



We value your
Opinion!

**Service
User and
Supporters
Council
(SUAS)**

What is SUAS?

The Service User and Supporters Council (SUAS) is a voluntary committee of current and past service users of St Patrick's Mental Health Services (SPMHS) and their carers, families and supporters. SUAS seeks to represent the views of all service users and acts in an advisory and advocacy capacity in SPMHS.

What is our mission?

SUAS occupies an advocacy role in representing the views, experiences and aspirations of service users and their families, relating to mental health services in SPMHS. SUAS works in partnership with numerous teams and departments in SPMHS to actively participate in areas of policy-making, planning, organisation, delivery and monitoring of programmes and services.

What do we do?

SUAS works to enhance the experience of service users who receive care and treatment at SPMHS, along with their families. SUAS aims to ensure a positive experience in all aspects of their treatment, both during and after their time in SPMHS.

The council's primary focus is listening to and representing the views of people who engage with SPMHS' services. As such, SUAS:

- Recognises the importance of open communication with SPMHS in all aspects of mental healthcare, continuing to advance this on behalf of all whom the council represents
- Provides input on various developments within SPMHS, represents the views and voices of service users on multiple committees, and engages with SPMHS senior management
- Works to develop consultative and communication structures with the whole body of service users
- Seeks to form strategic partnerships with other organisations in the mental health arena.



What is our remit?

SUAS is not a replacement for the SPMHS comments and complaints system. We are happy to assist if you wish to raise an issue, but ask that you avail of the other, established mechanisms for providing feedback and making complaints.

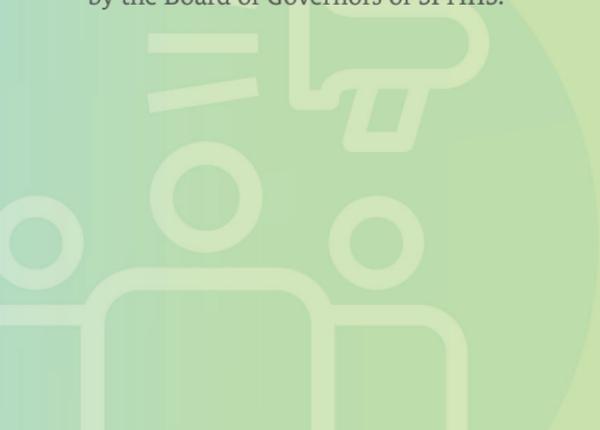
SUAS is not in a position to provide one-on-one advocacy services. If you have an issue you would like support with, the Irish Advocacy Network (IAN) can provide a trained, independent advocate who can assist you in advocacy issues. Details of this and other advocacy services are available in the main SPMHS Information booklet, on ward noticeboards and in the Information Centre in St Patrick's University Hospital.

How can you get involved?

SUAS is keen to understand and include the views and perspectives of all service users engaging in programmes and services, holding regular morning talks to share information. If you would like to get involved, please come along to one of our morning talks or contact our Service User Engagement Coordinator, who can provide further details and assistance.

How do I join SUAS?

Our Service User Engagement Coordinator will be happy to meet you and provide you with further information about SUAS and the process of joining. Please note that membership of SUAS is subject to ratification by the Board of Governors of SPMHS.



www.stpatricks.ie

Contact SUAS

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