

Adult Social Care Newsletter

December 2015


South Devon and Torbay
Clinical Commissioning Group



The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) – An Update

Torbay and South Devon 
NHS Foundation Trust

A Free DoLS information & update session

The aim of the session will be to provide both national and local updates.

The session will be facilitated by the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Team for Torbay. All attendees will receive a certificate of attendance.

Topics to be discussed:

- Local update
- Law Society Consultation - an overview
- Making an application – info required
- Death and the Coroner
- Useful information resources

Date: Friday 12 February 2016

Time: 09:30-12:30

Venue: The Horizon Centre, Torbay Hospital, Lawes Bridge, Torquay TQ2 7AA

To book a space please complete the attached booking form and return to The Horizon Centre at the above address. Refreshments will not be provided but there is a café situated next to the main entrance of the Horizon Centre.

For further advice or support contact the Torbay DoLS team:

Tel: 01803 219832

Email: dolstorbay@nhs.net

Update & Links to Key Documents

It has been a busy 2 years for the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005 and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS).

Here are the key documents that are currently shaping practice:

1. The House of Lords Select Committee Post Legislative Scrutiny Report on the MCA 2005, which made 39 recommendations to the Department of Health (DoH) about how the MCA 2005 and DoLS could be improved and implemented more effectively.
2. The DoH responded to the 39 recommendations with a report entitled "Valuing every voice, respecting every right: Making the case for the MCA."
3. The DoH further developed a report entitled "MCA 2005 – Valuing every voice, respecting every right: One year on."

You can access all these reports along with the statutory Codes of Practice, plus other info at:

<http://www.tsdhc.nhs.uk/ourservices/MentalCapacityAct/Pages/MCAinfoandGuidance.aspx>

4. Link to the Social Care Institute of Excellence directory of information:

<http://www.scie.org.uk/mca-directory>

5. Link to the Law Society's guidance to help identify a deprivation of liberty in practice:

<http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/support-services/advice/articles/deprivation-of-liberty>

6. Link to the new simplified DoLS forms:

<http://www.adass.org.uk/mental-health-Drugs-and-Alcohol/keydocuments/New-DoLSForms>



Autism Alert Card

A new card designed to help people with autism has been launched by Devon partners.

Devon & Cornwall police are hoping the autism alert card will help officers and other emergency services identify people on the autistic spectrum, and will support improved engagement.

Police officers will also be provided with awareness information as to how they can adapt and improve their communication style according to an autistic individual's needs, and better respond to situations involving autistic people.

Carried by people with the condition, the card can potentially help any situation in which a person with autism finds it difficult to express themselves, or make themselves understood.

Devon County Council and Plymouth City Council have funded development of the card, in partnership with the charity Dimensions for Living, which supports people with autism, the charity Devon Link-Up, and Devon & Cornwall Police.

With Christmas fast approaching this is a very busy and stressful time in the community, and more so for an autistic person and it is hoped these messages will help to create awareness generally of the condition.

Barbara Wilson from Dimensions for Living, said; ***“This card scheme is incredibly important and a terrific step forward. It will provide autistic people with the confidence that there will be a better understanding of their condition especially amongst emergency services. It will be a valuable tool for officers and support them to better deal with behaviour that may be presented in a situation/incident. I hope the card will prove to be a tool that will enable both police officers and persons on the autism spectrum to respect each other and work together to enable better outcomes.*”**

Devon County Council's Cabinet Member with responsibility for adult social care and health, Cllr Stuart Barker, said: ***“Situations and interactions with other people that most people take for granted can be a challenge for people with autism. Independence, as much as possible, is something that is important to all of us, and this card will help people who sometimes find that more challenging than others.*”**

“This card will help people with autism feel more confident in their day to day lives and the interactions they have with others, such as the police and other emergency services.”

Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer said: ***“Devon and Cornwall Police is proud to support the Autism Alert Card Scheme to raise awareness of autism and to improve our interactions with autistic people. We are committed to identifying and protecting vulnerable members of our communities, some of whom may be autistic whilst also safeguarding all those in need.”***

Councillor Ian Tuffin, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care for Plymouth City Council, said: ***“We want to make Plymouth an Autism Friendly city where people with autism are respected and valued as equal citizens. Plymouth recognises the importance of how people interact with the police and emergency services and acknowledge the value of implementing the Autism Alert Card across the region. Plymouth City Council is keen to work in partnership to ensure that we collectively respond to the needs of vulnerable people by offering solutions that help and empower.”***

It is hoped that the autism alert card, will also support enhanced understanding with other service providers including local councils, health service and other emergency services, in fact, any person coming into contact or conflict with a person on the autism spectrum.

The autism alert card will be free and available to people with autism who live in Devon initially (although Cornwall soon).

To apply for a card follow the link from the Dimensions for Living website:

www.dimensionsforliving.org

Multi Provider Forum



The last Multi Provider Forum took place on Wednesday 9th September 2015 at the Riviera International Centre Torquay, feedback from the morning was very positive.

The Agenda and presentations from the day can be found by clicking on the link below, more information was requested by providers on the day regarding Vanguard and Workforce planning so these documents are also included.

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/index/yourservices/adults/careproviders/multiproviderforum.htm>

We are looking to hold the next forum on 20th January 2016 at 9am – 1pm in the Burdett Room at the Riviera International Conference Centre.

More information will be sent out shortly, in the meantime if anyone would like more information please contact Lisa Butcher :
lisa.butcher@torbay.gov.uk

If you have any comments, thoughts or suggestions for future items in the newsletter, please let us know by emailing:
linda.gibbs@torbay.gov.uk

A Very Happy

Christmas

*To All Our
Provider Partners*



One Care Home One Practice

As some of you will be aware, towards the end of last year the South Devon and Torbay CCG began work on an initiative to link the majority of care homes in the CCG's footprint with an allocated GP practice (except where patients choose to be registered elsewhere). We called this the One Care Home One Practice initiative. The primary aim was to reduce urgent care admissions but there were also a number of other expected benefits including greater consistency in clinical input and improved communication.

At the end of September this year we reviewed progress by looking at data from GP practices on the numbers of their registered patients in each care home and data from South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust on the number of conveyances to hospital from care homes.

It was acknowledged that Torbay localities have not been running with the initiative as long as other localities and there is still work to be done to fully align care homes to their allocated practices. Despite this, early indications are good with those involved feeding back that they are finding the initiative hugely beneficial. Those involved have reported improved working relationships, communication and confidence and GPs have also reported that the initiative is helping them with chronic disease management and medication optimisation.

We would like to thank the care homes for their ongoing support with the initiative and encourage you to continue to engage with the process of alignment wherever possible. If you have any queries or feedback for us we would very much like to hear from you, please email Caroline Nicholson, Commissioning Support Officer at South Devon and Torbay CCG on:

c.nicholson2@nhs.net