

**Provider Engagement Event: Advocacy Services (Lots 1 & 2)**

4th December 2020, 12:00-14:00

Teams Meeting

Cumbria County Council currently commissions Advocacy Services under the arrangements below. These services are due to be recommissioned, with current contracts ceasing on the 31st March 2021.

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| **Area** | **Description** | **Lot** |
| **Care Act Advocacy** | Independent advocacy to represent and support individual involvement in assessments and care planning where individuals may experience challenges in understanding the relevant information, retaining that information and using or weighing the information as part of the process. | **1**  |
| **Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy** | Advocacy and a legal safeguard for people who lack the capacity to make specific important decisions e.g. decisions about where they live and about serious medical treatment options | **1** |
| **Healthwatch Cumbria**  | The aim of local Healthwatch is to give citizens and communities a stronger voice to influence and challenge how health and social care services are provided within their locality. | **1** |
| **NHS Complaints Advocacy** | Support for people who want to make a complaint about the NHS and need support to do this. This may range from receiving a self-help pack, information and options, to support from an advocate, depending on needs. | **1** |
| **Independent Mental Health Advocacy** | Advocacy independent of mental health services which can help people to get their opinions heard and make sure they know their rights under the law | **2** |

In relation to this, Cumbria County Council is looking to engage with existing and potential providers to discuss the future delivery of advocacy services in Cumbria. The purpose of the event is to:

* provide information about future service provision
* provide details of the timeline for a forthcoming service tender
* enable stakeholders to ask questions

Providers are not required to attend to be considered for the tender process but those attending should find the event beneficial, as it will explain the background to the proposed service and provide insight and information regarding the procurement process to be undertaken.

Information provided on the day will be made available via the [Tendering and Contracts](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/scprocurement/tenderingandcontracts/tenderingandcontracts.asp) section of the Cumbria County Council website.

If you would like to attend the event, please advise harvey.mccaffrey@cumbria.gov.uk as soon as possible and an invite will be issued.