

How to contact us:



telephone - 0300 200 0082 (charged at local rate)



minicom - 0300 456 2364

text - send the word 'pohwer' with your name and number to 81025



email - pohwer@pohwer.net

Skype - pohwer.advocacy
(8am to 6pm Monday to Friday)



fax - 0300 456 2365



post - PO Box 14043, Birmingham, B6 9BL

For more information, please visit our website at
www.pohwer.net

Access to Information

- We provide leaflets and information in a variety of languages and formats, Easy Read, audio and DVDs
- We have access to translation and interpreting services
- We use communication toolkits, Makaton and other signing techniques

Issue: Apr 2013



Registered Charity Number – 1061543

Company Number - 3323040

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy services in Birmingham



**We offer free, confidential and independent
advocacy services to help people
understand their rights, be treated as
equals and be heard.**

POhWER

advocacy, making your voice heard

Information, Advice and Advocacy Centre

As well as locally based information, advice and advocacy services we have a central information and advice centre. Our centre is open every working day, providing telephone information and advice and support to access a wide range of services.

This service is available to anyone who needs information, advice, signposting to other services or a referral to one of POhWER's advocacy services. Call the centre on **0300 200 0082** or use the contact details on the back of this leaflet.

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)

Our DoLS advocates protect the human rights of people who have been admitted to hospital, or live in residential care, lack capacity and it appears that they are being deprived of their liberty for their own safety. Our advocates work with them to ensure that their rights under the Mental Capacity Act are upheld and that the deprivation is lawful, proportionate and in their best interests.

understand the decisions being made about them and do not have family or friends.

Referrals are made through the Local Authority.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy

When someone cannot ask for an advocate themselves, because they do not have the capacity to do so due, for example, to brain injury, disability or illness, it does not mean that their views and wishes should not be taken into account.

People over the age of 16 who lack capacity, and do not have an appropriate family member or friend to represent their views, are legally entitled to an independent mental capacity advocate (if decisions are being made about serious medical treatment or a change of accommodation).

In some cases, where the person is vulnerable, they can have an advocate even if they do have family or friends.

Our independent mental capacity advocates gather information about individuals referred to our service to help decision makers, such as doctors, to reach 'best interest' decisions about elements of their treatment and care.

For further information about any of these services please call

0300 200 0082 (local rate)

or see the back of this leaflet for all the ways you can contact us.