



FREE OUR PEOPLE NOW CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Easy read information

The Free Our People Now Campaign work has done little work for a few months whilst I travelled around Europe.

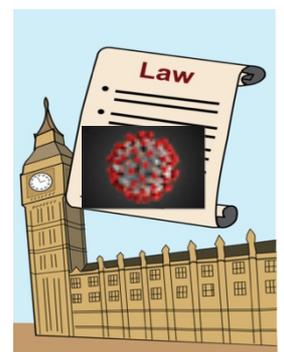


I am pleased to say that I am safe at home before Covid-19 outbreak around the world.



The Free Our People Now Campaign work has started to happen again in 2020.

In March the Government brought in the Coronavirus Act. This law allowed the Government to lock down, tell us to stay at home unless we had a good reason.



The Coronavirus Act allowed some changes in the following laws until March 2022.

It will be easier to lock someone up in a psychiatric hospital and to treat them with drugs without consent under some changes to the Mental Health Act.



Changes in sectioning processes, the mental health tribunal court, hospital inspections and visitor policies has meant that inpatients have little safeguards against abuse taking place under the Mental Health Act, NHS and CQC policies.

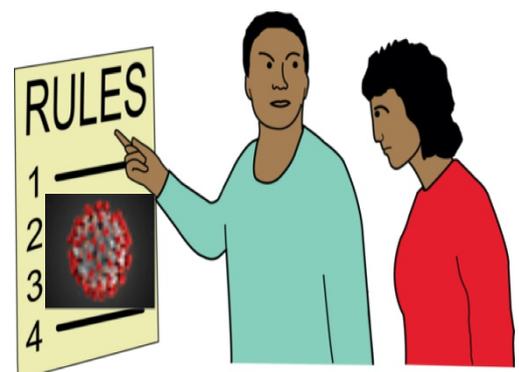


The local authority duties around providing support that disabled people need to live in their own homes under changes in the Care Act.



Local Authorities will no longer be required to provide all the support that disabled people need to live a good life.

Free Our People Now Campaign is working with disabled peoples groups and inpatients challenging unlawful decisions made by hospitals and local authorities.



We are hearing about blanket policies, where the rules are the same for everyone without good reason.

We are aware of hospitals having rules saying that no one sectioned under the Mental Health Act can take community leave since covid-19 virus outbreak.



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We are aware of local authorities not helping disabled people get the support they need to live in the community.

We are working with inpatients and organisations to challenge this



Update of how the money is being spent

I want to say a big thank-you for everyone who gave money to help set up a network of disabled advocates to help our peers get out of institutions.



I raised money for Free Our People Now campaign for my 50th birthday party.

Because of leave and covid-19 outbreak meant that no decision has been made on how to spend the money. The money is being looked after by Inclusion London. As soon as a decision has been made I will let you know.

