

Specialist Training for Adult Social Care Professionals (England)

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About Bond Solon

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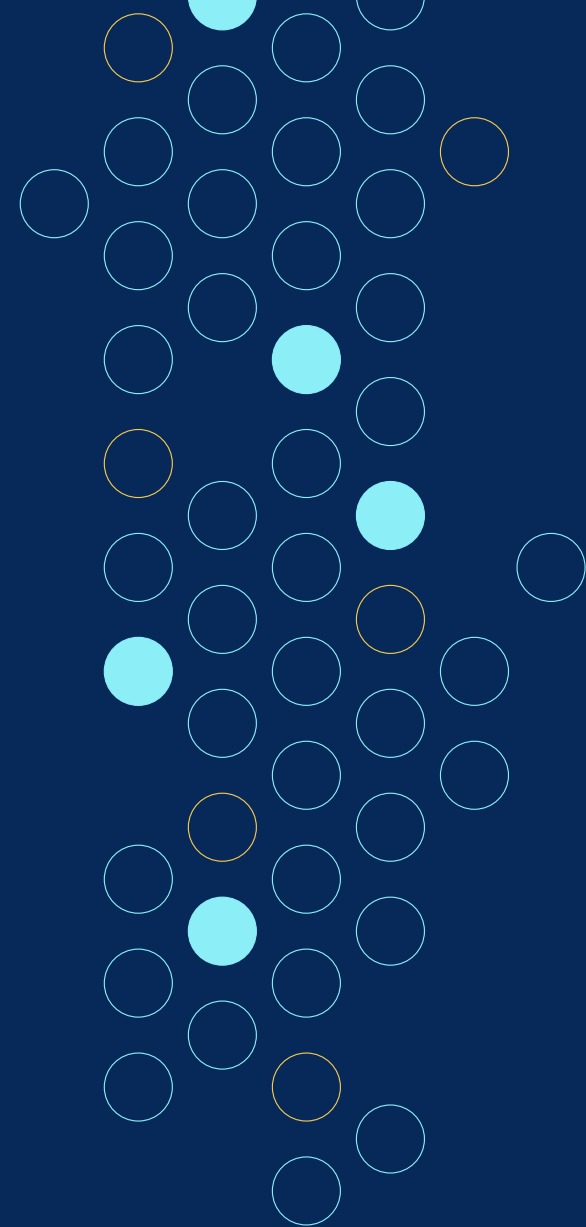
All courses can be delivered face-to-face or via virtual classrooms.

Over 4,500

courses delivered each year.



Mental Capacity and Deprivation of Liberty



Essential Tool Kit - MCA/DoLS (1 day)

Course Overview

This course is aimed at social workers who work with adults. It has been designed to enable them to gain an overview and robust understanding of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and to be able to integrate them into day-to-day practice.

The course will look at the key principles of the Mental Capacity Act and covers:

- How capacity assessments are carried out.
- What it means to act in someone's "best interests".
- How to acquire a legal defence for any routine decisions or interventions made whilst arranging for or providing care and treatment for adults who lack the capacity to make them.
- Identifying when decisions made on behalf of an adult without capacity have led them to become deprived of their liberty and what to do about it.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Understand how the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019 applies to adults and how it should be integrated into day-to-day practice.
- Examine the potential overlap between The Mental Health Act 1983 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and explain circumstances in which each could apply with consideration of relevant up to date case law.
- Recognise when "mere" restraint, interventions go beyond "mere" restraint and into a deprivation of liberty.
- When this happens, learn how to apply the current appropriate statutory framework under DoLS.
- Consider and analyse a series of complex case studies to enable social workers to apply their learning.

Advanced MCA (1 day)

Course Overview

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (Act) provides the legal framework for professionals in health and social care working with people who may be unable to take decisions for themselves in respect of their care and treatment.

This course is aimed at all health and social care professionals who work with adults to enable them to gain an in-depth exploration and robust understanding of the Act and integrate the theory and process into everyday practice.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Outline the key purpose and ethos of the Act.
- Explain how the five core principles relate to day-to-day practice.
- Apply the key elements of the test for capacity in line with case law to complex case studies.
- Analyse the concept of best interests and explore the best interests checklist in light of case law developments.
- Examine the continuum from routine decisions for care and treatment protected by Section 5 of the Act, through to interventions that involve restriction and restraint through to interventions that go beyond mere restriction to potentially a deprivation of liberty and link to care management.
- Examine the duties and role of an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate.
- Outline the role of the Lasting Power of Attorney and the Court Appointed Deputy.
- Examine the role of the Court of Protection in recent case law developments.



MCA for Managers (1 day)

Course Overview

To ensure senior staff and managers have a detailed understanding of the Act to enable them to guide and challenge front line staff on how to apply the MCA 2005 principles when assessing capacity and applying the best interests. The course will also explore how to record the assessments to provide senior staff and managers with the assurance they display sufficient rigour to justify their conclusion.

This is a one-day in-depth exploration of the duties and responsibilities under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 for senior staff and managers.

