

Do you want to bring change for people affected by drugs and alcohol in Scotland?

The Scottish Government has made an important commitment to put people with lived and living experience at the heart of the National Mission to reduce drug related deaths. Involving people affected by problem substance use is important for a human rights based approach to policy making. This approach aims to empower people so that their voices and their rights are acted on in decision-making.

Earlier this year, Nicola Sturgeon asked Professor Alan Miller, an internationally recognised human rights leader, to lead on this work. Professor Miller will bring together people affected by drugs and alcohol and people who have a responsibility to provide services in something called the **National Collaborative**. He has done lots of work with different communities who face barriers to their human rights. He is separate from the Government and makes decisions independently.

It is important that the National Collaborative is made of many different kinds of people, with many different experiences. Professor Miller is especially keen to hear from you if you think you face multiple disadvantages.

Interested? For more information or to learn about the roles within the National Collaborative below, please go to <https://www.gov.scot/groups/national-mission-on-drugs-national-collaborative/> or contact the team at NationalCollaborative@gov.scot



Take part in **Community Conversations** and peer research



Be part of a **reference group**. This might be through an existing group



Get involved in your local **ADP Networks**



Nominate yourself or somebody to be part of the **Change Team** who will lead the Human Rights Based Approach

What will the National Collaborative do?

The right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and other human rights are for everyone – no matter who you are. But people affected by drugs and alcohol (including their families and support workers) face barriers to enjoying their human rights. For example, stigma can make it more difficult to get all of the different kinds of support you may need.

To help reduce these barriers, the National Collaborative will...



...develop a **Charter of Rights**. This will help people affected by drugs and alcohol (and their families) to understand and exercise their rights. The Charter will also give those providing services and government a tool to help make services better. This will be based on the rights set out in the forthcoming [Human Rights Bill](#) in Scotland.



...set out an **Action Plan** to make sure people affected by drugs and alcohol get these rights in practice. It will be up to the National Collaborative to decide what is important but this could include things like plans for how complaints should be handled or suggestions for training for peer support workers and other people working in services.