

6 ways to better advocacy under the Care Act

Updated: October 2022

The Care Act is a law that says every council must have an advocacy service for people who find it difficult to have a say in their care and services and do not have someone to help them with this.



Councils **commission** another organisation to run an advocacy service for them.

Commission means paying another organisation to do work for you. When they do this they have a set way to choose who will do the work and what they will do to check they are doing it right.

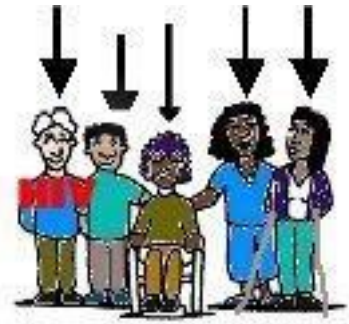
This list has 6 things councils should do when they are commissioning advocacy to make sure they get a good service and better advocacy for everyone.



1. People who work in commissioning should know what advocacy is and why it is important for people to have choice and control.

2. There must be **co-production** in every part of commissioning. **Co-production means working together with people who use services and carers as equal partners.**





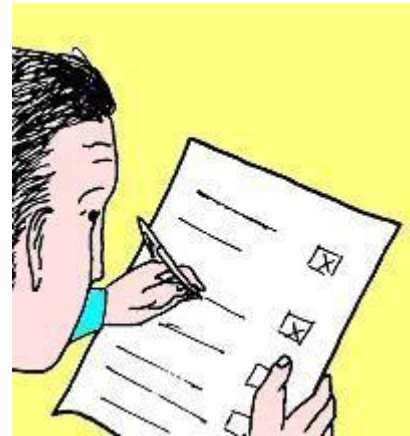
3. The service must be about what people in the area need and be for all the different types of people in the area.

4. The service must help everyone who needs advocacy to get it.



5. There should be plans about how to make the service better.

6. There should be checks to make sure advocacy is making people's lives better.



Other advocacy resources available on SCIE's website: <https://www.scie.org.uk/advocacy/>