

Acting as a Relevant Person's Representative (RPR) for a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) Authorisation.



Visit the person, highlights changes in restrictions, raise any objections or concerns.

1) DOLS AUTHORISATION.



Where a person is assessed to lack capacity to consent to their care and support arrangements and is subject to restrictions on their movements or daily activities, this must be authorised by the local authority DoLS team.

Any restrictions must be assessed to be in the person's best interests. Liberty is a human right, the person therefore has the right to appeal against any restrictions in place and is entitled to a representative to support them with this or appeal on their behalf.

2) RPR ROLE



By taking on the role you agree to visit the person regularly. If the person objects to the restrictions, wants to leave and/or is unhappy with their care and support, you have a duty to help them raise this to the DoLS team.

If the person is unable to express any clear views, you also have a duty to raise concerns on their behalf if you believe they are unhappy with their placement and/or care and support, or if there are changes in the restrictions needed.

3) SUPPORT FOR THE RPR.



You have the right to support from an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) to help you fulfill your RPR role. For this the DoLS team will need to refer to their local Advocacy service for a 39d IMCA.

If you feel unable to act as the RPR, or are unable to continue in the role, the DoLS team can find another person or refer for an advocate to take on the role of the RPR.

4) REVIEWING THE DOLS.



Part 8 Review - can be requested at any time to see whether the criteria for the DoLS is still met and whether any restrictions need to change. You are required to ask for this if any restrictions increase during the authorisation period.

21a Appeal - the person and their RPR have a right to challenge the DoLS at any time through the Court of Protection. Both are entitled to the support of an IMCA to request this. Free advice and support can also come from a Mental Capacity Solicitor who will make the 21a appeal and support with the court process.

5) END OF THE DOLS.



As the RPR you will be contacted by the Best Interests Assessor to check how the person feels about their placement, the restrictions, if there have been any changes and to check you are still able to act as the RPR.

The DoLS may be authorised for another period, of up to 12 months, or there may be changes based on the person's needs and any objections raised. As the RPR you will need to know what the new restrictions are, the relevant paperwork will be provided to you by the DoLS team.