**Return of successful Power of Attorney campaign – and discount for NHS Tayside staff**

Following its success last year, adverts for ‘Start the Conversation’ are set to return to TV screens across Tayside in a bid to raise awareness of the importance of having a Power of Attorney granted to a trusted relative or friend.

The campaign, initially funded by the Scottish Government, is a partnership between NHS Tayside, Angus, Dundee and Perth and Kinross Councils and local law firms.

Through TV adverts shown at peak times during December, the campaign aims to encourage people to talk to trusted family and friends about establishing a Power of Attorney (POA).

During December and January, law firms who are members of the [Solicitors for Older People Scotland](http://www.solicitorsforolderpeoplescotland.co.uk/) (SOPS) group are offering NHS Tayside staff members 10% off the cost of organising a Power of Attorney.

Just present your NHS Tayside ID badge to the Tayside SOPS member (RSB/Lindsays, McCash & Hunter and MacNabs.

This offer also applied to local authority staff in Tayside.

Latest information shows that since the campaign began last year there has been a 10% rise in the number of Tayside POAs registered with the Office of Public Guardian in Scotland.

Sally Wilson, who is working on the project with colleagues in Tayside said, “Many people are unaware that if they become ill or injured and are unable to make decisions for themselves, no one else can do this on their behalf, not even their next of kin, unless they have legally been given power to do so through a Power of Attorney.”

The campaign has a dedicated website, [www.mypowerofattorney.org.uk](file:///C:\Users\thbwilsonsv\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.IE5\7G5MFKP7\www.mypowerofattorney.org.uk), which provides valuable help and information including costs involved in setting up a POA and how to check if you are eligible for Legal Aid.