

Relevant Persons Representative (RPR) Easy Read Leaflet



We provide a **free** Advocacy service across Herefordshire and Worcestershire



The Relevant Persons Representative (RPR) Advocacy Service, supports and protects vulnerable people in locked hospitals or care homes who are not free to go anywhere without supervision.

It is part of the law to provide this service under the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

Your freedom or liberty can usually only be taken away using the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards authorisation or DoLS order.

What is a Relevant Persons Representative (RPR)?



- Everyone who has a DoLS order has to have someone to support and protect them, this is often a family member
- If there is no-one to do it for them, a paid RPR will be chosen from an advocacy organisation
- A paid RPR is independent from care homes, hospitals, Local Authority and DoLS team
- This service is **FREE**

What does a Relevant Persons Representative (RPR) do?



- Visit the person regularly and check they are being kept safe without too many controls in place
- Help the person to understand what a DoLS order means for them
- Make sure that everything is being done to help the person
- Support the person to speak up for their rights and be involved in decisions about their care and support, if they want to
- Check that all parts of the DoLS order are being done correctly, if not, take action to make sure this is put right
- Ask for a DoLS order to be changed, if the authorities won't change it, the RPR will challenge the DoLS order through the Court of Protection
- Find out about any other problems the person has, that the RPR cannot help with, and signpost to a service who can help



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About Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)



A Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards order (DoLS) is to protect you from having your freedom taken away without a good reason.

It can only be made if:

- You are aged 18 or over
- Live in a care home or hospital
- You are unable to make some decisions about yourself and your care – this is called lacking capacity



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Referrals – how to use this service

If you want to use this service a referral/appointment will need to be made by the Local Authority DoLS team.

The referral/appointment cannot be done any other way – only through the DoLS team.

The DoLS team will get in touch with the Relevant Persons Representative (RPR) at Onside.

All the papers will be sent to the RPR at Onside.

Contact our Access Hub by phone or email for enquiries about the RPR Service or any of our other advocacy services, using the contact details below.



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Charity Number: 1102022

www.onside-advocacy.org.uk



You can contact us by phone or email:

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