

We need eligibility criteria because Impact cannot offer advocacy to everyone who is referred to the service. These criteria will:

- Make it clear who can request and access advocacy support with our service
- Help those making a referral provide us with the required information
- Help people who give advice e.g. Social Workers, Lifelong services and Help Desks etc

We can accept referrals for people who:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a learning disability and are eligible for West Sussex Lifelong services (previously CTPLD) or My Network and • Are aged 16 years + 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a physical impairment or • Have a sensory impairment or • Have an acquired brain injury and • Are aged 16 – 67 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are 16+ who are on the Autism Spectrum and who are known to the West Sussex Lifelong Services (would have been supported by the PAT Team), or Asperger’s Syndrome Self-Advocacy Groups.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are residents of West Sussex & their funding is the responsibility of West Sussex County Council/West Sussex CCG 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are not eligible or receiving support from Children’s/Care Act/IMCA/IMHA or IHCA advocacy services 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Are not</u> receiving support from Mental Health Services 		

- **Do not have the support of family, a friend or have a paid informal advocate to advocate for them**
- **Want the support of an advocate to help them try to resolve specific issues**

*If the person **does not** meet our criteria, for example if they have mental health related needs, there may be another advocacy service that can help them. More information may be available at West Sussex Connect to Support at www.westsussexconnecttosupport.org or the website of West Sussex County Council: www.westsussex.gov.uk.*

When making a referral, please provide as much relevant information as possible and give your opinion as to urgency of the case in order to enable Impact Advocacy to prioritise its intervention appropriately.

Once allocated an advocate will make at least 3 attempts over a 3 week period to contact the referrer, if the referrer doesn't respond the advocacy file will be closed.

If you believe the person you are referring is at risk, please mark the referral as urgent (score 3 on the scale) and ensure that you have followed West Sussex County Council's Safeguarding Adults procedure.

To contact the Adults' Safeguarding Unit: Telephone: 01243 642121

Further details can be found on the West Sussex County Council website:

www.westsussex.gov.uk

The Advocate's role is to provide professional support to enable an individual to have control, have a say and make decisions in their day-to-day life. We work to the National Advocacy Code of Practice please see <http://www.qualityadvocacy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Code-of-Practice.pdf> If you would like more information about the advocate's role, or if you have any other queries about our service, please contact us via the administrative office:

Impact Advocacy Service

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Tel: 01903 730044

email: advocacy@impact-initiatives.org.uk