

Patient Advocacy

Advocacy is a way of protecting and asserting our rights. If someone speaks on your behalf, they are commonly known as an advocate.

An advocate will be there for you and can;

- Listen to you.
- Help you to plan any action you may need or wish to take.
- Write letters and make telephone calls with you, or for you.
- Ensure your views are heard by attending meetings/reviews with you.
- Obtain information for you, or put you in touch with someone who can.
- Spend time with you preparing for meetings.
- Investigate alternative sources of support.
- Increase communication levels between yourself and others.
- Find out what your rights are.
- Liaise with relevant agencies.

The Care Act is very clear which processes the Independent Advocate would be involved in. They are as follows:

- A needs assessment
- A carer's assessment
- The preparation of a care and support plan
- A review of a care and support plan
- A safeguarding enquiry
- A safeguarding adult review
- A young carers assessment
- Transition process

Advocates remain independent from social care providers, will not try to influence the decision-maker or put forward their own views. The council does not provide an advocacy service, but some local organisations do and they can assist you in finding an advocate.

FREE ADVOCACY SERVICE - DONCASTER

The free independent advocacy service in Doncaster is provided by Voice Ability. Please find their details below. If you need any help contacting this service please ask a member of staff for assistance.

Voice Ability

24-26 Wood Street,

Doncaster,

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doncaster@voiceability.org

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