

Mental Capacity Act Update

Edition 13 May 2007



Welcome to Edition 13 of the Mental Capacity Act Newsletter.

What's new?

The new **Ministry of Justice**



There is a new government department called the **Ministry of Justice**.



It is in charge of courts, prisons, probation and making laws happen.

This update is made by the Mental Capacity Implementation Programme whose members are:

Ministry of
JUSTICE

DH Department
of Health


Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government


public
guardianship
office



The Public Guardianship Office is part of the **Ministry of Justice**.



For more information, please go to:

www.justice.gov.uk

What the Government said about the ideas about charges for **Court of Protection** and Public Guardianship Office

April 2007

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The Government printed what they thought about the ideas on 30th April 2007.



This included information about people who would not have to pay and, charges for keeping an eye on deputies.

Mental Capacity Act **Code of Practice**

April 2007

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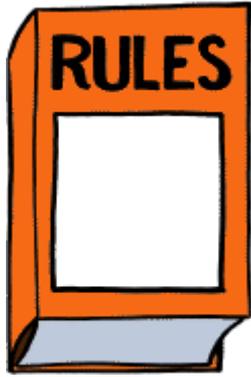
The **Code of Practice** gives detailed information on how people should follow the Act. The final code was brought out on 23rd April 2007.



It will help people who work with or care for people who are sometimes unable to make decisions.



Professionals, people like doctors and lawyers must know what the Code says and follow it.



There is information about what **Independent Mental Capacity Advocates (IMCAs)** must do.

Communications and Events



This is the first newsletter sent out by the Public Guardian Office. We sent out over 3000 newsletters. People are happy to get information in this way.

October 2007						
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The Mental capacity Act will become law in October 2007.



The Public Guardianship Office is working on help, advice and information to go with the law.



The **Office of the Public Guardian** is making a new website. This is going well.



We are telling people about the law at lots of different shows and meetings.



The Department of Health and Care Services Improvement Partnership (CSIP) are helping us with this.



We had lots of visitors at a big meeting which is held every year for nurses.



We will be talking about the law at meetings for people with learning disabilities and meetings for older people.

Information



There is now an easy read booklet about the law. It has stories in it about people and making some decisions.

It is called booklet 5 –Making Decisions. There are other booklets about the law too.



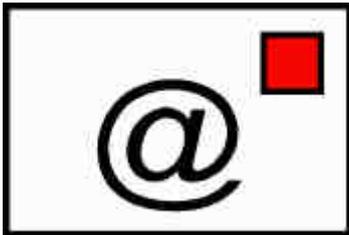
You can see all the booklets about the law at

www.dca.gov.uk/legal-policy/mental-capacity/publications.htm



You can get a paper copy of the booklets by telephoning:

0238 087 8038



or you can email

reorder@inprintlitho.com

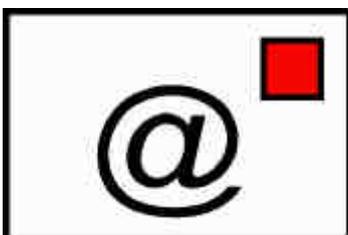


Please send this newsletter onto anyone:

- who is interested in the Mental Capacity Act
- who may be affected by the new law.



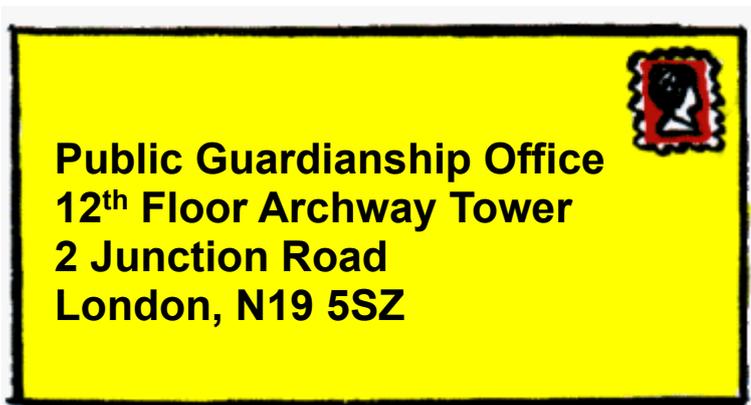
If you would like to be sent newsletters in the future by e-mail please e-mail:



mcaupdate@guardianship.gsi.gov.uk

Getting in touch with us for more Information

You can write to:



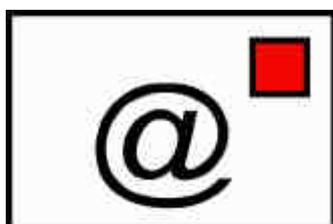
Or telephone at local rate:

0845 330 2900



Or fax:

0870 739 5780



Or e-mail:

MCAUPDATE@guardianship.gsi.gov.uk



Website:

www.justice.gov.uk/whatwedo/mentalcapacity.htm

What the words mean

Code of Practice

A book which gives detailed information on how people should follow the Act. Professional people like doctors and lawyers must know what the Code says.

Court of Protection

The new court which deals with everything to do with the Mental Capacity Act. The court decides what is best for people who cannot decide for themselves.

Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA)

Is a special kind of advocate who will speak up for someone who **lacks capacity** and who has no one else who can speak for them. An IMCA will only have to be involved when there are decisions about serious medical treatment or about a change in where a person lives.

Mental Capacity Implementation Programme

A group of government departments working together to get everything ready for when the Act starts in 2007. They are the **Ministry of Justice**, the Department of Health (DH), the Public Guardianship Office (PGO) and the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG).

Ministry of Justice

Is the government department in charge of courts, prisons, probation and making laws happen.

Office of the Public Guardian

This is a new office set up under the **Mental Capacity Act**. It will help the Court by looking after the paperwork and applications for Lasting Powers of Attorney and deputies.

Keep an eye on deputies to make sure they are doing their job properly.

Work with the police and social services when they think that somebody may have been abused.

Credits



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