

Surgery style Q&A Support for Birmingham Social Housing Partnership (BSHP)

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Project method

BSHP represents 34 Registered Social Landlords, managing 40,000 tenancies. The Project Team is aware of the relevance of MCA in housing situations such as signing tenancies for example or maintaining tenancies. A survey monkey had been completed by providers within the group and this rated mental health and hoarding (+safeguarding concerns) as the top 2 areas of concern (from a list 9 themes). Within this the issue of capacity was defined as the most relevant starting point. Following an initial meeting with the chair of the group, presentations were given firstly to managerial representation from many of the collective housing groups and later to some of the Housing Officers. Fact sheets and prompt cards were handed out and power-point presentations included a quiz, scenarios, principles and background information to contextualise the importance of the act with examples specific to the housing sector. At one presentation, a solicitor also co-presented with a legal overview.

Project results/evaluation

Many of those present wanted to explore how MCA could fit with other legislation such as the Care Act and Safeguarding for example. That MCA is focused on the individual and as such, in cases such as Hoarding Disorder, a combination of approaches, support and legislation is often required. As a follow up, some collaborative work has been undertaken with the chair of the organisation in regard to Hoarding Disorder and a research project in Birmingham.

Many people requested a copy of a blank mental capacity assessment form with a view to introducing them as a standard in organisations. These were given with the caveat that while there is a formal and standardised assessment of capacity, there is no universal form that needs to record mental capacity assessments

Project area classification

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