



Independent



Free



Confidential



## Representing people deprived of their liberty

Advocacy supports and represents people who lack capacity and are living in a care home or hospital under Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)



Ensure the  
person's  
rights are  
upheld

Meet  
with the  
person  
regularly

Ascertain  
their  
wishes and  
feelings

Request a  
review of  
the DoLS  
if required



#### How we help people

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 introduced a framework to protect people who lack the mental capacity to consent to being deprived of their liberty, the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). One of the safeguards includes the person having a representative called a Relevant Persons' Representative (RPR).

#### A Relevant Persons' Representative (RPR)

- The DoLS team must appoint an RPR for every person subject to a DoLS
- This could be a family member or friend but when there is no one suitable or appropriate, a paid RPR is appointed, who is an Independent Advocate.

#### An Independent Advocate may also be instructed by the DoLS team when:

- A hospital or care home has requested a DoLS (39A IMCA)
- A person has no one temporarily to act as their representative (39C IMCA)
- The person or their representative would need the support of an Advocate whilst a DoLS is in place (39D IMCA)

#### An Advocate can:

- ✓ Explain to the person their rights
- ✓ Read and report on relevant paperwork such as daily notes and care plans
- ✓ Maintain regular contact and ensure that the Mental Capacity Act is followed
- ✓ Request a review or make an application to the Court of Protection, if needed.

Referrals for  
advocacy  
are from the  
DoLS Team  
only

#### Who we are

- We are a charity providing person-led advocacy since 1998
- Our service is high quality, confidential and free
- We are independent of local authorities, the NHS and Social Services.



Charity Number 1086151



Chat to an Advocate online now

[www.advocacyfocus.org.uk](http://www.advocacyfocus.org.uk)



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