INDEPENDENT CARE ACT ADVOCACY (2014)

Independent advocacy is about giving people as much control as possible in their lives. It helps people to understand information, say what they want and need and get the services they feel they need.

The Care Act (2014) is a law that means the Council has a duty (where somebody has to do something by law) to provide an independent advocate for people who find it difficult to have their say in their own care.

There are 2 conditions to meet for Care Act Advocacy:

1. The person has **substantial difficulty** in being fully involved in the Care Act process

2. There is no one **appropriate** and available to support and represent their wishes

What does substantial difficulty mean?

This means that a person has difficulty:

Understanding, remembering and talking about what they feel their needs are.

What does appropriate to support mean?

It is not enough to love the person and know them well. The person cannot be employed by the local authority or paid to support the person in another role.

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What can an advocate from n-compass be involved with?

- A needs assessment/carers assessment
- A transition assessment
- Preparation of a care or support plan
- A review of care and support
- Safeguarding processes (safeguarding is where a person is protected from harm)
- An appeal process or complaint against a Local Authority's decision (an appeal is where you say you are not happy about a decision that has been made)

How to refer (a referral is when somebody tells us that you might need some extra support)

- Referrals can be made through:
- You can refer yourself
- Health or social care professional
- Other professional
- Family/friend

The Knowsley Advocacy Hub offers a SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT for all advocacy enquiries in the area.

For more information or to make a referral:
Tel: 0300 3030 624
Email: referral@knowsleyadvocacyhub.org.uk
Website: www.knowsleyadvocacyhub.org.uk
Online chat: www.n-compass.org.uk/services/advocacy-service