Key Learning Points

- Identify the basic principles of public law and the importance of knowing the limits of your authority as a public authority under the Act.
- Recognise the importance of a human rights and equality based approach to applying the Act.
- Ensure staff not only “do things right” lawfully but “do the right thing” from an ethical viewpoint to protect and promote human rights and practice defensible decision making on behalf of the public authority.
- Evaluate good practice in the assessment and recording of capacity to ensure assessments are criteria focused, evidence based, person-centred and non-judgmental.
- Understand the legal defence provided by section 5 of the Act for “routine decisions” and by section 6 for “routine decisions which include restriction and restraint” to ensure staff avail themselves of the protection in their everyday work and ensure that is translated into care planning.
- Consider the complex dynamics of fluctuating and executive capacity and how to apply the Act to best practice standards to include a detailed look at current case law.
- Identify and apply best practice in applying the best interest checklist to include a detailed look at current case law.
- Understand the role of the LPA/Deputy/IMCA.
- Recognise the importance of the DoL Safeguards.
- Evaluate the consequences of getting things wrong.

Advanced DoLS (1 day)

Course Overview

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (Act) provides the legal framework for professionals in health and social care working with people who may be unable to take decisions for themselves in respect of their care and treatment. The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) were introduced in 2007 to provide the legal framework for those people who are unable to make decisions for themselves around their care and treatment and are subject to a level of restrictions which amount to a deprivation of liberty to protect their human rights.

The course is aimed at all health and social care professionals who work with adults, to provide them with an in-depth exploration, and robust understanding of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and DoLS, to enable them to integrate the theory and process into everyday practice.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Outline the key purpose and ethos of the Act.
- Explain the five core principles and how they relate to the concept of deprivation of liberty.
- Explore the key elements of the test for capacity and what the “specific decision” is in relation to the DoLS.
- Describe how the concept of best interests links to the DoLS.
- Examine the continuum from routine decisions, interventions that involve restriction and restraint and deprivation of liberty.
- Explore the concept of necessary and proportionate in relation to risk of harm.
- Examine what a deprivation of liberty is, in line with European and UK case law, and how to identify when a person may be deprived of their liberty.
- Explore the DoLS process, duties of the Managing Authority and Supervisory Body. Understand the assessments required to satisfy the qualifying requirements and the role of the assessors.
- Outline when it may be appropriate to apply the Ferreira judgment to hospital settings.
- Consider the role of the relevant person’s representative and deprivation of liberty Independent Mental Capacity Advocate.
- Examine the role of the Court of Protection in the section 21A appeal process.



Court of Protection Overview (1 day)

Course Overview

Health and social care professionals are often faced with making decisions that affect people's fundamental human rights. Decisions are often taken under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 about where a person is to live, who they see, decisions around care and treatment and sometimes it is necessary to consider an application to the Court of Protection.

This aim of this course is to introduce those who are not necessarily familiar with the workings of the Court of Protection, to understand the role and powers of the Court of Protection, the various professionals involved in the Court process, the types of applications that can be made to the Court and the various processes involved.

The course is designed to enable professionals to identify when it is appropriate to make an application to the Court of Protection and what application is appropriate. The course will also assist professionals to understand the factors the court consider when granting orders or making declarations.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Outline the role and workings of the Court of Protection.
- Identify the powers of the court and the roles of various professionals involved in the Court process.
- Explain the types of applications that can be made to the Court of Protection.
- Consider situations when an application to Court must and may be made.

Court of Protection – Deprivation of Liberty (1 day)

Course Overview

Health and social care professionals are often faced with making decisions that affect people's fundamental human rights. These decisions are often taken under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 about where a person is to live, and sometimes the arrangements for that care and treatment in the place where they are to live amount to a deprivation of liberty and an application to the Court of Protection is required.

Professionals including Best Interest Assessors may be asked to prepare or contribute to the preparation of a welfare application to the Court of Protection under the Re X streamlined process for a deprivation of liberty authorisation in the community.

This aim of this course is to introduce those who are not necessarily familiar with the workings of the Court of Protection, to the powers of the Court in relation to what is commonly known as either the COP DOL process, the Re X process or sometimes the community DOL process.

The course is designed to enable delegates to identify when it is appropriate to make an application to the Court of Protection and what application is appropriate, as well as providing delegates with the skills and knowledge to complete the appropriate application documentation to include annexes and statements with confidence.

It is expected that professionals will have an in-depth knowledge of human rights, mental capacity and the concept of deprivation of liberty to attend this course.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Consider the powers of the Court of Protection in relation to the COP DOL application process.
- Apply existing knowledge around human rights, mental capacity and deprivation of liberty concepts to the COP DOL application process.
- Explore the application process, forms, guidance and documentation.
- Complete the application documentation to include annexes and statements with confidence.



MCA and MHA Interface (1 day)

Practitioners often face the challenge regarding when to implement the procedures under the Mental Health Act 1983 or those provided for under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 to authorise a deprivation of liberty for those lacking capacity to consent to admission to psychiatric hospital, and the interface and overlap between the two procedures both in hospital and in the community.

