

Surgery style Q&A Support for The Fire Service to aid changing roles around Safe and Well Checks

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Project method

Presentations have been delivered on site at various fire stations and have been kept to hour long sessions to better meet the needs of the service and shift patterns. There has also been an understanding that crews may have to leave the session in the event of an emergency. The following approach has been used:

Q&A as an initial assessment to gauge any knowledge of MCA

A short presentation about some of the reasons MCA is required and the principles of the act. Delivered in the context of role specific examples, scenario situations and using the acronym of PLUM(B)

An activity based on what we know about one another and why this is important for Best Interest decision making.

A short guide to assessing mental capacity, using the acronym and picture 'Uncle Ron Wears a Cap' to recall the functional assessment.

A further activity about personal choices and decisions that have been made

Summary using examples from case law to illustrate differences in making decisions to keep people safe and decisions made in Best Interests that lawfully consider autonomy and personal preferences.

The approach seeks to build upon what staff already know, using simple methodology and service specific examples to aid the 'Safe and Well' role.

Project results/evaluation

There has been a meaningful opportunity to work collaboratively and to consult upon local issues specific to this sector and in the light of significant changes to roles The project has thus far been well received and verbal feedback from crews has been positive. Some personnel with a particular interest in MCA have also been identified and further signposting information has been disseminated. Further specific work around Hoarding Disorder has also been subsequently prompted, as this has been a common theme of discussions.

Project area classification

Hospital care		Emergency care	X
GP care		Dementia	
Social care		Learning disability	
Voluntary sector		Other mental health	
Financial services		Palliative care	
Police		Advance planning, LPAs	
Legal		Commissioning	
Community health care		Training	X
Nursing and care home		For professionals?	X
Acute care		For public and service users?	
Chronic care			

