

Being an Advocate

A care recipient may ask a family member, a friend or a member of an advocacy service to be their advocate. This means they would like this person to act on their behalf in their communication with Rise.

Being an advocate may require attendance or involvement during assessments and reviews or to negotiate any situation with Rise including to lodge a complaint about the support services received.

The individual can change their advocate whenever they wish, however, we request an Authority to Act as an Advocate Form is completed so Rise staff are always clear on who the person's advocate is. Only one Advocate can be appointed at any one time.

Responsibilities of an Advocate

As an Advocate, we ask that you are aware of the following responsibilities and that you ensure that:

- The Authority to Act as an Advocate Form has been completed to identify you are acting as the person's Advocate.
- You always act in the best interests of the person.
- The person is aware of any issues and developments in relation to the services they receive, and which you, as their Advocate, may be involved in.
- The person is kept informed of any developments.
- You are familiar with the person's support plan.
- You encourage the person to provide feedback to you about the services they are receiving.
- You advise Rise about any changes in the person's circumstances and any concerns about the person's change in ability.
- You are prepared to relinquish the role of advocate should the person wish this.