Course Overview

This course explores this overlap regulated by the provisions of Schedule 1A of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 with a focus on both the relevant statutes, statutory codes of practice and case law to enable practitioners to decide when to use each procedure to authorise a deprivation of liberty in day-to-day practice.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Explore an overview of the law in England and Wales, allowing individuals with mental health problems requiring assessment and treatment, to be admitted and detained in hospital and treated in the community.
- Understand the interface/overlap between the Mental Health Act 1983 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005 provided for in Schedule 1A, and be able to apply that knowledge to decide when to use each procedure to authorise a deprivation of liberty – both in hospital and in the community in day-to-day practice.
- Understand and apply the relevant statutory Codes of Practice.
- Identify and apply the relevant European and domestic case law.
- Consider and analyse a series of complex case studies to enable practitioners to apply their learning.

MCA - Assessing Executive Function/Dysfunction (1 day)

Course Overview

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (Act) provides the legal framework for professionals in health and social care working with people who may be unable to take decisions for themselves in respect of their care and treatment and where executive dysfunction may be a concern.

This course is aimed at all experienced health and social care professionals who work with young people or adults, to provide them with an in-depth exploration of the Act, with a focus on executive dysfunction and to enable them to integrate the theory and case law into everyday practice.

This course will explore situations which regularly come up in day-to-day practice in complex cases involving executive dysfunction. Delegates will consider how to apply the Act to a range of those situations to meet best practice standards, whilst integrating case law into those discussions.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Examine in detail the concept of executive dysfunction.
- Explain the importance of supported decision making and advance planning.
- Construct an assessment to best practice standards in line with current case law.
- Examine the best interests checklist and apply it to complex case studies – involving fluctuating capacity, in line with current case law and policy – especially around participation of people in decision making. And ensuring the voice of the person is heard through integration of wishes, feelings, values and beliefs.
- Explore how to interpret the best interests checklist in line with case law when dealing with cases around executive dysfunction.
- Outline when a lasting power of attorney, an advance decision to refuse treatment or a deputy may be a bar to making a decision.
- Consider when to involve the Court of Protection.



MCA Fluctuating Capacity (1 day)

Course Overview

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (Act) provides the legal framework for professionals in health and social care working with people who may be unable to take decisions for themselves in respect of their care and treatment and where fluctuating capacity may be a concern.

This course is aimed at all experienced health and social care professionals who work with young people or adults. It provides them with an in-depth exploration of the Act, with a focus on fluctuating capacity, to enable them to integrate the theory and case law into everyday practice.

This course will explore situations which regularly come up in day-to-day practice. There is a focus on complex cases involving fluctuating capacity, with consideration given to how to apply the Act to a range of those situations to meet best practice standards whilst integrating case law into the discussion.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Apply the five core principles into practice.
- Explain the importance of supported decision making.
- Examine in detail, the concept of fluctuating capacity.
- Construct an assessment to best practice standards in line with current case law.
- Examine the best interest checklist and apply it to complex case studies in line with current case law and policy - especially around participation of people in decision making - and ensuring the voice of the person is heard through integration of wishes, feelings, values and beliefs.
- Explore how to interpret the best interest checklist in line with case law when dealing with cases around fluctuating capacity.

MCA Tenancy Agreements (1 day)

Course Overview

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (Act) provides the legal framework for professionals in health and social care, working with people who may be unable to take decisions for themselves in respect of their care and treatment, which will include issues arising out of the signing of and surrendering of tenancy agreements.

This course is aimed at all experienced health and social care professionals who work with young people or adults to provide them with an in-depth exploration of the Act, with a focus on capacity to sign and/or surrender a tenancy agreement and enable them to integrate the theory and case law into everyday practice.

The course aims to explore situations which regularly come up in day-to-day practice. There is a focus on complex cases involving tenancies, with consideration given to application of the Act in a range of situations. Best practice standards and case law will be integral to the discussion.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Examine in detail the core principles of the Act.
- Explain the importance of supported decision making.
- Construct an assessment to best practice standards, in line with current case law, to include what would be considered "salient" information relevant to the signing and surrender of tenancy agreements.
- Examine common mistakes made by professionals involving tenancy agreements.
- Identify legal instruments which give power to others in respect of tenancy agreements.
- Consider when to involve the Court of Protection.



Best Interest Assessor (BIA) Qualification (4 days)

Course Overview

The Best Interest Assessor role was created in 2007, with the amendment of the Mental Capacity Act 2005, which introduced the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

The BIA course is a standalone 20 credit module at Post Graduate Level 7, aimed at social workers, first level nurses, occupation therapists, chartered psychologists and Approved Mental Health Professionals. They will have at least two years post qualification experience and will have the skills and experience appropriate to the assessment. This must include an applied knowledge of the MCA and related Codes of Practice, the ability to keep appropriate records and provide clear, reasoned reports in accordance with legal requirements and good practice.

The key educational aim of this course is to ensure you are able to understand the role of, and practice as a BIA. The role was devised to carry out a specific function under this legal framework. It is driven by a strong commitment to human and equality rights, a

person-centred approach, and demands defensible, evidence-based, informed decision making from practitioners. This will help to promote and safeguard adults with a mental disorder, who lack capacity to consent to their accommodation in hospitals and care homes, and who are deprived of their liberty. This is to ensure that their detention is compliant with the requirements of human rights legislation.

