

## What is Deprivation of Liberty?



Some people in hospital or living in care homes can not make certain decisions about their own care. This is called lacking capacity.



It may be necessary to make decisions for them in their 'best interests'.



The Mental Capacity Act 2005 is a law. It gives guidance on how these decisions should be made.

[Code of practice](#)



Sometimes managing authorities need to limit a persons freedom and choices severely. Managing authorities are places like hospitals and care homes.



When this happens it can be considered a deprivation of their liberty.



The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) provides a process to assess the persons needs. It makes sure that the DoL is necessary and in the persons best interests.



It also provides rights of appeal and reviews. This is in line with European law.

Find out more about [Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards on the Alzheimer's Society website](#).