



Action Advocacy Alliance (AAA) is a membership alliance made up of providers of independent advocacy whose aim is to promote, support, and advocate for the principles and practice of independent advocacy across England and Wales.

We came together in 2014 following a scoping exercise, which indicated that there was a broad consensus that there needed to be a united and national voice to enable equality within the sector – ensuring all voices are equal and providing a national contact. There was consensus around the need to promote advocacy and for the sector and to be able to exert influence through having a collective voice. It was also agreed that being able to share and provide information about advocacy and advocacy services nationally, as well as contribute to and influence national policy and practice, were important activities that could be achieved. For more information about the aims, mission and vision of AAA please see <http://www.actionadvocacyalliance.org/about-advocacy-action-alliance>.

The AAA steering Group, which is made up of representatives of advocacy providers across England and Wales has continued to meet and has:

- commissioned and completed a monitoring project in relation to [commissioning Independent Care Act Advocacy](#)
- Held a conference in March 2017, providing information to and gathering views of the sector about the priorities for AAA

At the conference we heard that this broad consensus regarding a need for a National Voice to influence and provide support to the advocacy sector still very much held true. However due to issues of capacity the steering group have experienced challenges in moving forward. Our experience so far is that to be effective then we need to be able to employ/commission work to 'be that voice'.

The Steering Group have committed to developing AAA for another year, however it's now make or break and unless AAA manage to source significant funds to achieve our objectives AAA will be forced to discontinue.