



Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) Reviews

Starting in February 2021, West Sussex County Council DoLS team is changing the process for repeat DoLS assessments (further DoLS assessments when a resident has already had at least one DoLS authorisation). With your help, we want to ensure that as many residents as possible who need a DoLS review get one in good time and in a proportionate and straightforward way.

To do this, we are introducing 'light touch' DoLS reviews in line with national guidance, for residents whose care arrangements are settled and stable. By reducing unnecessary visits and phone/video calls, we are confident that this new approach will be less time-consuming for you and your staff and less intrusive for residents and their relatives.

These are the main changes.

We will contact you in good time before the current DoLS ends to ask you for a DoLS form 2 (Request for Further Authorisation). Only minimal details will be required because we already have your resident's background information. We will also request their care plan and Medication Administration Record (MAR) chart and will give you a range of safe options for sending a copy to our team.

You will also receive a one-page statement to read, sign and submit to us about the resident we are reviewing. This confirms that their needs and circumstances have not changed significantly since the last DoLS authorisation. If there are any changes or problems, we will discuss with you whether a more in-depth reassessment is needed.

We will then agree how to assess your resident (usually by phone or video call) and we will contact their relatives/ representatives. In many cases it will be proportionate and lawful to use the DoLS Dr assessment from the person's existing DoLS rather than arranging a new DoLS Dr assessment. We will then issue a new DoLS Authorisation.

We are looking forward to working on this with you and would like to thank you in advance for your support. Please get in touch with the DoLS team if you have any queries – see details below.

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