى لغة أو صيغة أخرى برجاء الاتصال بنا

كسى دېگر زبان يا شكل كے ليے برائے مهربانى ہم سے رابطہ كيجيے



Independent Mental Health Advocacy Service (IMHA)

www.fch.org.uk

Who are we?

Friendship provide the statutory Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) service in Birmingham and Sandwell. Independent Mental Health Advocates (IMHAs) are available to support patients subject to the Mental Health Act. IMHAs are trained specialist advocates who provide advice and support to help people understand how the Act applies to them and exercise their rights.

Can I receive support from an IMHA?

You have a right to support from an IMHA if you are:

- ▲ Detained under the Mental Health Act (even if you are currently on leave from hospital) EXCEPT if you are detained under sections 4, 5(2), 5(4), 135 or 136
- ▲ Conditionally discharged and restricted
- ▲ Subject to Guardianship under the Act
- ▲ On Supervised Community Treatment (SCT).
Or if you are an Informal Patient and:
 - ▲ Being considered for a treatment to which section 57 applies (a section 57 treatment)
 - ▲ Under 18 and being considered for electro-convulsive therapy or any other treatment to which section 58A applies (a section 58A treatment)

How can I apply for an IMHA?

A member of staff in hospital, social services or a doctor should tell you about your right to an IMHA as soon as possible after you qualify under the Mental Health Act. IMHA's have to prioritise requests to visit patients from:

- ▲ The patient themselves

- ▲ The patient's nearest relative
- ▲ The patient's responsible clinician
- ▲ An Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP)

Your rights

You may refuse to be interviewed. You do not have to accept help from an IMHA if you do not want it. You may choose to end the support you are receiving from an IMHA at any time.

An IMHA can help you to:

Obtain information about and understand:

- ▲ How the Act applies to you
- ▲ Any conditions or restrictions you are subject to
- ▲ Any medical treatment you are being given or may be given
- ▲ Your rights under the Act
- ▲ The rights other people, such as your nearest relative, have in relation to you under the Act

Exercise your rights under the Act by:

- ▲ Supporting you to say what you want and express your views
- ▲ Representing you and speaking on your behalf
- ▲ Exploring options so you can make better informed decisions
- ▲ Participating in the decisions that are made about your care and treatment