Due to the announcement in April 2023 that the LPS will be delayed beyond the lifetime of this parliament, it is now expected that the DoLS process will remain in place for the foreseeable future. This means that BIAs will continue to be in high demand to help tackle the hundreds of thousands of DoLS applications received each year.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Examine up to date case law in relation to mental capacity and deprivation of liberty.
- Explore both form and substance of evidence required from the BIA on the Form 3 assessments.
- Consider the importance of the role of the RPR to include relevant case law.
- Explore and consider up to date policy and research.

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

Knowledge & Understanding

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge and critical understanding of the concepts of capacity and risk, provisions of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) and their codes of practice and the wider legal framework and relevant case law.
2. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the importance of providing record-keeping and reporting that clearly justifies reasoned decisions made in accordance with legal requirements and good practice.
3. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the importance of a clear, sensitive approach in communication skills with the relevant key consultees, carers and advocates, as well as the service user within the process.

Cognitive & Intellectual Skills

1. Integrate and synthesise knowledge of the MCA, DoLS, and the surrounding legal framework, into complex practical situations faced in daily practice.
2. Synthesise information to make professional and independent judgements in complex situations in their role.
3. Collate, analyse, and evaluate complex evidence and different views to make informed, ethical decisions.

Practical & Professional Skills

1. Demonstrate a critically reasoned application of the process, procedures and documentation of the DoLS and its code of practice, including an ongoing commitment to anti-discriminatory and anti-oppressive practice.
2. Critically appraise and manage their own values in relation to the value base of their profession and the sensitive nature of the subject.
3. Demonstrate an advanced ability to operationalise the principles and practice of risk analysis and risk assessment.
4. Demonstrate the ability to make professional, and independent judgement and decisions determining Deprivation of Liberty, Best Interests and duration of an authorisation.



BIA Statutory Legal Update (6 hours online)

Course Overview

The BIA Legal Update training package consists of six modules and includes videos and activities to carry out. The training has been designed to reinforce learning by helping you consider how you will apply what you have learnt to your work.

The course will help you continue to develop the skills necessary to obtain, evaluate and analyse complex evidence and differing views. You will learn how to weigh them appropriately in decision making. The course will help you meet your statutory duties and allow you to continue to practice as a BIA.

Accompanying Materials

- The course is accompanied by an exercise workbook including useful links.
- On completion of all six modules, the exercises, and the feedback form, you will be able to download your certificate of completion.

The Modules Cover:

- The role of the BIA in the current legal landscape.
- Has the definition of what is a deprivation of liberty changed?
- The six Department of Health and Social Care fact sheets.
- The Form 3 - does form and substance matter?
- The interface between public law and best interest - recent case law.

BIA Legal Update (1 day)

Course Overview

If a supervisory body wishes to carry out a best interest assessment they must be satisfied that the Best Interest Assessor (BIA) has, in the 12 months prior to selection, completed further training relevant to their role as a BIA and has the skills necessary to obtain, evaluate and analyse complex evidence and differing views and weigh them appropriately in decision making.

This course is aimed at BIAs operating under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, providing them with a legal update/refresher.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Examine up-to-date case law in relation to mental capacity and deprivation of liberty.
- Explore both form and substance of evidence required from the BIA on the Form 3 assessments.
- Consider the importance of the role of the RPR to include relevant case law.
- Explore and consider up-to-date policy and research.



Deprivation of Liberty Authorised Signatory Training (1 day)

Course Overview

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (as amended) created legal duties for the Local Authority in their role as a Supervisory Body. The functions of the Supervisory Body include oversight and management of the DoL Safeguards, as well as appointing authorising signatories. Although the role is not defined within Schedule A1, it is a significant role which requires the signatory to have knowledge of substantive and procedural law. The role has been the subject of scrutiny in case law.

This course aims to equip those who are, or who are to be appointed into the role of authorising signatory, with the knowledge and skills necessary to undertake the role effectively, and sign off the authorisation to best practice standards.

It is expected that the delegates of this course will have an in-depth knowledge of and commitment to human rights and The Mental Capacity Act 2005 - to include an overview of the DoL Safeguards substantive and procedural law.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Apply knowledge of human rights, mental capacity and deprivation of liberty into the role of the authorising signatory.
- Identify the duties of the Managing Authority and Supervisory body.
- Examine the roles of the Best Interest Assessor and Mental Health Assessor.
- Identify the responsibilities and limitations of the signatory role laid down in the Mental Capacity Act 2005, Schedule A1.
- Consider the importance of scrutiny in form and substance of the six assessments provided by the assessors to ensure they meet the qualifying requirements.
- Explore the use and variation of conditions and duration.
- Identify the key legal requirements for selection and appointment of the relevant person's representative to include consideration of up-to-date case law.
- Examine when it would be appropriate to consider an appeal to the Court of Protection under s21A.

Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) Workshop for Leaders (1 day)

Course Overview

The Government's 5th April announcement that LPS will be "delayed beyond the life of this parliament" has left many wondering what that means and how this will impact on their organisation in the short to mid-term.

