Someone to speak on your behalf

Sometimes it helps to have someone else who can speak on your behalf and represent your interests, especially in formal situations or when you don't feel very confident. A person who speaks on your behalf in this way is often called an 'advocate'.

As a result of the Care Act 2014 your local council has a new duty from 1st April 2015 to ensure that the people it works with have access to an advocate in certain circumstances.

- **What does an advocate do?**
- **When should you be supported by an advocate?**
- **Who can act as your advocate?**
- **Mental health advocacy for people in hospital**
- **Advocacy for people who need help to make decisions**
- **Your local advocacy services**
- **Leaflets about advocacy**
- **Other information and advice**