

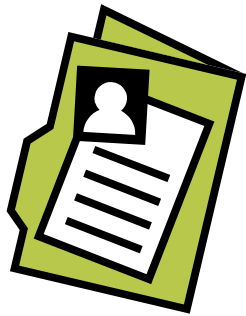
# Bury Advocacy Hub Rochdale & District Mind

## What is an Independent Advocate?



## An Easy Read Guide

## Independent Advocacy



- We are independent from the council and the hospital
- Confidential
- We are a free service
- We take your side
- We work on the issues that are important to you

# Independent Mental Health Advocate

How can an independent advocate help me:



- Help you access information and services



- Explore choices and options



- Explain and defend your rights



- Express your views and concerns



- Access complaints

- Support you in meetings and tribunals



## Referral and Criteria

You have the right to an independent advocate if:



- You are detained under the Mental Health Act
- You are an inpatient who has not been detained under the Mental Health Act



- If you have 'substantial difficulty' under the Care Act



- You are care co-ordinated under the Care Programme Approach (CPA)
- Under certain circumstances under the Mental Capacity Act



- We have an open referral system so anyone can refer

## How to contact us



You can telephone:

**0161 933 2623**

You can email:

**[info@buryadvocacyhub.org.uk](mailto:info@buryadvocacyhub.org.uk)**



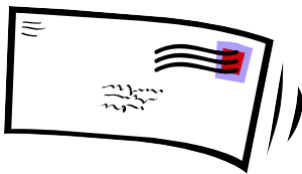
You can fax:

**01706 508599**



By post:

**Bury Advocacy Hub  
The Mind Wellbeing Centre  
3-11 Drake Street  
Rochdale  
OL16 1RE**



You can visit our website:

**[www.buryadvocacyhub.org.uk](http://www.buryadvocacyhub.org.uk)**