



Court of Protection Deprivation of Liberty



About us

NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit's specialist safeguarding service has extensive experience and expertise.

Individuals are at the heart of everything we do as a rights-based healthcare service. We support a number of ICBs nationally with strategic and case management function Court of Protection (CoP) responsibilities.

Our service offers

- Planning and setting up new CoP services having due regard for the ICB's legal responsibilities
- Strategic and operational leadership, balancing the risks and financial implications of CoP matters
- End-to-end case management function, support for individuals and their representatives through CoP proceedings, writing high-quality statements for the CoP with the benefit of our extensive experience of making streamlined CoP applications (without the need for legal involvement)
- Close working relationships with the Personalised Healthcare Commissioning functions within NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit (including Continuing Healthcare)
- Pragmatic, regular and consistent reporting
- A programme of ongoing bespoke training relating to the Mental Capacity Act (2005) and changes to case law
- A new in-house training programme to be commenced which will address the best interest process within CoP applications
- Effective working relationships with legal teams and advocacy services

Our team

Our specialist team of experienced Registered General Nurses (RGN), Mental Health Nurses (RMN) and social workers has a variety of clinical and non-clinical backgrounds, and most of our practitioners have now completed the Best Interest Assessor (BIA) course to add to their expertise.

Why choose us?

- We have a dedicated end-to-end case management function. We manage the administrative side of the Court of Protection process, working closely with our individuals and their representatives. We also offer a variety of services including Backlog Triage, Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and Best Interest Meeting training
- Our vast range of knowledge and experience ensures that individuals are at the heart of the decision-making process and their Article 5 and 8 human rights (HRA1998) are protected
- We have vast experience and knowledge in making our own Court of Protection Deprivation of Liberty Services (CoPDoL) 11 applications, without the need for legal instruction. This saves legal costs by preparing applications in-house in a more standardised format. Our internal quality assurance process ensures we deliver a consistently high standard of application that the courts require. We have identified issues and initiated solutions, resulting in a service that is now streamlined and replicated in a number of areas
- We have a wealth of knowledge and experience in MCA (2005), DoLS (2007), LPS and CoP
- We can plan support Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) to ensure there is a minimum backlog of CoPDoL11 applications
- Our team has a high staff retention rate and is fully compliant with mandatory training. We ensure best practice by giving full support to our staff to access the best learning resources. Senior managers maintain regular contact with all the teams, have oversight of spreadsheets and data and have a thorough understanding of the entire process.



Court of Protection Deprivation of Liberty



Our approach



Resource

Provide dedicated resource to strategically and operationally manage your CoP service.



Expertise

Draw upon the wealth of expertise and experience in setting up CoP services.



Positive individual experience

By working closely with and supporting individuals and their significant others, through the CoP process.



Positive relationships

Developing good working relationships with local authorities, community services including advocacy, care providers and legal teams.



Risk management and mitigation strategy

Using tried and tested prioritisation model.

Our promises to you



To plan and implement CoP services to include recruitment and resourcing of appropriately skilled staff



To provide a robust induction plan for new starters to the service which includes a named mentor, shadowing opportunities to a variety of meetings and access to additional training resources. This will develop and enhance their knowledge and skills, improve workplace satisfaction, and increase the retention of highly skilled staff



A dedicated strategic and operational resource to manage a CoP service, with clinical and administrative staff experienced in CoP matters, associated legislation and case law



To offer a high standard quality to the procedural elements of CoP proceedings, including making court applications and writing statements



Expertise in MCA (2005), DoLS (2007), CoP and associated case law



To mitigate the legal risks to the ICB by utilising a tried and tested NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit prioritisation model.

What our customers say



The Safeguarding/MCA/COP service are a friendly efficient team with significant expertise against all things Safeguarding and MCA. The staff team are responsive and professional in their approach. Patient safety and upholding the rights of our patients is their priority."

Lorraine Elliot Designated Lead Nurse for Safeguarding Adults and Mental Capacity Act (Central Lancashire CCGs)



The team come highly recommended, always accessible to provide support/advice on the most complex of cases, nothing but professional, and knowledgeable!"

Kelly Short Designated Nurse for Adults and Mental Capacity Act (Morecambe Bay CCG)

Winners of the NHS England Safeguarding Star Award 2022

"This is in recognition for the service's valued contribution towards person centred, compassionate care, upholding the principles of the Mental Capacity Act and ensuring the patient's views and wishes were paramount."