



Information about a Care Act Advocate

What is a Care Act Advocate?

A Care Act advocate is trained to provide advocacy support to people under a piece of law called the Care Act (2014).

This advocacy work is statutory which means it must be done by law.

In England, the Care Act explains what care and support people should get if they need it. The local authority must follow the rules in the Care Act to make sure that people who are eligible are given help with their care and support needs.

What does a Care Act Advocate do?

A Care Act advocate will support you to understand and be involved in the processes of the Care Act:

Care assessment - this is how the local authority decide what support you need.

Care and support planning - the local authority will write a plan for you about what help you can have for your care and support needs.

Care review – the local authority will hold yearly reviews to talk about your care and support needs with you.

Safeguarding - if you or someone else is at risk of harm, the local authority might use a safeguarding process to keep you and others safe.

When can I have a Care Act Advocate?

You have the right to support from a Care Act advocate if you would find it difficult to:

- understand important (relevant) information about your care and support needs
- remember the important information
- look at the good and bad things of the important information. This is called weighing up
- communicate your views, wishes and feelings

If you would find it difficult to do one or all of these things on your own and you do not have an appropriate person to help you, then you can have a Care Act advocate to support you.

An appropriate person is a friend or family member who knows you well. It is someone who trust to help you to understand information, make your decision and have your views and wishes heard.