



WHAT IS A RELEVANT PERSON'S REPRESENTATIVE?

The Mental Capacity Act provides a statutory framework for acting and making decisions on behalf of people who lack the capacity to make those decisions for themselves. It is sometimes in a person's best interests to deprive them of their liberty, and they will enter a process called Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS).

An RPR is a person who will maintain contact with a person and represent and support them in all matters relating to the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.



WHEN WILL I SEE MY RPR?

Your RPR will visit your care provider regularly (normally every 4 to 6 weeks) and you, or anyone involved in your care, can also contact your RPR in between visits.

An RPR will first establish the best way to communicate with you, depending on your needs. It is really important that you are able to understand your RPR and that they can understand your wants and wishes, too.

Your RPR will introduce themselves to you and the carers and staff working with you. They will provide you with a poster including their photo, as well as an information leaflet about the RPR role.

WHAT WILL THE RPR DO DURING A VISIT?

An RPR will:

- Spend time with you to get to know your wants and wishes, and that you feel safe.
- Observe you and your care givers.
- Read through your care and treatment plans, and any reviews that have occurred since their last visit.
- Check that recommendations in these documents are being carried out or raise concerns when they are not happening.
- Ensure that any appointments, medical reviews, and incident reports are kept up to date and recorded.
- Talk to members of staff caring for you to see if they have any concerns about your safety and/or wellbeing.

HOW CAN AN RPR HELP ME?

All RPRs from Advent Advocacy are independent and trained.

Your RPR is an Independent Advocate and does not work for the Local Authority, the NHS, Health or Social Care providers. Our RPRs are trained to protect your human rights in homes and hospitals, ensuring you are kept safe.

Your RPR will:

- Listen to you and support you to have your views and wishes heard.
- Help you to understand what the DoLS authorisation means to you.
- Monitor the terms of the authorisation and ensure the conditions are being met.
- Raise concerns or challenge decision made.
- Make an application to the Court of Protection on your behalf if you wish to exercise your 'Right to Liberty' under the Human Rights Act.

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