

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) Help Line and Authorisation Process

The DOL safeguards require them to seek authorisation if they need to restrict a person's freedom so severely in order to protect them, that it might be considered a 'deprivation of their liberty'.

Identify potential DOL

Use the DoLS Code of Practice to identify anyone at risk of being deprived of their liberty.

If you need help and support with any part of the DOLS process, please contact the:

DoLS Help Line

Tel 01609 536829

dols@northyorks.gov.uk

(Mon –Thurs. 8.30 – 5.00)

(Friday 8.30 to 4.30) phones are answered between 10:00 and 15:00
Messages are monitored throughout the day

Minimise any restrictions

Review the person's care plans to ensure you are using the 'least restrictions' possible in order to avoid deprivation of liberty, yet keep them safe.

Check DoLS criteria

Use the DoLS Code of Practice and check if you reasonably believe that the DoLS safeguards could apply. In particular that the person;

- Lacks capacity to decide for themselves.
- Needs to be deprived of their liberty in their best interests.
- Is over 18 years of age.
- Has not made a valid advanced decision to refuse treatment which applies to this situation.
- Does not have a proxy (attorney of deputy) with authority to decide on their behalf.

Link to DoLS Code of Practice and wide range of information and guidance from NYCC can be found on our website :-

<http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/article/24060/The-mental-capacity-act>

Link to the DoLS forms:-

<http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/article/24067/How-do-you-apply-for-an-authorisation>

Consider an urgent authorisation

If you need to deprive someone of their liberty immediately, in order to keep them safe, you must issue an **urgent authorisation** and follow the DoLS Procedure & Guidance for Managing Authorities.

- Complete Form 1 inc. pages 6 & 7.
- Please sign, date and send the forms *immediately*.
- Give copies to the person and any IMCA acting for them.

Urgent authorisations last up to 7 days but may be extended for a further 7 days by the Supervisory Body in exceptional circumstances

Apply for a Standard Authorisation

If you believe that you may need to deprive someone of their liberty within the next 28 days, you must apply for a standard authorisation.

- Complete Form 1, sign and date and
- Email the signed form *immediately*

Completed forms should be sent to North Yorkshire County Council Customer Service Centre
E Mail social.care@northyorks.gcsx.gov.uk or

North Yorkshire County Council, Customer Service Centre, East Block, County Hall, Northallerton,
DL7 8AH