

1

Background:

Advocacy is a statutory support service for adults with mental health problems, mental capacity needs and who have care and support needs, whether or not those needs are currently being met.

It is a free-of-charge service to help people have a voice in the care and support decisions affecting them.



Advocacy for Adults



2

Why it matters:

The advocacy service is independent of the NHS, Adult Care or private care providers and provides an important safeguard for service users to ensure personalised support. The benefits of advocacy for the service user is having someone by their side, helping them to be as fully involved in decision making as possible, to ensure the best outcome for their lives. The benefit to professionals is being more able to involve the service user's views in care planning.

7

What to do?

Please contact the Advocacy Together Hub at Rochdale on 01706 645830 or via email at rochdaleadvocacy@together-uk.org where you can discuss your advocacy needs.

3

Information:

There are different types of Independent advocacy support: *Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA)* – An automatic right for people detained with restrictions under the Mental Health Act 1983. Helping them to understand their rights and support them through the process of care and treatment

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) – for those assessed as lacking capacity under the Mental Capacity Act and with no-one appropriate to consult in specific decisions such as serious medical treatment or changes of accommodation.

6

Remember:

Please note that advocacy is not an advice service and does not deal with legal, financial, benefits or housing issues

5

Information:

Care Act Advocacy – For individuals and carers with substantial difficulty in being involved in the assessment process and no other appropriate person willing to support. Independent advocates can support with: Needs assessments, preparation or review of care and support plans, carers and young carers assessments, safeguarding. The duty applies in the community, care homes or prisons.

NHS Complaints - Practical assistance for any person making a complaint about any health issue

4

Information:

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) Advocacy – Advocates will support a relevant person subject to a DoLS when instructed by the supervisory body.

Generic Advocacy- For individuals 18+ with Substantial difficulty in line with the Care Act who are open to social services or the CMHT with no one appropriate to support them in a specific issue.