

## Referrals

RPR referrals can only be made by the DoLS office at the Local Authority using the relevant forms in the areas we are contracted to provide the RPR service. We do not take self-referrals for this service.

All referrals are processed by our referrals team.

### Making a referral:

Guidelines are on our website [www.advocacyforall.org.uk](http://www.advocacyforall.org.uk)

If you need help to make a referral or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our team on the number below.

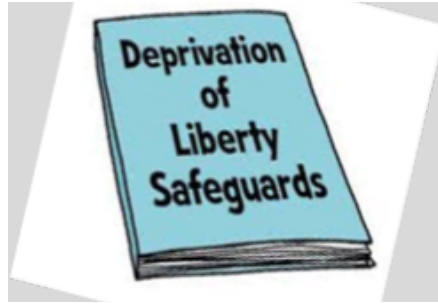
## Contact us

☎ 0345 310 1812 option 1

✉ [referrals@advocacyforall.org.uk](mailto:referrals@advocacyforall.org.uk)

🌐 [www.advocacyforall.org.uk](http://www.advocacyforall.org.uk)

📍 Advocacy for All, The Civic Centre, St Mary's Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 7BU



## Deprivation of Liberty

A Deprivation of Liberty order can only be authorised under the Mental Capacity Act when there is evidence that a person lacks capacity for specific decision-making about whether they should be accommodated in a hospital or care home and when the proposed care arrangements that deprive that person of their liberty are in their best interests.



This service is provided by **Advocacy for All**



## Relevant Person's Representative (RPR)

**The Mental Capacity Act 2005 is a law about making decisions for people who can't make decisions for themselves.**

The law makes sure that people can live in a place where they can be cared for or treated in a way that is right for them.

These rules are called the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS).

Everyone who has a (DoLS) order has to have a representative.

A paid RPR is provided for a person who doesn't have anyone appropriate who can be their representative.



## Relevant Person's Representatives

- the RPR is usually a family member or friend
- if the supervisory body cannot find one, they must appoint a paid RPR. This is often provided by an advocacy service.
- the RPR visits the person regularly. They check the person is being looked after in a way that keeps them safe.
- the RPR makes sure everything being done is in the person's best interests
- as far as possible, the person must be involved in any decision made about them
- the RPR can request a review of the person's DoLS authorisation
- the RPR can appeal the DoLS authorisation to the Court of Protection



## RPR Facts

A paid RPR must:

- be aged 18 years or over
- be independent
- maintain regular contact with the person

A paid RPR must **not**:

- be employed by or providing services to the care home or hospital where the person lives
- be employed by the supervisory body (Local Authority)

A Best Interests Assessor (BIA) is the person who writes a report to tell the supervisory body if someone needs a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) authorisation.

The supervisory body are the people who decide if someone needs Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

The RPR is an independent person who keeps regular contact with the person who has a DoLS order to make sure their rights are being upheld and that they are safe. The RPR can help challenge the supervisory body if a person's rights or DoLS conditions are not being met.

Lacking capacity is when people cannot make certain decisions for themselves.

A review is a check to make sure a person in a care home or hospital is being treated in the right way.

## Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding

To have a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding (DoLS) order you must:

- be lacking capacity to make a decision about where you need to live
- be aged 18 or over
- live in a care home or hospital