This course will help you and your organisation reflect on what has been learned from the attempts to implement the Liberty Protection Safeguards, and consider how those lessons can be used to effectively and lawfully continue to implement the DoLS system; whilst also preparing for the potential implementation of LPS at some point in the future.

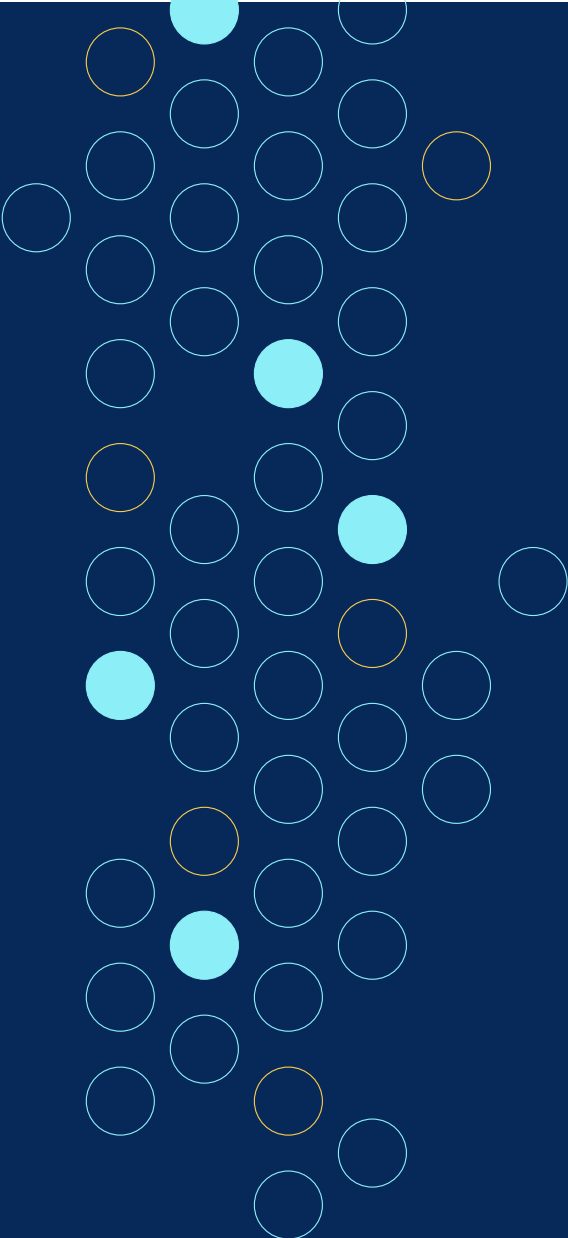
Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Consider the MCA/ DoLS legal landscape as it looks after the 5th April 2023 announcement.
- Consider the place all relevant organisations now have within that landscape.
- Identify what is in place which can be used to improve the DoLS system.
- Discuss plans for the short to mid-term future.
- Discuss what may happen "beyond the life of this parliament".
- Identify what training will be needed, and for whom, to address the DoLS authorisation backlog.
- Identify how this training can be delivered within your organisation.



NHS Continuing Healthcare



NHS CHC Essential Tool Kit for NQSWs (1 day)

Course Overview

NHS Continuing Healthcare is a very complex area of work and one which all professionals working in health and social care need to understand.

The aim of this course is to provide an overview of the law underpinning Continuing Healthcare and the process end-to-end. The duties of the ICB will be explored along with the role of the LA to enable professionals to correctly work within the legal framework and carry out their role effectively and to best practice standards.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Describe what NHS Continuing Healthcare is.
- Explain the ICB and LA duties in relation to NHS CHC.
- Identify how to refer a person for assessment for NHS CHC.
- Explain the “primary health need” eligibility concept.
- Recognise the importance of evidence in the NHS CHC process to support clear reasoned evidence-based decisions.
- Outline the key principles of assessment and decision making during the MDT meeting.
- Consider the Government support tools used during the process of assessment to include Checklist Tool, Decision Support Tool and Fast-track Tool.
- Recognise the importance of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 around capacity and consent, focusing on placing the individual and/or family/representative at the centre of the process.
- Describe the role of the ICB in care planning and case management in NHS CHC cases.
- Explain the process of reviews, appeals and dispute resolution.

Advanced NHS CHC (1 day)

Course Overview

NHS Continuing Healthcare is a very complex area of work and one which all professionals working in health and social care need to understand.

The aim of this course is to provide delegates who have some knowledge of NHS Continuing Healthcare with a detailed overview of the law underpinning CHC and the process end-to-end. The duties of the ICB will be explored along with the role of the LA to enable professionals to avoid pitfalls in the decision-making process, enabling them to carry out their role effectively and to best practice standards.

Delegates will consider the screening and assessment process, as well as the process of reviews and appeals of continuing care decisions.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Identify individuals who may have a “primary health need” and understand the importance of engaging the individual and their representatives in the CHC process.
- Describe the concept of “primary health need” and apply the concept to case examples to understand when the quality and quantity of care is beyond the scope of the LA's limits to provide.
- Understand the ICB's duties and responsibilities to co-ordinate the process from completion of checklist to decision on funding and finalisation of care plan.
- Understand and apply the key principles of assessment and decision-making to practice examples in CHC cases.
- Examine the Decision Support Tool with a detailed look at the domains with practical examples.
- Examine the importance of creating and collating evidence which will contribute to clear, reasoned evidence-based decisions.
- Explain the role the ICB has in care planning and case management.
- Identify when and how joint funding may be appropriate where CHC eligibility is not established.
- Identify and correctly challenge CHC decisions by initiating and progressing dispute resolution between agencies.



