



Referrals

Referrals for the RPR service can only be made by the Local Authority DoLS team and not through any other route. The DoLS Service will instruct an DoLS RPR by emailing the relevant DoLS documentation to ONSIDE.

Enquiries about the service or any other advocacy service can be made by contacting our Access Hub on 01905 27525 or email:

accesshub@onside-advocacy.org.uk

ONSIDE have been delivering independent advocacy services since 1993. We have extensive experience and skills in advocacy and in working with a wide range of adults facing disadvantage or who are vulnerable including those who lack capacity to give instruction.

We also provide Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA), Independent Health Complaints Advocacy (IHCA), Care Act Advocacy and Generic Advocacy.

Contact details

For general enquiries and to find out more about other services please contact our Access Hub or visit our website using the details below:

 01905 27525

 accesshub@onside-advocacy.org.uk

 www.onside-advocacy.org.uk



Charity no: 1102022

RPR



 **ONSIDE**
PASSIONATE ABOUT EQUALITY

ONSIDE RPR Advocates help people across Herefordshire & Worcestershire

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 introduced a legal framework designed to protect people who are deprived of their liberty and lack the capacity to consent to these restrictions.

A Relevant Persons Representative (RPR) provides representation and support to people in a hospital or care home who lack mental capacity to agree to the care being provided that involves placing restrictions on their liberty and that has been authorised under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards [DoLS].

What is a Relevant Persons Representative?

- Everyone who has a DoLS order has to have a representative. This is often a family member
- If there is no appropriate person to take that role then a paid RPR is appointed by the Supervisory Body, often from an advocacy organisation
- A Paid RPR is independent from the care home/hospital as well as the Local Authority and Supervisory Body/DoLS team
- This is a **FREE** service

A Relevant Person Representative will:

- Visit the person who is subject to DoLS on a regular basis and check they are being provided with care that keeps them safe, but is minimally restrictive
- Support the person to understand the DoLS authorisation and what it means for them
- Ensure that everything being done as part of the person's care is in their best interests
- Do everything possible to enable the person to exercise their rights if they wish to do so and to support them to be involved in decisions made about them and their care and support
- Monitor and ensure that any conditions that are part of the authorisation are met. If they are not then take action to ensure this is addressed and/or refer back to the supervisory body/DoLS team
- Call for a review of the authorization where it is deemed necessary. Where appropriate challenge the authorisation, in the first instance through local channels and if necessary through the Court of Protection
- Identify any issues that are outside of the scope of their role and refer/signpost to other appropriate services





Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

To have a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards order you must:

- Be lacking capacity
- Be aged 18 or over
- Live in a care home or hospital

Related Framework and Key Terms

- A Best Interest Assessor [BIA] is the person responsible for writing a report to notify the supervisory body if someone needs a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard [DoLS] authorisation
- The supervisory body are the people who decide if someone needs Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
- The RPR is an independent person ensuring that within the DoLS framework the individual's rights are being upheld and the person is safe
- Lacking capacity relates to the inability of people to make certain decisions about themselves and their care