

Advocacy for All bigger voices – better lives



Bexley – Advocacy for NHS complaints

# HAS MOVED TO

## The Civic Centre, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU

#### Phone 0345 310 1812 option 3 local call rates apply

If you need a **face to face** appointment but cannot get to our new office we can arrange to see you at a suitable location within the borough of **Bexley** 

If your group or organisation would like us to come and talk to you about the service we offer please let us know.

# What is Bexley – Advocacy for NHS Complaints?

It is a service to support **Bexley residents** who want to make a **complaint about NHS** services including

- hospitals and/or NHS staff
- doctor's (GP) surgeries
- pharmacies
- opticians
- dentists
- •the ambulance service

#### How can an advocate support me?

#### We can

- provide information to help you decide if you want to make a complaint and other options
- give you the opportunity to **speak confidentially** to someone who is independent of the NHS
- support you to make a complaint
- support you during the complaint process by writing letters, attending meetings and supporting you to decide what to do at each stage
- if you are **still not happy**, support you to complain to the **Health Service Ombudsman**

#### Who can make a complaint

You can make a complaint on behalf of

- yourself
- somebody who has died
- somebody who is not able to not make a complaint for themselves

Both **adults and children** can **make a complaint**. You can complain on **behalf of a child** under 18 years of age if they are unable to make the complaint themselves.

## What can I complain about?

- waiting times
- too little or poor information
- the treatment or care you receive
- the attitude of staff
- failure to diagnose correctly your condition
- problems with medication
- your complaint was not properly dealt with
- •We cannot give you legal or medical advice

#### Before you contact us

It would **be helpful** if you have **thought about** 

- the main issues that you want to complain about
- what information you have that might be important for your complaint, for example names and dates
- .what documents you already have
- what you would like to be done as a result of your complaint

Even if you **do not have** some of **this information** please contact us. We are **happy to discuss** your case with you, even if you have **not yet decided** to make a complaint.

### For more information and self help packs



#### 0345 310 1812 option 3 (local call rates apply)



bexleynhscomplaints@advocacyforall.org.uk

www.advocacyforall.org.uk/nhs



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Advocacy for All is an independent organisation charity no 1064855 company no 3407428