

Headway Somerset have two Hospital Liaison workers - Wendy Copeman and Ali Parrott who have now been in post for two years. As part of the service we visit people with acquired brain injury and their families at Musgrove Park Hospital, Yeovil District Hospital and Somerset Neurological Rehabilitation Centre and the service has been a resounding success.

Headway Hospital Liaison was established in response to a need identified by people with brain injury, who said that whilst the care they received in hospital was superb, on leaving, many felt isolated, frightened and unsure of where to turn to for help. For some, problems with debilitating memory loss, anger issues, financial worries, confusion and grief over the skills lost/ absence of the person they were, remained unaddressed until they found Headway. One service user stated that getting appropriate follow on care and support: "Should not be such a lottery". Hence the Hospital Liaison role was born, with the intention of 'Bridging the Gap'



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HEADWAY SOMERSET LEGAL SUPPORT AND ADVICE SERVICE

Headway Somerset



Providing assistance
on legal matters to
those who have
suffered a brain injury
and their families.

If you, a member of your family or loved one have suffered a brain injury your first concern will be in relation to treatment and recovery.

The effect of a brain injury can often be complex and the recovery period uncertain. As a consequence there are a number of issues that may arise where legal advice should be obtained.

For example:

- * **Access to a bank account** or the receipt of wages or benefits due to the injured person so that domestic expenses can be met.
- * **Arrangements for ongoing care** including NHS continuing healthcare assessments and ongoing medical treatment or care upon discharge from hospital.

- * **Whether there might be an entitlement to compensation** arising from the cause of the injury.
- * **The assessment of mental capacity** to manage affairs.
- * **The appointment of an Attorney or Court Deputy** to look after financial matters.

It is important that you seek advice from a Solicitor who is experienced in dealing with the issues arising from a brain injury.

Headway, the brain injury charity maintains a directory of accredited Solicitors in Somerset who have proven experience and the resources to assist you.

Some initial advice can generally be provided without charge and the funding arrangements for legal work explained in a transparent way including in certain circumstances access to Legal Aid.

If you would like to talk to a Solicitor please
call the Headway Somerset office on
01823 618519



we will arrange for somebody to contact you at a convenient moment.



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