

Advocacy

It can be very useful to have support from an advocate when planning for your future. An advocate is someone who will listen to your views, and who can help to make sure that your views about what is important to you are listened to and taken into account in meetings and in plans.

Who Cares? Scotland is an independent advocacy provider which is both a national organisation and which provides advocacy to children and young people in North Lanarkshire.

Advocacy Referral Criteria:

Anyone can refer to the service from an individual young person to a parent or professional. The criteria for referrals are as follows:

- The Service will advocate for Children/Young People aged up to 26 years who are Looked After away from home or who were previously Looked After away from home, Looked After at home, or who are in receipt of Continuing Care Services under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, are involved in Child Protection Procedures, and/or on the Child Protection Register and who live in, are ordinarily resident

within, or are temporarily resident out with the Authority area.

- The Service will be available to Children/Young People aged up to 19 years, affected by a disability as defined within The Children's (Scotland) Act 1995 and who live in, are ordinarily resident within, or are temporarily resident out with the Authority area.
- The Service will prioritise Advocacy for Children/Young People subject to the legislative imperatives such as the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003.

Their contact details are:

Mags Corr Advocacy and Participation Worker Mobile:
07841 033018

Jacqueline McLachlan Advocacy and Participation worker
Mobile: 07841033020

Kerry Connor Advocacy and Participation Worker
Mobile: 07841 033019

Chris Murdoch Advocacy and Participation Assistant
cmurdoch@whocaresscotland.org

Caroline Richardson Advocacy and Participation Manager
Mobile: 07545 436342

Please contact any member of staff listed above if you would like to make a referral to the service.

Their website is:

<https://www.whocaresscotland.org/>

North Lanarkshire Advocacy – Independent Advocacy in Self Directed Support

What is Independent Advocacy?

Independent advocacy is about speaking up for an individual or a group. It helps advocacy partners to have a stronger voice and as much control as possible over their own lives. Advocacy workers help to put forward their partner's views and wishes, and provide information to support their partner's decision making.

Who is independent advocacy for?

We provide a service to adults with a disability who live in the North Lanarkshire area and who have an SDS budget through Social Work Services. Our service is free and confidential.

What is Self Directed Support (SDS)?

SDS is a way of giving people choice and control over the support they receive. It encourages people to think about what they want

to achieve in life and what support they need to get there. In North Lanarkshire, people can find creative ways of using support in agreement with Social work Services.

How can Independent Advocacy help you with Self Directed Support?

- Helping you to understand your options and supporting your choices
- Assisting you to communicate your needs
- Making sure that you are as involved as you want to be
- Talking to you about your priorities
- Encouraging you to come up with your own ideas

Contact:

Roddy Wallace

North Lanarkshire Advocacy

51 Kirk Road

Wishaw ML2 7BL

Tel: 01698 358245

Email: Roddy@equalsay.org

Website: www.equalsay.org

*This information is provided by H&SC North Lanarkshire Council
Transition team.*