



Ministry
of Justice



Department
of Health

29 March 2016

Dear members of the MCA Forum,

National Mental Capacity Action Day

I am writing to extend my warmest thanks to you for coming and contributing to the National Mental Capacity Action Day.

Thanks to your efforts and the support of your organisation the day was an overwhelming success. I personally took away a great deal inspiration and assurance from the discussion and ideas of the day. Your enthusiasm to improve the use of the MCA and put the individual at the heart of our services was clear to me. I hope that you are just as excited and inspired by the prospects of a national movement for change, which the forum represents, as I am.

I will be continuing to champion the work of the forum, and the day has given me much food for thought on where we can make the biggest impact. This is the just the start of the forum's work, and your commitment to its goals will make all the difference in delivering real and lasting improvement. But to truly achieve change we need you, as members of the forum, to stand by the commitments for action, which pledge to:

- Commit to furthering the principles of the Mental Capacity Act
- Commit to advocating for these principles
- Commit to taking action, no matter how small, to improve MCA implementation

As well as your personal contribution, I also want to stress my thanks to your organisation for supporting your attendance and inclusion in the forum. Our success as a movement will depend on this ongoing backing. Please do show this letter to your management and express thanks on my behalf for their support.

We will soon publish follow up information from the day on the SCIE MCA directory and we will continue to publicise the forum's work on the MCAatDH twitter feed and #mentalcapacity.

Yours sincerely,

Ilora Baroness Finlay of Llandaff
Chair, National Mental Capacity Forum