

Stand Out Children's Advocacy Award

This category recognises people who truly make a difference to the world of children and young people through their advocacy practice. We are looking to celebrate individuals whose contribution has directly led to a **significant and massive improvement to the life of a child or young person**.

Judging Criteria

The Stand Out Children's Advocacy Award will be awarded to an individual or service which goes to extraordinary lengths or shows exceptional commitment to improving the lives of children and young people through independent advocacy.

Twelve members of Sheffield Children in Care Council helped design this award. They said the honour should be awarded to recognise **“someone who understands children and young people, someone who is a good listener that gets the things done that the young person wants to get done. The advocate should make a stand out significant and massive improvement to the life of the young person”**.

Children and adults will be equal members of the judging panel.

Our definition of children and young people is 0-25 years (children being aged under 18).

There is no formal scoring system – credit will be given for individual merit. However you may wish to consider the following areas in your nomination. Remember to give evidence (or examples) wherever you can to support what you are saying (otherwise the judges have nothing to base their decision on).

Understands children and young people: Credit can be given for nominations that show how the advocate or advocacy service shows they understand children and young people. Tell us how children and young people know the advocate / advocacy service is right by their side.

A good listener: Credit can be given for nominations that show how the advocate or advocacy service has really listened to a child or young person.

Making a difference: Credit can be given for nominations that show the difference(s) the advocate has made (the bigger the difference, the bigger the credit) to the life of a child or young person. You may want to focus on one occasion the advocate made a difference or give more than one example if you are nominating a service. What's important is the impact the advocate or advocacy service has made.