# Royal United Hospitals Bath

Report to:	Public Board of Directors	Agenda item: 10
Date of Meeting:	27 November 2019	
Title of Report:	Liberty Protection Safeguards-Briefing	
Status:	For information	
Board Sponsor:	Lisa Cheek, Director of Nursing and Midwifery	
Author:	Debra Harrison, Senior Nurse, Adult Safeguarding	
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#### 1. Executive Summary of the Report

With the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019 the current scheme for managing deprivation of liberty (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards-DoLS) will cease and be replaced by Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) This places new duties and responsibilities on the Trust around deprivation of liberty.

#### 2. Recommendations (Note, Approve, Discuss)

To note.

#### 3. Legal / Regulatory Implications

Compliance with the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019 to ensure the Trust does not unlawfully deprive any patients of their liberty while delivering their treatment and care (in patients).

Regulation 13. Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Safeguarding service users from abuse and improper treatment

# 4. Risk (Threats or opportunities, link to a risk on the Risk Register, Board Assurance Framework etc.)

There is a risk to CQC compliance (Regulation 13) if we do not meet our legal requirements relating to LPS. A risk assessment will be completed and added to the risk register.

#### 5. Resources Implications (Financial / staffing)

There will be financial implications (staffing) currently unknown.

#### 6. | Equality and Diversity

All services are delivered in line with the Trust's Equality and Diversity Policy and Equality and Diversity will be maintained following the introduction of the Liberty Protection Safeguards.

#### 7. References to previous reports

This has been raised at the Trust's October 2019 Safeguarding Committee.

# 8. Freedom of Information

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# Liberty Protection Safeguards Briefing Paper

# Background

The Mental Capacity (Amendment) Bill gained Royal Assent in May 2019 and is now an act of parliament (law) in the form of the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019. It created a new scheme, known as the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS), which will replace the existing Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) as the legal framework through which a person may be deprived of their liberty when they lack the mental capacity to consent to their care arrangements. It is intended to be introduced into practice in October 2020.

The LPS is one of the most significant legislative changes to affect health and social care in recent years and will impact greatly on the work of, amongst others, social workers, care coordinators, care home managers, advocacy staff, psychiatrists, GPs, NHS hospital staff, CHC practitioners and supported living staff. The rights and views of patient's subject to the new regime and their carers, are also central to its implementation and they should be the focal point of LPS.

The LPS introduce major changes to the existing DoLS scheme which widens the scope of those who will fall under its safeguards. This includes 16 & 17 year olds and those individuals in supported living/community settings. It also puts added responsibilities on hospital trusts and CCG's in that they will now be responsible for authorising their own cases where they are responsible for providing the care for the individual who lacks capacity to consent to arrangements that amount to a deprivation of liberty. Currently the responsibility for authorising the deprivation of liberty lies with the Local Authorities

Finally, one of the biggest changes brought in by the LPS is the sources of information by which the responsible body can authorise a deprivation of liberty. It will no longer be the sole responsibility of Best Interest Assessors (BIAs) and 'front-line' teams to complete the required assessments. The publication of the Statutory Regulations and Code of Practice is expected in spring 2020. The code will be an interpretive guide to the statutory framework to aid the processes and practice at the RUH.

There is significant work to be done in terms of planning for October 2020 and the introduction of LPS. The RUH has representation on the Bath and North East Somerset (BaNES) Project Board that has been established to bring together the relevant stakeholders in a co-ordinated manner to ensure its successful implementation in Bath & North East Somerset. The Mental Capacity Act Leads across three acute Trusts within the BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BSW CCG) are also liaising on implementation plans.

#### Impact on the Trust

As a Responsible Body the Board must ensure from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 that the Trust is acting lawfully, reasonably, proportionately and fairly under the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019.

The Trust will be responsible for identifying where care plans (or arrangements) amount to a deprivation of liberty and to arrange for the LPS assessments to be completed. The amended law states that in the future mental capacity and mental disorder assessments require completion by a registered professional, however the code will give the final guidance on who can be assessors. In total there are 9 assessments to be completed and will need to consider if the patient requires support through an advocacy service.

