> **"** *It has been good using my strengths to support someone. It is good to see my Citizen Advocacy partner having her voice heard and feeling empowered* **"**
>
> *Citizen Advocate*

What can a Citizen Advocate do?

Citizen Advocates stand alongside their Advocacy Partner and can support them to:

- Access services
- Make informed decisions
- Have their voice heard
- Explore options
- Safeguard their rights
- Connect to the local community

Angus Independent Advocacy are a member of the Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance

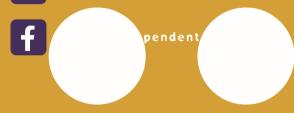**www.siaa.org.uk**

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Angus
Independent
Advocacy

CITIZEN ADVOCACY

Every Voice Matters

Who we work with:

We can work with Angus residents aged 26+ who feel socially isolated and want to connect to their community and have:

- Mental ill health
- A learning disability
- Dementia
- An acquired brain injury, or
- Are an older person

" *If I didn't have my Citizen Advocate I don't know what*

What is Citizen Advocacy?

Citizen Advocacy is an equal partnership between two people. One who is facing barriers to connecting to their local community and having their voice heard (Advocacy Partner), and another local person who gives their time freely to support them (Citizen Advocate). Partnerships are usually long-term in nature. This means that there is time to build a mutual and trusting relationship.

What is a Citizen Advocate?

Our Citizen Advocacy Project recruits Citizen Advocates (volunteers) who can support another person (Advocacy Partner) who maybe facing barriers to connect to their local community and have their voice heard.

We believe that it is people's life skills, values and interests which make them good Advocates.

All Citizen Advocates must complete our application process which includes references, a PVG check and our preparation course. They also have access to ongoing learning, support and social opportunities.

Our Development Workers get to know any potential Citizen Advocates so they

can identify an appropriate match. This is based on things like skills, interests and location.