

About... Voice Advocacy

- for people using mental health services



Who are we?

Friendship Care and Housing help people live fuller lives. Our homes and support meet individual needs and create better neighbourhoods to live in.

This leaflet tells you all about our Voice Advocacy service in Sandwell and Heart of Birmingham.

For a different language or format, please contact us.

如果您需要其他语言或格式的帮助，请联系我们

В случае необходимости получить и формацию на другом языке или в другом формате просим связаться с нами.

Pour tout autre langue ou format, veuillez nous contacter

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बिसे ही वर ब्रामा नां वृप लयी बिरपु वरवे माझे ठाल मीपवक वर।

Haddii loo baahdo luqad kale ama qaab kale loo sameeyo, fadlan nala soo xiriir

অন্য ভাষা অথবা তর্জমার জন্য আমাদের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করুন
لأى لغة أو صيغة أخرى برجاء الاتصال بنا
كسى دىگر زبان يا شكل كے ليے برائے مہربانى ہم سے رابطہ كيجيے

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About... Voice Advocacy

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Who are we?

- ▲ We are a team of independent mental health advocates who work in partnership with people using Mental Health services in Sandwell and the Heart of Birmingham area to help ensure their voice is heard.
- ▲ We will take your side independently from statutory mental health services and other professionals.

Who can apply for Voice Advocacy?

The service is provided free of charge to anyone who:

- ▲ is Aged 18 or over.
- ▲ is living in or being treated in the Borough of Sandwell or the Heart of Birmingham area.
- ▲ is engaged with mental health services and has a diagnosis of mental ill health.
- ▲ needs advocacy for a mental health issue OR an issue where the individual's mental health problem is proving to be a barrier that could be overcome through advocacy.
- ▲ Although the service is available to people of all backgrounds in the Heart of Birmingham area we also have advocates who work specifically with people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds.

Priority will be given to people who are detained in hospital under the mental health act.

What can an advocate do?

We can support you to:

- ▲ say what you want and need regarding your care and treatment at any meeting with professionals.
- ▲ identify and access services you may not be getting which could benefit you (not just medical services).
- ▲ get information and discuss options so you can make informed choices.
- ▲ be fully informed about your rights under the Mental Health Act and where there are any appeals or challenges you want to make about your treatment or being detained in hospital.
- ▲ take action if you feel you have been treated unfavourably because of your mental health problems.

How do I apply ?

Use the details on this leaflet to contact us to discuss what you need. If we can't help we will try to suggest someone who can. We will take referrals from professionals or you can refer yourself if you would like to.