



Spreading the News



April 2025

World Autism
Acceptance Month



- In this special edition of Spreading the News

Independent advocacy for independent lives:

A groundbreaking evidence base to grow inclusive support services for people with learning disabilities and autistic people

socialfinance.org.uk

- Independent Advocacy for Independent Lives ...
Non-Statutory Advocacy

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1. Independent Advocacy for Independent Lives



- Amy Telford



- Marshall Wilson



Two Experts from Speakup with lived experience of Autism worked on the Independent Advocacy for Independent Lives programme

The Henry Smith Charity

founded in 1628

This £2.6 million three year project (2022 – 2025) was funded by the Henry Smith Charity



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2. The 4 Big Questions



People were asked 4 Big Questions as part of this work:



1. What is non-statutory advocacy?



2. How did advocacy help people?



3. What difference did advocacy make in people's lives?



4. How much does advocacy cost and what are the benefits of this work?



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3. What is Non-Statutory Advocacy?



Non-Statutory Advocacy ...

Such as Self-advocacy,
Peer-advocacy or
Group-advocacy ...



Is provided by independent
groups and organisations
throughout the country



- Helping people have their voice heard and making decisions



- Helping people get ready for meetings



- Telling people about other services that can help them and supporting them to contact them



- Making information easier to understand.



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4. Statutory Advocacy Services ...

Are those Advocacy Services set up by Laws ...



Such as:

- Care Act
- Children's Act
- Mental Health Act Advocacy



Both ...

Statutory and Non-Statutory Advocacy Services are **VERY** important for people



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5. The Independent Advocacy for Independent Lives Report



Amy and Marshall, along with Dorset People First, made a video to show the importance of Independent Non-Statutory Advocacy for people



Watch it together with someone you trust

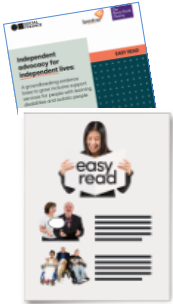
click



<https://vimeo.com/1060121019/d22d9b2dc4?share=copy>



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The final easy read report ...
“Independent Advocacy
for Independent Lives Report”
... details how Non-Statutory
Advocacy can make a big
difference to people’s lives



Read it together with someone
you trust



<https://www.socialfinance.org.uk/assets/documents/Henry-Smith-Social-Finance-Independent-Advocacy-Final-Report-Easyread-V2.pdf>



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Celebrating the good things Autistic People are doing



Read together, with someone you trust ...

Special editions for April 2025
World Autism Acceptance Month



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Success Stories

www.speakup.org.uk
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Success Stories



www.speakup.org.uk
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- Delivering Employment Opportunities for Autistic People in South Yorkshire



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