NHS CHC for Managers (1 day)

Course Overview

This course provides a one-day, in-depth exploration of the duties and responsibilities under the new NHS CHC National Framework 2002. Designed for senior staff and managers, it reflects legislative changes to incorporate the Health and Care Act 2022.

NHS Continuing Healthcare is fundamentally a 'whole system' issue, requiring leadership across and within statutory agencies, to ensure that the needs of individuals who might have a primary health need are properly assessed and addressed. These individuals are, by definition, some of the most vulnerable in our society and it is vital that systems deliver a person-centred approach to the wide variety of situations that NHS Continuing Healthcare encompasses. Strong system leadership is, therefore, critical to the successful implementation of this National Framework.

The course aims to ensure that senior staff and managers have a detailed understanding of NHS Continuing Healthcare to enable them to guide and challenge frontline staff on how to apply the framework lawfully and ethically to establish whether a person has a legal right to NHS Continuing Healthcare due to having a "primary health need". The course will also explore how to promote a person-centred, rights driven approach which demands defensible, evidence-based decision-making from practitioners.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Provide greater clarity to frontline staff on how to interpret the Framework to ensure lawful, ethical, defensible eligibility decisions.
- Explore and explain the duties and responsibilities of the LA under the Care Act 2014 to include the specific requirements around the duties to co-operate, provide advice and assistance and work in partnership with the ICB.
- Explain the duties and responsibilities of the new Integrated Care Boards under the Health and Care Act 2022 in respect of NHS CHC.
- Integrate this policy with the new "Discharge to Assess" model taking account of the changes to The Care Act 2014 Section 74, Schedule 3 Discharge of Hospital patients with care and support needs.
- Align the NHS CHC process with consent and principles of MCA to include best interest decision making.
- Explain to staff how to resolve inter agency disputes.

Capacity Assessments and Checklists - CHC and MCA (2 days)

Course Overview

The aim of this course is to provide delegates who have some knowledge of NHS Continuing Healthcare with a detailed overview of the law underpinning CHC and the process end-to-end. The course covers the importance of a person-centred approach, consent, capacity and best interest decision making. The duties of the ICB will be explored, along with the role of the LA, enabling professionals to avoid the pitfalls in the decision-making process to ensure they carry out their role effectively and to best practice standards.

Delegates will consider the screening and assessment process, as well as the process of reviews and appeals of continuing care decisions.

The course will be delivered in line with the Health and Care Act 2022 and the new NHS CHC National Framework 2022.

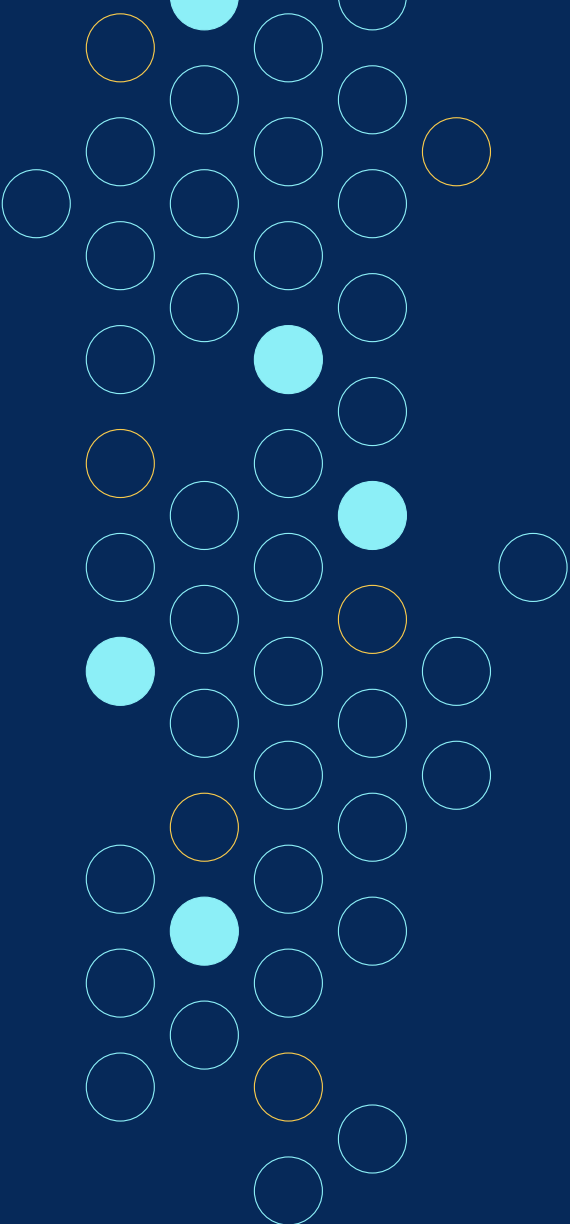
Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Identify individuals who may have a "primary health need" and understand the importance of engaging the individual and their representatives in the CHC process.
- Describe the concept of "primary health need" and apply the concept to case examples to understand when the quality and quantity of care is beyond the scope of the LA's limits to provide.
- Understand the ICB's duties and responsibilities to co-ordinate the process from completion of checklist to decision on funding and finalisation of care plan.
- Understand and apply the key principles of assessment and decision-making to practice examples in CHC cases.
- Integrate the importance of a person centred approach, consent, capacity and best interest decision making into the assessment process for NHS CHC.
- Examine the importance of the role of advocacy and recognise the powers and duties of the LPA and Deputy for Health and Welfare in the NHS CHC process.
- Examine the Decision Support Tool with a detailed look at the domains with practical examples.
- Examine the importance of creating and collating evidence which will contribute to clear reasoned evidence based decisions.



