



## Campaigning toolkit

### Meeting with Councillors (2)



Councillors are elected to represent their communities and make decisions about how local money is spent on services. As such, it is important councillors understand the needs and concerns of people with MND and their carers.



## Meeting your local councillors



Contact your local council to arrange an appointment with the councillor/s you wish to meet with. You can email them directly, or make an appointment to attend their ward surgery.



Please let the campaigns team [campaigns@mndassociation.org](mailto:campaigns@mndassociation.org) and your Regional Care Development Adviser (RCDA) know your meeting arrangements. We can help you to prepare, and knowing that a meeting has taken place will inform future contact with the councillor/s. If in doubt as to who your regional team are, please visit our website: [www.mndassociation.org/staff-contacts](http://www.mndassociation.org/staff-contacts)



Prepare what you are going to say, and be clear what action you are hoping the councillor/s will take after you meet them, eg attend/speak at a local event, speak/write to other local decision makers or the media on your behalf.



Have your key points and facts to hand. The campaigns team will be able to provide statistics on the number of people living with motor neurone disease (MND) in your area: [campaigns@mndassociation.org](mailto:campaigns@mndassociation.org). A conversation with your RCDA can also provide further local examples and knowledge.



During the meeting stay focused on the campaign issues. If you feel comfortable to do so, share your personal stories and experiences; these are compelling, and will provide evidence to support your ask.



At the meeting close, thank the councillor/s for their time, confirm and write down any agreed action points. Send a follow up email with these details.

## After the meeting

Once you have had your first meeting, it is important to keep your campaigning in the minds of local decision makers. As well as emailing them after the meeting, there are a few things you can do to build up the relationship:



Send updates of the successes you and, if applicable, your local branch or group have had.



Invite them to events or meetings organised by your branch or group, and help them to have conversations with people living with MND, their families and carers.