

Mental Capacity (Welfare) Accreditation

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Project method

In response to a specific request from members and in light of the changes by the Court of Protection (Amendment) Rules 2015, the Law Society carried out both quantitative and qualitative research with members to assess to appetite for an accreditation recognising the expertise of members practising within mental capacity law.

Following positive feedback, an accreditation steering group was assembled which assisted the Society in developing the structure of the potential accreditation, as well as providing evidence on the eligibility criteria for accreditation and what standard should be expected of applicant members.

The Law Society is now assessing the viability of launching such an accreditation.

Project results/evaluation

If launched, the accreditation will demonstrate a level of expertise and knowledge of legal representatives undertaking work in mental capacity and the Court of Protection, providing safeguards for vulnerable clients who may lack capacity. Additionally, the accreditation will aim to raise standards of such practitioners through membership of the accreditation and associated education and training.

Project area classification

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