advocacy focus

Independent Free Confidential



Including people in decisions about their care

Advocacy supports people to be part of decisions about their care and support



Understand their rights

Understand social care processes

Talk with others

Raise concerns or challenge decisions



advocacy focus

Advocacy under the Care Act

We help people to live the lives they want to live

How we help people

The Care Act 2014 introduced the role of an Independent Advocate to support people going through social care processes when the person has:

- 'Substantial difficulty' in understanding, retaining, weighing up or communicating their wishes and feelings
- AND no one who can help or support them

An Advocate can help someone to:

- ✓ Understand the process
- ✓ Understand their rights
- ✓ Make their own decisions
- ✓ Challenge decisions made
- ✓ Talk to professionals and others
- ✓ Look at records
- ✓ Understand care plans
- ✓ Understand safeguarding.

- Referrals must come from the local authority
- Advocacy should be considered from the first point of contact with the person

This applies in all settings including the community, care homes and prisons for:

- Needs assessment
- Preparation/review of a support plan
- Transitions assessment
- Carer's assessment Child's carer's assessment
- Young carer's assessment
- Safeguarding enquiries
- Safeguarding reviews

> "My Advocate listened to me and was on my side. They helped me to get the support I need and now I can go out with my friends when I want to."
>
> - Jack*

*Name has been changed

Who we are

- We are a charity providing person-led advocacy since 1998
- Our service is high quality, confidential and free
- We are independent of local authorities, the NHS and Social Services.



Charity Number 1086151