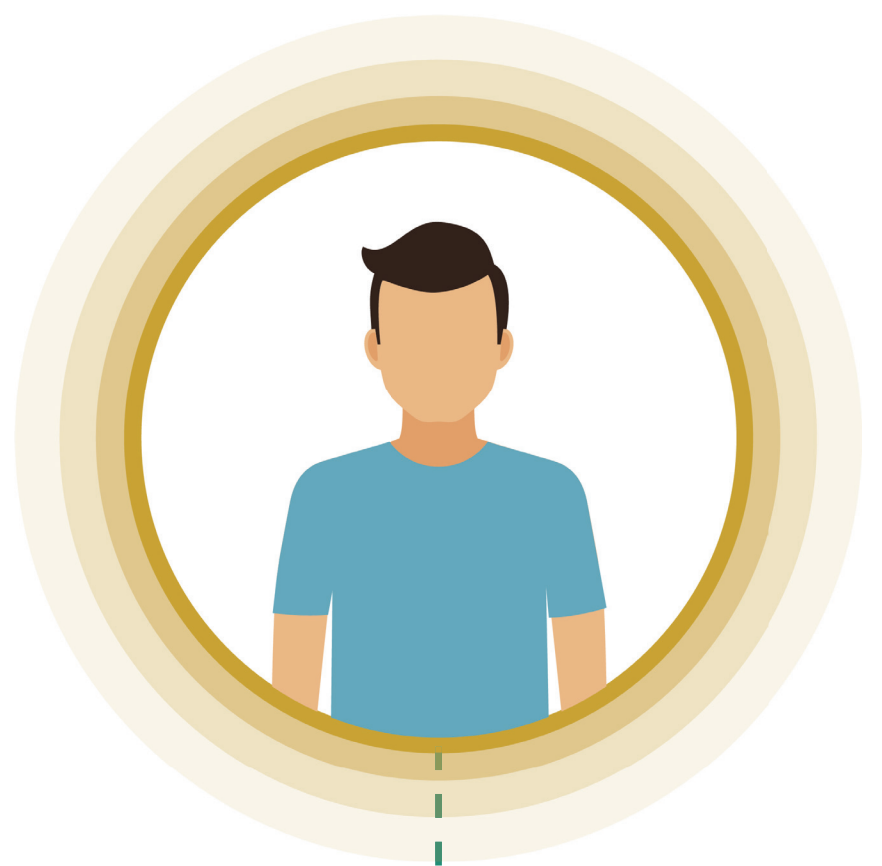


# Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)



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## What are Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards?

The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) is designed to protect your rights if you need to be detained in care within England or Wales.



DoLS provides protection to people who lack mental capacity who need to be placed and detained in care for their treatment and to protect them from harm. A lack of mental capacity must be established before a decision can be made on your behalf.

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## Why were they introduced?

In 2005, the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) decided that the legal system did not give adequate protection to people who lacked mental capacity to consent to care or treatment.



## Best interest principles

The 'best interests' principles are central to the Mental Capacity Act 2005. They inform the approach required if someone else has to make a decision on your behalf if you lack mental capacity.

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## Least restrictive intervention

Anyone who is making a decision on your behalf if you lack capacity should consider all effective alternatives and choose an option that is least restrictive of your freedom and basic rights.

Any professional that is considering a deprivation of your liberty must have sufficient skills to balance your right to autonomy and self-determination with your right to safety. Professionals should respond proportionately based on the best interest principles and must adhere to a Code of Practice.



To find out more about our Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards course please contact:

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