Deprivation of Liberty in Community Settings

Aim
To give participants an overall understanding of how Deprivation of Liberty applies in community settings (ie outside of care homes and hospitals). NB: the existing system, sometimes called “Community DoLS”, will continue to operate until at least September 2021. It is planned to overlap with the new system, the Liberty Protection Safeguards, from October 2020.

Target Group
Anyone working in a community health or social care setting (eg supported living, sheltered housing, Shared Lives etc). We strongly recommend the attendance of senior staff, rather than junior ones. It would also make sense for all participants to have a good understanding of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 prior to attending this training.

Venue and duration
Your own training room. A full day is certainly best. We could squeeze the training into a half day if you wish, but you would have to tell us what to cover, and what to leave out.

Learning outcomes: by the end of this session participants should:

- Have explored and fully understood a range of judgements that have been made by the Court of Protection in relation to Deprivation of Liberty, in particular the “Neary” and “Bournewood” cases.
- Have thoroughly explored how the Supreme Court rulings of March 2014 in the “Cheshire West” and “MIG and MEG” cases have changed our understanding of what constitutes a “deprivation of liberty”
- Understand how the deprivation of liberty process protects the Human Rights of the service user, as well as the professionalism and integrity of the worker
- Be able to explain the difference between restriction of liberty and deprivation of liberty
- Be able to explain the difference between the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) process for people in care homes and hospitals, and the Deprivation of Liberty process in community settings
- Be able to describe the functions of the Independent Mental Capacity Advocate, Best Interests Assessor, Supervisory Body and the Relevant Person’s Representative in the different processes
- Know how to complete the relevant paperwork to make an application directly to the Court of Protection for authorisation to deprive a person of their liberty (applicable to people who live in supported living, Shared Lives, sheltered housing and their own homes)
- Have explored any recent updates to the deprivation of liberty process which might have been issued by the Court of Protection or other relevant bodies
- Have been updated on the implications of the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019 which is due to bring in the new system of Liberty Protection Safeguards in October 2020

Training methods used
All of our training sessions are intended to be as interactive as possible. Participants are encouraged to ask questions, make comments and bring up their own issues. We use lots of different methods including quizzes, case studies, video clips and small group work as well as direct teaching. We want participants to leave the session saying “that was really enjoyable - and it was directly relevant to my working life.”