



Referrals for an advocate under the Care Act must be made by the local authority. If you think you might be entitled to an advocate under the Care Act, please speak to your social worker and ask them to contact Advonet. If you need support to ask a social worker for a referral, we may be able to help with that.

Charity No. 1126132 . Company No. 04229975. Advonet, Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

Call us today on
0113 244 0606

Advonet exists to ensure everyone can have their needs heard and their rights respected, this is called advocacy. Advonet provides a variety of independent advocacy services and promotes independent advocacy provided by partners in Leeds and the surrounding area. We also act as the single point of referral for advocacy services in Leeds. Advonet is funded by Leeds City Council but works independently.

To make a referral for any form of advocacy, or to enquire about our services, please contact us or visit our website:

 **0113 244 0606**
 **office@advonet.org.uk**
 **www.advonet.org.uk**
 **@AdvonetUK**

Advocacy under the Care Act

“**Advonet**
Providing Independent Advocacy
& Related Support”

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INVESTORS
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Keeping your voice at the heart of your care and support.

The Care Act 2014 states that local authorities must provide advocates in certain circumstances where somebody may need help to make sure they are involved in making decisions about their care and support. If you receive care services, such as care in your home or residential care, or if you need to receive these services, you may have the right to independent advocacy. An independent advocate under the Care Act will help you to ask for the care and support you need. It will be the advocate's duty to promote your well-being. An advocate can help you to understand your rights and the choices you have. They can also help you to speak up about the care that you already receive.

There are two conditions that must be met before someone can be entitled to advocacy under the Care Act. These are:

- The person has substantial difficulty in being fully involved with their assessment, care and support planning and review or safeguarding
- There is no one appropriate and available to support and represent their wishes

Substantial difficulty means:

- Understanding relevant information
- Retaining the information
- Using/weighing up the information
- Communicating their own views, wishes and feelings

Appropriate to support means:

- Someone who consents to providing support
- The person requiring support consents to that particular person supporting them

Someone is not appropriate to support if they are employed by the local authority or paid to support the person in another role.



The kind of issues that an independent advocate under the Care Act might be involved with could be:

- A needs assessment
- A carer's assessment
- Preparation of a care or support plan
- A review of care and support, even if an advocate had not been involved before
- Safeguarding processes
- An appeal process against a local authority's decision

