

7. Advocacy



What is advocacy?

Advocacy makes sure that people are able to:

- have their voice heard on issues that are important to them
- defend and safeguard their rights
- have their opinions and wishes considered when decisions are being made about their lives.



Advocacy is a way of supporting and helping people to:

- express their views and concerns
- access information and services
- defend and promote their rights and responsibilities
- explore choices and options.



What advocacy services are available?

Advocacy services are provided by organisations that are completely independent from the Council and the NHS.

VoiceAbility

VoiceAbility

VoiceAbility Bradford supports adults who may have mental health issues, learning disabilities, dementia, brain injury or other disabilities.

They also sometimes work with children and with family carers.



VoiceAbility Bradford offers the following kinds of advocacy:

- Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) including Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) and Paid Representatives



- Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA)
- Care Act Advocacy including Care Act Advocacy in Prison



Telephone: 0300 303 1600

Email: helpline@voiceability.org

Website: www.voiceability.org

Twitter: [@voiceability](https://twitter.com/voiceability)



You need a referral to access this service via this link:

<https://www.voiceability.org/make-a-referral>



Vital

Vital provides advocacy support to anyone living in the Bradford District who wants to make a complaint about an NHS provided or funded service anywhere in the UK.



Telephone: 01274 770118

Email: hello@vitalprojects.org.uk

Website: www.vitalprojects.org.uk

Twitter: [@vitalprojects18](https://twitter.com/vitalprojects18)

You do not need a referral for this service.



Self and group advocacy

‘Self Advocacy’ is about taking control of decisions about yourself and telling others what you want.



People First Keighley and Craven

People First are a user-led organisation that campaigns to help people with disabilities.

Telephone: 01535 607222

Email: admin@peoplefirstkc.com

Website: www.peoplefirstkc.com



Challenging Disabling Barriers

Equality Together

Equality Together hosts several User Groups and Forums. You can come to these groups and meet other people who also want their voice to be heard. 1 to 1 Peer Support is also available.

Telephone:
01274 594173

Email:
enquiry@equalitytogether.org.uk

Website:
equalitytogether.org.uk/get-support/self-group-advocacy/

Bradford People First

Bradford People First is a self-advocacy group run by and for people with learning disabilities within the Bradford District. This service is aimed at people over 18 with learning disabilities.

Telephone:
01274 744151

Email:
office@bradfordpeoplefirst.co.uk

Website:
www.bradfordpeoplefirst.org.uk

