

Care Home Visitors?

“Speak up for someone who has lost their liberty”

What is a Care Home Visitor?

Care Home Visitors support our Relevant Person Representative (RPR) advocates. The role of the paid RPR, in the absence of friends or family, is to ensure that the person living in the care home, who lacks capacity to make decisions about their care or treatment, is cared for in the least restrictive way possible. Given that they are currently under a ‘Deprivation of Liberty’ authorisation in order to provide the care and treatment they need to keep them safe.

RPR Advocates visit the cared-for person regularly, usually in care or residential homes, and ensure that they are being well looked after. A Care Home Visitor would work alongside the RPR Advocate to support the Advocate’s work. Care Home Visitors help us visit the person more frequently and ensure someone is speaking up for their care needs and rights regularly.

What will I do?

You will be introduced to an RPR Advocate whose work you will be supporting. They will then introduce you to one or more of the cared-for people they are responsible for (advocates may be working with more than one person in a care home – it will be completely up to you how many people you wish to support.) At the first meeting with the person, the advocate will look at and talk you through the person’s care plan discussing any issues you need to be aware of.

You will then continue to meet the person on your own. The frequency of these visits will be agreed with the advocate. In most cases, you will meet with the person once a month for approximately 30mins to an hour, making sure each time that their care needs are being met. After every visit you will complete a brief report and send it to the Advocate. If you raise an issue or have any concerns, discuss these with your Advocate who will quickly arrange a visit for the Advocate to assess the situation and take the appropriate action. If everything is fine, every third month the Advocate will come with you. They will write a report based on what you have both observed.

What can I expect from TVCP?

- The opportunity to make a positive difference to people with care needs.
- To learn new skills, meet new people and gain experience.
- Volunteer induction training and role specific training.
- 1:1 Support from TVCP staff including regular feedback.
- A reference if you complete over six months of Volunteering.

What will Total Voice expect of me?

- To complete the recruitment process including having a current DBS (this can be arranged through TVCP).
- To complete all necessary training and sign the Volunteering Agreement.
- To perform your role in a way that is consistent with VoiceAbility’s values of being: Passionate, Empowering, Collaborative, Honest and Resourceful.
- To provide regular contact and support to the cared for person; observing, listening to the person, finding out their views on their care / treatment.