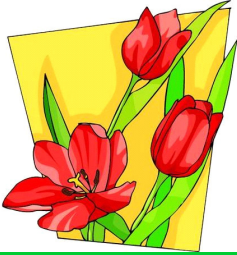


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MCA services are now beyond the first year of operation and we are pleased that referrals continue to come in. Being a new statutory service it takes time to bring IMCA to the forefront of everyone's mind. Refresher IMCA training will help raise your teams awareness of the issues and protocols. Please contact us if you wish us to provide initial or refresher training your organisation or team.

New IMCA Referral Criteria

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

The government has introduced legislation that will protect people who lack capacity and are deprived of their liberty. Independent Mental Capacity Advocates will be involved in supporting eligible people who are subject to deprivation of liberty.

The changes will be rolled out over autumn/winter of this year and spring of 2009. Full training will be provided to all affected by this legislation and we will be introducing the role of the IMCA under these circumstances.

If you suspect that someone is being deprived of their liberty now, please seek advice as the Court of Protection can be contacted for guidance and support.

As a reminder we have outlined below the current IMCA referral criteria

	Does the person have a condition that is affecting their ability to make decisions?
	Is the person facing a decision about serious medical treatment or a change of accommodation? Or are there decisions relating to Adult Protection Proceedings or a care/accommodation review where it is felt that the person would benefit from an IMCA?
	Is the person 16 years or older?
	Does the person lack capacity to make the particular decision?
	Is there no person (other than paid workers) that the decision-maker considers willing and able to be consulted about the decision? (this does not apply for Adult Protection Proceedings – people can have family and still be eligible)

NORTHWEST ADVOCACY SERVICES
INDEPENDENT MENTAL CAPACITY ADVOCACY

IMCA UPDATE