

Adult Social Care

Guide to the Role of Relevant Person's Representative



● What are the Mental Capacity Act Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)?

The Mental Capacity Act (MCA) DoLS provide a legal framework to help protect vulnerable people who are accommodated in either a hospital or care home in circumstances that amount to a deprivation of their liberty and where they lack the mental capacity to consent to the care or treatment they need.

What is a Relevant Person's Representative?

A Relevant Person's Representative (RPR) is usually a family member or friend who is willing to act as the person's representative under DoLS and who will ensure that the rights of the person being deprived of their liberty are being protected.

What is the RPR role and responsibilities?

- You must maintain regular contact with the person
- You have the right to request a review of the DoLS either by directly contacting the Coventry DoLS team or via the care home or hospital where the person is residing.
- You must ensure as far as possible that any conditions set as part of the DoLS authorisation are met by the care home or hospital.
- You have the right to request the support of an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) at any point during period of the authorisation. An IMCA can help you request a review or help you to make an application to the Court of Protection, if necessary, if a person appears to be objecting or challenging the authorisation in some way. This might be being expressed verbally or through their actions.
- As the person's representative you have a duty to act in the person's "best interests" at all times. This means attempting to involve the person in any decision-making as far as possible; considering their past and present wishes, feelings, beliefs and values to try to understand the decisions they may have made if they still had capacity. In addition to this, the care home or hospital has a duty to consult with you as the person's representative about any decisions made regarding the person.
- If it is no longer possible to continue in your role as RPR please notify the Coventry DoLS Team so that arrangements can be made for the appointment of an alternative RPR.



Further information

For further information please contact the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) Team

Call **024 7697 8910**

or email dolsadmin@coventry.gov.uk

Contact Adult Social Care Direct

Call **024 7683 3003**

or email ascdirect@coventry.gov.uk

or visit www.coventry.gov.uk/health-social-care

Speech impairment, deaf or hard of hearing? You can call using Next Generation Text (also known as Text Relay and TypeTalk): **18001 024 7683 3003**

If you require this information in another language or format, please email ascdirect@coventry.gov.uk

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