



Children's Social Care Independent Review Final Report.

The complete report can be found here:

<https://childrensocialcare.independent-review.uk/final-report/>

Parts of the report are specifically linked to advocacy. The relevant extracts are:

- "Independent, opt-out, high quality advocacy for children in care and in proceedings should replace the existing Independent Reviewing Officer and Regulation 44 Visitor roles. The Children's Commissioner for England should oversee these advocacy services, with the powers to refer children's complaints and concerns to the court." (p142)
- "The review has explored three delivery models for independent advocacy that the government consider when implementing this recommendation:
 1. A newly established national advocacy service
 2. A repurposing of CAFCASS, which would become the Children and Family Court Advisory, Advocacy and Support Service
 3. Expanding the role of the Children's Commissioner for England" (p141)
- "All residential and secure children's homes should be visited monthly by an advocate of a child living in the home, to report on the quality and safety of the home, and their reports should be made available to Ofsted. These visits will replace the current system of Regulation 44 Visitors who are employed by the home. As part of the visit, the advocate should speak to every child living in the home or their advocates, so that every child can express their views on their own home.
- There should also be a requirement for homes to respond to advocate's feedback, setting out how the home is addressing any concerns raised by the advocate. Since advocates would be in all residential and institutional settings for children every month, this would provide the Children's Commissioner with a powerful direct line of sight to children's experiences in these settings." (P106 appendices)