INVOLVED BY RIGHT
ADVOCACY AT CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCES (CPC's)
in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC)
CONFIDENTIALITY & INFORMATION-SHARING PROTOCOL

- The advocate offers an independent, confidential service to the child/young person
- These are the commitments that s/he makes:
  o YOU’RE THE BOSS. You decide what you want to say & how you want to say it. You can change your mind and decide not to say something, or anything!
  o IT IS CONFIDENTIAL. The advocate won’t tell anyone about what you talk about unless you say so - except they must pass it on if you or someone else is getting hurt.
  o YOUR ADVOCATE WILL SAY WHAT YOU ASK THEM TO SAY: They don’t decide if they agree or disagree with you. Their job is to put across what you want
- The advocate will work with the young person to decide how they would like their information for the CPC to be presented, and how the advocate will work for them at the conference. Decisions will include if they would like to share what they have to say in advance of the CPC, with parents/carers, siblings, the social worker or other professionals, and how this will be done.
- All CPC advocacy work has a safeguarding focus. However, where a possibly unknown safeguarding issue arises, the advocate will follow the safeguarding protocol and share information with other professionals immediately in order to safeguard the child/young person. This should be done following a discussion with the young person, who should take part as fully as possible in decision-making around the action. If for any reason the advocate has been unable or it is inappropriate to discuss this action with the young person in advance, it is good practice for the advocate to meet with them as soon as possible to do so.
- The advocate works for the young person, and should not hold information which cannot be shared with them. Conference attendees will be made aware of this by RBKC (see Involved by Right – guide for professionals & practitioners). The advocate and the young person may be asked to leave for some part of the CPC if there is information which the chair decides should not be known to them. If the advocate attends the CPC alone on the young person’s behalf, this should still be the case. Minutes given to the advocate after the CPC should exclude information which they cannot share with the young person.
- Young people will be asked for feedback about the service after each piece of advocacy work with them is completed.

September 2011
Revised January 2013
In consultation with Youth Advisory Board
and RBKC Operational Group