Safeguarding



Safeguarding Adults: The Legal Framework (1 day)

Course Overview

Health and social care professionals who work with adults at risk of harm must ensure they have an in-depth knowledge of the law and process around safeguarding adults under the Care Act 2014.

This course is designed to provide professionals with an in-depth understanding of the legal framework underpinning safeguarding adults to include the Care Act 2014 and other relevant legislation.

The course will help professionals translate the theory into practice through the use of case studies and exercises.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Describe the key legislation that underpins safeguarding adults to include the Human Rights Act 1998, the Care Act 2014 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005.
- Explore the duties for the local authority and responsibilities for relevant partners under the Act to make enquiries.
- Examine how the Mental Capacity Act 2005 interfaces with the safeguarding duties.
- Explain the importance of Making Safeguarding Personal and apply it to practice.
- Examine the use of risk assessments to manage risk and support evidence-based decision making.
- Consider the legal framework around information sharing and safeguarding adults.

Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiries (2 days)

Course Overview

The Care Act 2014 placed adult safeguarding on a statutory footing. Local Authorities have a duty to make or cause to make an enquiry if a case meets the criteria in section 42. The Act and accompanying statutory guidance marks a shift away from process driven safeguarding to Making Safeguarding Personal.

This highly practical and interactive two-day course is designed for professionals who are required to conduct the enquiry under Section 42 of the Care Act 2014.

The course follows a 'live' fictional safeguarding concern which is delivered through a rolling case study throughout the two days.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Explain the duties of the LA and responsibilities of the relevant partners under Section 42 of The Care Act 2014.
- Explain the safeguarding adults process and procedures.
- Articulate how the Care Act 2014 duties interface with other relevant legislation including the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005, with a focus on the tension between autonomy, risk and protection.
- Construct a risk assessment using a risk assessment tool.
- Explain the importance of adopting a Making Safeguarding Personal approach.
- Plan and conduct an enquiry to best practice standards.
- Demonstrate recording notes and records to best practice standards.
- Assess notes and records to formulate a report to best practice standards.



Chairing Skills: Adult Safeguarding Meetings (2 days)

Course Overview

Social care professionals are often required to attend and chair adult safeguarding meetings. Being able to do so effectively, is essential to help ensure positive outcomes for clients.

This course is designed to ensure that delegates fully understand what is required to convene and chair a meeting to best practice standards, and will explore the knowledge and skills required to do so successfully.

Role play and exercises will help delegates put theory into practice using a person-centred approach.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Apply knowledge of relevant legislation, code and guidance underpinning safeguarding adults into the role of a chair in a safeguarding meeting.
- Examine the importance of dynamic risk assessments.
- Explain the role and responsibilities of the chairperson.
- Examine good practice around the management and co-ordination of adult safeguarding meetings to best practice standards.
- Plan adult safeguarding meetings effectively.
- Apply the theory of how to chair a meeting to best practice standards into practice through role play.
- Assess through group discussion and peer feedback the key attributes of a chair.

Chairing Best Interest Meetings (2 days)

Course Overview

Professionals are often required to chair Best Interest meetings and it is essential that they understand the role of the Chair to enable them to lead with confidence and competence in order to achieve positive outcomes for the client using a client focused approach.

The course will equip those individuals whose responsibility it is to chair Best Interest meetings to do so with a full understanding of why best interest decision making is required. Delegates will discuss: what is a best interest meeting and when is it required, who should chair, who is the decision maker, and who should attend? As well as preparation before, during and after the meeting, supporting attendees and recording.

All training will be delivered in line with relevant legislation, policy and procedures supporting the process. The course will equip delegates with a level of confidence and competence to ensure positive outcomes for people.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Demonstrate a working knowledge of all relevant legislation and guidance to include information sharing and confidentiality.
- Understand the role and responsibilities of the chairperson.
- Manage, co-ordinate and navigate Best Interest Meetings effectively.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of facilitating the contribution of individuals from a range of agencies to promote the wellbeing and best interests of the person concerned.
- Explore good practice in dispute resolution.
- Explore good practice in chairing meetings.
- Formulate and confirm decisions and recommendations.



