advocacy focus

Independent Free Confidential



Supporting people to make important decisions

Advocacy supports and represents people who lack capacity to make important decisions about a change of accommodation or serious medical treatment when unbefriended



Consult with the person

Weigh up pros and cons of the decision

Challenge decisions on their behalf

Review the capacity assessment



advocacy focus

Advocacy under the Mental Capacity Act

We help people to live the lives they want to live

How we help people

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 introduced the statutory role of an Independent Advocate to support and represent people who lack capacity (due to a disturbance or impairment or the mind or brain) to make important decisions about their lives, such as:

- Serious medical treatment
- Long term change of accommodation
- Care reviews
- Safeguarding

The criteria is that the person is **unbefriended**. This means that they have no one appropriate to support them (except in safeguarding)

An Advocate can:

- ✓ Take the time to consult with the person to ascertain their wishes and feelings as far as possible
- ✓ Review the mental capacity assessment and if necessary, request a new one
- ✓ Read relevant paperwork such as daily notes and care plans
- ✓ Provide a report to the decision maker
- ✓ Speak to others in the persons' life
- ✓ Audit the decision maker's process to ensure the act is followed
- ✓ Challenge the decision maker's decision, if necessary.

Referrals for advocacy are from the decision maker

> "Due to the thorough report from the Advocate, I was made aware of important factors to consider about the person, so that the decision I made was in their best interests."
>
> - Clive, Social Worker

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

Chat to an Advocate online now
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