Responsible Bodies must arrange for a pre authorisation review of the LPS assessments before the LPS can be authorised. Should the patient object to receiving care and treatment at the RUH then it is the responsibility of the RUH to appoint an Approved Mental Capacity Professional (AMCP) to undertake a pre-authorisation review.

The Trust have extensive duties to publish information on LPS and take steps to ensure that patients and their appropriate person (previously known as representative) understands their rights when LPS is being proposed and when authorised. The Trust has the responsibility to ensure the patient and their appropriate person has a copy of the authorised LPS.

The Trust is able to decide what time period applies to each authorised LPS within a maximum of 12 months.

## **Current Activity**

The table below shows the increasing trend of DoLS applications over the past 5 years

 Table 1: Comparison of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard's Applications by

 Local Authorities

	Banes	Wiltshire	Somerset	S. Glos	Other	Total
2014 - 15	148	149	38	10	4	349
2015 - 16	183	182	67	26	5	463
2016 - 17	237	314	90	15	6	662
2017 -18	241	308	97	34	6	686
2018 - 19	282	315	106	23	12	738

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It is not anticipated that there will be a high number of 16-17 year old patients that will require LPS authorisations, however it is recognised that some patients who are not objecting, but cannot consent to their care arrangements, may not have been considered for a DoLS applications.

# Actions to be taken in preparation for the new safeguards

Prior to the publication of the Statutory Regulations and the Code of Practice the following steps are being taken now:

- A review of the staffing model required to deliver the new Liberty Protection Safeguards will take place in January 2020
- Identify potential funding implications to implement and sustain LPS
- Identify LPS leads within the Trust
- A review of policies and procedures to reflect the new framework
- Identify the number of people the new safeguards are likely to affect
- A review of training needs.
- Identification of who within the Trust will conduct the assessment / pre authorisation reviewers.

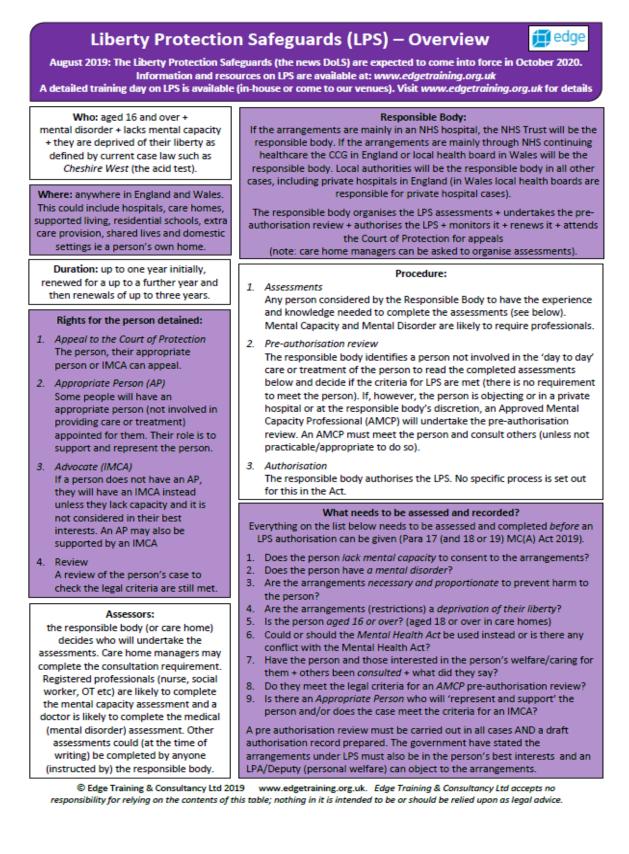
## Recommendations

That the Board notes the changes in practice required as a result of the new Mental Capacity amended Act and the introduction of the Liberty Protection Safeguards and the impact on the Trust

# Appendix 1 – Liberty Protection Safeguards (PPS) Overview

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# Appendix 1



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