

# Solihull, Sandwell and Birmingham MCA Project Team / Birmingham Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust Skills Study Sessions

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## Project method

An MCA / DoLS Skills Study Day was developed, this is practice focused and practical based, using case studies and scenarios that staff within the Trust themselves identified. There are also taught elements covering key and relevant aspects of the MCA and DoLS, including the interface between the MHA and MCA. The aim of the sessions is to give staff the opportunity to try assessing capacity and making best interests decisions.

The Project Team has also produced Checklists for Managing Authorities, in relation to what to tell their patients or services users, when a DoLS has been requested and when a DoLS has been put in place. These have since been incorporated into the Trust's Policy and Procedure for the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

## Project results/evaluation

The sessions were excellent and very positive, there was a very high level of engagement and a good quality of discussion within the groups, there was extensive feedback gathered from the sessions and changes were made based upon the feedback from staff – a significant proportion of staff reported an increased in their levels of confidence. The 'Balance Sheet' approach in particular was very well received. Staff enjoyed discussing the scenarios, staff stated that the scenarios were relevant and applicable to their work, many staff commented that they face similar situations in their work.

## Project area classification

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