

# **OLDER CITIZENS ADVOCACY YORK**

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**Area covered:** Local Authority

**Organisation type:** Older People's Advocacy Organisation

**SHA:** North and East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire

**Region:** Yorkshire and The Humber

## **Why advocacy for older people is needed:**

Although organisations such as Age Concern provide practical and emotional/befriending services and CAB offer legal/financial support, these services are seriously over subscribed and there was no agency which spoke up specifically for the needs and views of the older citizens. Many feel marginalized within our society and have a sense of lack of worth and of not having anything to contribute. Our research has shown that older people often feel 'invisible' and that decisions are made **for** them rather than with them. To have someone independent who will listen to their views and needs and support them to speak up and be heard is paramount. Our aim is for all citizens of York aged 50 plus who either use our service, or are aware of and affected by our service, to feel powerful and socially included through advocacy.

**Number of older people receiving one-to-one advocacy:** 300 plus per year

## **Projects specifically for older people:**

Project Name:

Funder: Big Lottery, York Ward Communities, Allan Lane Foundation, plus various other trusts

Started: April 2001

End date:

## **Staff and volunteers working in these projects:**

Staff: 2

Volunteers: 14