

MSP Email Template

To make lifelong, independent advocacy a statutory right, we need your support. The most effective way to create change is through collective action, and that's where you come in. Use [this link](#) to find your local MSP and send them the below email template. If you have any questions or need support, contact policy@whocaresscotland.org.

It's time for action on advocacy—let's make this happen!

Subject: Urgent Action Needed: Support Lifelong Independent Advocacy for Care Experienced People

Dear [MSP's Name],

I am writing to urge you to support Who Cares? Scotland's call for independent, lifelong, relationship-based advocacy for all Care Experienced people in Scotland. This is a vital issue that requires urgent action to ensure the rights and voices of Care Experienced people are upheld at every stage of their lives.

The Promise made it clear:

"Care Experienced children and adults must have the right and access to independent advocacy, at all stages of their experience of care and beyond."

However, five years on, this right remains unfulfilled. Evidence from Who Cares? Scotland's advocacy work, Lifelong Helpline, and participation findings show that Care Experienced people continue to face significant barriers in accessing independent advocacy, with inconsistency across Scotland. I am calling for this to change.

Why This Matters Now

Care Experienced people often navigate a complex system of professionals and decisions being made about their lives. While many professionals have good intentions, they also have competing priorities. Independent advocacy ensures that Care Experienced people have someone solely focused on their rights and needs, helping them to:

- Be heard and understood
- Access vital services and support
- Make informed choices about their future

Life's challenges do not end at 18 or 21. Care Experienced people deserve lifelong advocacy, just as others rely on family, unions, or legal professionals for support throughout their lives.

The Call to Action

We are calling on the Scottish Government to enshrine the statutory right to independent, relationship-based, lifelong advocacy for every Care Experienced person who needs it. This must be included in the Promise Bill to ensure meaningful change. As your constituent, I urge you to actively support this call to enshrine independent, relationship-based, lifelong advocacy in the upcoming Promise Bill.

This is a chance to make Scotland a global leader in supporting Care Experienced people. I urge you to take action and stand by those who need independent advocacy the most.

For more information please visit: www.whocaresscotland.org/actiononadvocacycampaign/

I look forward to your response and to hearing how you will support this crucial issue.

Best regards,

[Your Name]

[Your Contact Information]

