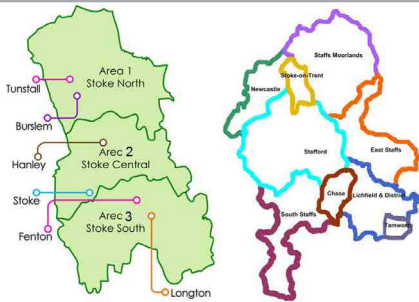


## About Asist - Who we are



Since July 1994, Asist has delivered one-to-one, issue-based advocacy services to people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and/or mental health conditions.

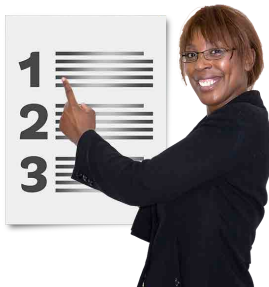


This service has developed over the years and offers advocacy support to people in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

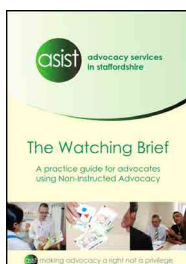


Asist provides:

- Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy service (IMCA)
- Independent Mental Health Act Advocacy service (IMHA)
- Care Act and NHS Complaints.



Asist also offers advocacy through a number of specialist projects including BAME and Parents Advocacy as well as Community Advocacy for groups of people.



Asist is nationally recognised for developing, writing and promoting the **Watching Brief** guidance which outlines the core principles for all Non-Instructed Advocacy support services across the UK.

## About Asist - Why we made this website



We think quality advocacy and support is the right of all people and should be there for everyone. (Asist, 1997).



Asist supports people to have an equal voice and be part of the decisions being made about them. We empower people and make sure their thoughts, ideas and views are heard.



'Advocacy is taking action to help people say what they want, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain services they need... Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice.'  
(Advocacy Charter, 2002).



**Staffordshire and  
Stoke-on-Trent**  
Integrated Care Board

Asist were approached by the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB (Integrated Care Board) to create a website to help people to self-advocate.



Our mission is to support our advocacy partners to have an equal voice in the choices and decisions that affect their lives. We hope this website can help people to do that.

## About Asist - How we work



- We think nationally but act locally; delivering best practice advocacy to help and support local people.
- We believe providing advocacy is a privilege for the advocate.
- Advocacy partners have the right to receive the highest quality help and support we can provide.
- We celebrate diversity and promote equality; advocates will always work for their partners and involve them at every step and every stage.
- We believe that people matter; we respect and value all people; we believe in equal rights for all.
- We believe in accessible advocacy that is effective and empowering.
- We are creative, seeking solutions to barriers and challenges.
- We are honest, clear, independent, and act with integrity and confidentiality at all times.