

Citizen Advocacy

A Citizen Advocate is someone who volunteers their time to support and represent you.

They are someone who will be on your side when you want to say something.

A Citizen Advocate will listen to what you want and make sure people listen to you.

They can support you to:

- Find information so you can make choices and sort out problems
- Change your services if you want to
- Know about your rights and make sure they are respected
- Make difficult decisions
- Make a complaint if you are not happy about something

Why does the service exist?

Most people have people around them that they can rely on for different things; family, friends, colleagues, professionals. This is called your 'circle of support'.

Citizen advocates are a great way widen the circle of support. Because they are totally independent, they can work with you to find out what you really want to do, without any pre-conceived expectations or ideas.

The partnership that is formed can work towards developing positive relationships with individuals, relevant community groups and organisations.

Volunteering

We may be looking for people to become Citizen Advocates in your area.

We provide all new potential Citizen Advocates with induction training, on-going training and regular updates. We also provide support and evaluation sessions for each partnership.

If you would like become a Citizen Advocate or would like to volunteer to become a Citizen Advocate, please take a look in our 'join our team' section to see what opportunities are available near you. Alternatively, you can contact your local office and speak to one of our advocates.

Help us improve

Want to make a comment, complaint, suggestion or compliment? Talk to any of our team members - email us on comments@voiceability.org or give us a ring on 01223 555800.