

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 a right to have 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 you trust to help you to understand information, make your decision and have your views and wishes heard.