

Policy Statement



Human rights

We are fully committed to complying with the Human Rights Act 1998, enshrined within the Scotland Act, and recognise our responsibility to ensure that our policy making, practices and decision making are compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights.

Sense Scotland will :

- Regularly audit all policies and procedures to ensure they do not compromise the human rights of service users or staff.
- Integrate human rights awareness within staff training and ensure that staff understand their responsibilities.
- Ensure service users and staff have their views heard, and the opportunity to challenge decisions which affect them, via formal and informal processes.
- Take a balanced, consultative and well-considered approach to all situations where individuals' rights may be qualified, due to their circumstances, needs and legal situation, such as the existence of guardianship.
- Ensure that the complexity of service users' needs does not lead to a diminishment of their human rights.

The relevant staff guidance is: Working Principles (October 2002) and Human Rights Audit Tool (December 2001).

Joyce Wilson, Depute Director, is the designated person in relation to this policy.

Consultation method: Consultation with Megan Wilson and at Internal Policy Team. Circulation to SMG 14 March 2005.

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Available in other formats on request.

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