



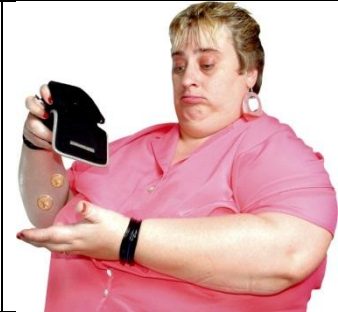
## National Forum Update

for Programme Board pre meeting  
on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2013

The National Forum wishes to bring this to the Programme Board's attention.

<p>Changes to benefits can make people with learning difficulties with lower support needs very vulnerable.</p>	An illustration showing a woman in a red top sitting at a desk with a sign that says 'HEALTH INSURANCE'. She is looking at a document. A man in a green suit is sitting in a chair facing her, appearing to be in a consultation.
<p>If people who now get lower rate Disability Living Allowance lose this they may not have enough money to pay for support.</p>	An illustration of Euro currency, including a 5 Euro banknote and several coins of various denominations (1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 cents) scattered on a surface.
<p>This opens them up to Hate and Mate Crime.</p>	A cartoon illustration of a person wearing a black hat and glasses, carrying a large, bulky bag that is red and green in color. The person is walking towards the right.

Harry, the Representative from the North East, recently had his bank account emptied by a 'friend' he met in a pub.



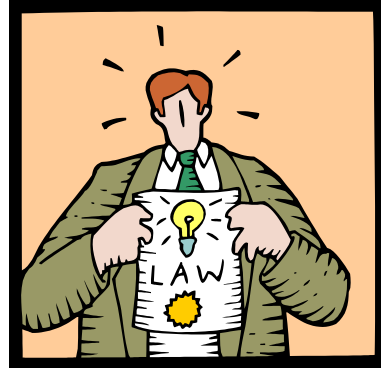
Advocacy and self advocacy services are closing.



Many Local Authorities will not fund advocacy because it is not a policy priority.



Advocacy not in Care Bill



Nowhere to go for help, advice, support



We are really worried about what is happening to people.



We are asking our members for more information so that we can tell Government about this.

