

Advocacy services in Barnet

The role of an advocate is to provide support to enable you to express your views, concerns and/or opinions. They will raise issues and can speak on your behalf if you want them to. They will allow you to make your own decisions and choices whenever possible, even if the process takes time. They will develop a relationship with you and will respect your right to confidentiality. They will remain neutral and independent of their own views.

Organisation	Service description	Details	Contact
Advocacy in Barnet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care homes advocacy - moving into care homes, future care/end of life care plans • Financial advocacy - Wills, Power of Attorney, debt management, opening bank accounts / liaising with banks • Hospital Advocacy Service - point of discharge at The Royal Free, Edgware community and Finchley Memorial Hospitals • NHS Complaints Advocacy • Support, advocacy and financial representation of the elderly 	Free advocacy for over 50's living in Barnet	The One Stop Shop 4-5 The Concourse Grahame Park, NW9 5XB Tel: 020 8201 3415 Email: admin@advocacyinbarnet.org.uk Web: www.advocacyinbarnet.org.uk
MIND In Barnet	Free advocacy if you have or are the carer of someone with one of these conditions and are between 18 and 50 years old: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquired brain injury • Learning difficulties • Autistic spectrum disorder or Asperger's Syndrome • Communication impairment • Sensory impairment • Mental health problems Free advocacy for over 50's, if you have or are the carer of someone with a mental health problem (excluding dementia)	This is not a walk in service and you must make an appointment	First floor, The Dennis Scott Unit Edgware Community Hospital Burnt Oak Broadway Edgware, HA8 0AD Tel: 020 8732 6540 Email: advocacy@mindinbarnet.org.uk
VoiceAbility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS Complaints Advocacy • Independent Mental Health Advocacy 	Free advocacy service for NHS complaints - specific services detailed later in this document	Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Service United House, 39-41 North Road, N7 9DP Tel: 0300 222 5948 Email: northlondonimha@voiceability.org

Self-Advocacy

Self-advocacy is about people speaking up for themselves. It means that although a person may call upon the support of others, the individual is in control and has the right to make life decisions without undue influence by others. This can often be groups of people who use services or have the same interests working together to have a say in how those services are run.

Peer / Citizen Advocacy

The advocate and the advocacy partner share similar experiences or environments. It sometimes means that people who have experienced the same things feel they have a better understanding and can be more supportive.

Organisation	Service description	Contact
Barnet People's choice	A peer advocacy group for over 18's with a learning disability. Contact the group to join in their monthly meetings.	Barnet Centre for Independent Living The Concourse, Grahame Park, NW9 5UX Tel: 020 8359 2444 Email: info@barnetcil.org.uk
Advocacy in Barnet - Barnet Macmillan Cancer	A peer advocacy service to support people who are affected by cancer to better understand, respond to and manage their illness and its impact on their lives.	The One Stop Shop 4-5 The Concourse, Grahame Park, NW9 5XB Tel: 020 8201 3415 Email: admin@advocacyinbarnet.org.uk

Statutory Advocacy - For more information on any of these services contact your care co-ordinator.

Independent Advocate*

Following the Care Act 2014 an independent advocate will be offered if a person has substantial difficulty being involved in care assessments, care and support planning and/or reviews, safeguarding enquiries and/or safeguarding adult reviews **and** if no appropriate individual has been identified to support them.

Advocacy should be considered from the first point of contact and at any subsequent stage of the care and support process.

Organisation	Service description	Details	Contact
Barnet's Citizens Advice Bureau –	Specialist Information, Advice and Advocacy Service. A free and impartial service with Advocacy in Barnet and MIND in Barnet	Referrals through Barnet Citizens Advice Bureau	If you think you need an advocate Tel: 0300 456 8365

***Exceptions.** There are times when an independent advocate should be provided for a person who has substantial difficulty even though they have an appropriate individual (family member, carer or friend) to support them. These are:

- where a placement is being considered in NHS-funded provision in either a hospital (for a period exceeding 4 weeks) or in a care home (for a period of 8 weeks or more), and the local authority believes that it would be in the best interests of the individual to arrange an advocate
- where there is a disagreement between the local authority and the appropriate person whose role it is to facilitate the individual's involvement, and the local authority and the appropriate person agree that the involvement of an independent advocate would be beneficial to the individual.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA)

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 introduced the role of the independent mental capacity advocate (IMCA). They are a legal safeguard for people who lack the capacity to make specific important decisions: including decisions about where they live and about serious medical treatment options. They are mainly instructed where there is no one independent of services, such as a family member/friend, who is able to represent the person.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocate – Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (IMCA DOLS)

Used to support a person who has been deprived of their liberty after a decision has been made to do so is in their best interests. They will ensure that the reasons for the deprivation are still relevant and that any measures that are put in place to support the person who is being deprived of their liberty are being carried out.

Organisation	Service description	Contact
VoiceAbility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent Mental Health Advocacy Independent Mental Health Advocacy – Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 	Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Service United House, 39-41 North Road, N7 9DP Tel: 0300 330 5499 Email: imca@voiceability.org northlondonimha@voiceability.org

Independent Mental Health Advocate (IMHA)

Access to an IMHA is a statutory right for people detained under most sections of the Mental Health Act, subject to Guardianship or on a community treatment order (CTO). IMHAs are independent of mental health services and can help people get their opinions heard and make sure they know their rights under the law, this can include helping people to understand how to appeal against their section, support them in asking for leave from the hospital and to understand the reasons for any proposed medication.

Organisation	Service description	Details	Contact
VoiceAbility	Support for patients on all the mental health wards at Chase Farm, Edgware, St. Anne's Hospital and the Dennis Scott Unit and in other settings across Barnet, Enfield and Haringey. Patients, their nearest relatives or clinicians / professionals can contact the service by phone or email.	9am – 5pm Monday to Friday The visiting times are advertised on the wards where appropriate.	Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Service United House 39-41 North Road, N7 9DP Tel: 020 7485 2424 Email: imca@voiceability.org

If you are not currently located in Barnet and require an IMHA please contact your care co-ordinator.