Financial Abuse - Protecting Adults at Risk (1 day)

Course Overview

Tens of thousands of people each year fall victim to financial abuse. This can take a variety of different forms within relationships, whether by partners, family members or carers or others, and may manifest itself as financial control, dependency or exploitation.

This course helps health and social care professionals to recognise indicators and forms of financial abuse and understand the options available through the legal frameworks which may offer solutions or protections.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Recognise the forms of financial abuse.
- Identify factors which may expose people to financial abuse.
- Explain the extent and impact of financial abuse.
- Identify the options available from the legal framework to prevent and protect people from financial abuse.
- Explore the range of strategic recommendations to combat and reduce the threat of financial abuse for adults at risk.

Self-Neglect and Hoarding (1 day)

Course Overview

Self-neglect, which can include hoarding, is a challenging aspect of contemporary adult health and social care, brought into sharp focus by the duties under the Care Act 2014 and the complicated interface with human rights and mental capacity.

The challenge for professionals, between respecting autonomy and managing risk and protection, is complex and is the subject of research and frequent adult safeguarding reviews.

This course provides an in-depth overview of the legal framework surrounding this complex area of work with an exploration into the ethical dilemmas in practice.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Identify key relevant legislation, policy, research and case law.
- Recognise self-neglect and its different forms.
- Outline how best to respond in self-neglect cases using a Making Safeguarding Personal approach.
- Examine the balance between autonomy, risk and protection.
- Explain when self-neglect is a safeguarding issue.
- Articulate the importance of robust risk assessments/capacity assessments.
- Identify the benefits of multi-agency work and processes.



Modern Slavery (1 day)

Course Overview

Slavery is not an issue confined to history, or an issue that only exists in other countries. Modern slavery happens in the UK and is a challenging aspect of contemporary adult health and social care practice.

This course aims to help professionals understand what modern slavery is, who is affected, how to spot the signs and how to navigate the human side of this difficult and complex area of work and respond effectively.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Explain the key relevant legislation and policy which underpin intervention.
- Identify the duties created by the Modern Slavery Act 2015.
- Recognise the different categories of slavery sitting under the umbrella term of "modern slavery".
- Identify the signs of modern slavery.
- Recognise potential victims of modern slavery.
- Discuss and develop strategies to support victims of modern slavery.

Domestic Abuse Act for Those Working with Adults (1 day)

Course Overview

This course is designed to assist practitioners in domestic abuse with the knowledge and skills to be able to provide appropriate support, guidance, and advice to those who will need to seek protection through criminal, civil/ family courts.

The law on domestic abuse has changed and while some of the old law will remain in place, aspects of legislation has been added, amended, or repealed by the 2021 Act.

Delegates will learn the differences between the current and proposed legal frameworks, evidential tests and court procedure between the criminal and family courts.

There will also be additional duties and powers afforded to public bodies, including health, social care and housing- all responsible to the newly appointed Domestic Abuse Commissioner. There will be a discussion around the new mandatory Domestic Abuse Partnership Panels.

The course will help identify which applications, remedies and orders can be sought from each court and what they provide by way of safeguarding protection to the victims of domestic abuse, as well as an understanding on the future expectation and responsibilities of all statutory and voluntary agencies.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Identify the current relevant legal framework as well as the new legislative changes coming into force under the Domestic Abuse Bill 2021 alongside the new measures to be enacted.
- Distinguish between the applications in the criminal and family courts.
- Identify what constitutes best evidence to enable a court to make 'findings of fact'.
- How to assist in presenting and preparing evidence.
- Practical application, procedure and remedies in relation to all areas of domestic abuse including exclusion of perpetrators.
- Breaches and enforcement.
- Private law / contact / children and domestic abuse.
- Changes to police powers and duties on local authorities.



Human Rights Act for Social Care Professionals (1 day)

Course Overview

The Human Rights Act 1998 places duties on public authorities to protect, respect and fulfil citizens' human rights. The aim of this course is to help health and social care professionals in public authorities understand how the Human Rights Act relates to what they do, and how they do it. This one-day course will explore the history of human rights as well as how to apply the rights and freedoms to everyday practice in health and social care.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Outline the history of human rights.
- Recognise the importance of applying the FREDa values and principles in everyday practice.
- Explore what is meant by human rights.
- Explain the different types of rights and freedoms we have.
- Identify the European Convention on Human Rights Articles relevant to health and social care.
- Discuss the myths and facts around human rights.
- Apply the rights and freedoms in practice in real life examples and case studies.

Human Rights for Elected Members (1 day)

Course Overview

As an Elected Member or a Councillor of a Local Authority you are responsible for protecting, respecting and fulfilling the rights of the citizens you serve under the Human Rights Act 1998.

This directly relates to your responsibility for overseeing the commissioning and provision of care services to children and adults.

This one day course will help you make a positive difference to the protection of children's and adults' human rights by ensuring that under your leadership you embrace the FREDa principles, in your decision making and scrutiny role and you reflect them in commissioning and contracting of services with a requirement for all service providers to act as if they were a public body under s6 of the Human Rights Act 1998.

In addition gaining an understanding of human rights will assist you as an Elected Member/Councillor to uphold the standards expected in public office outlined in the LGA Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

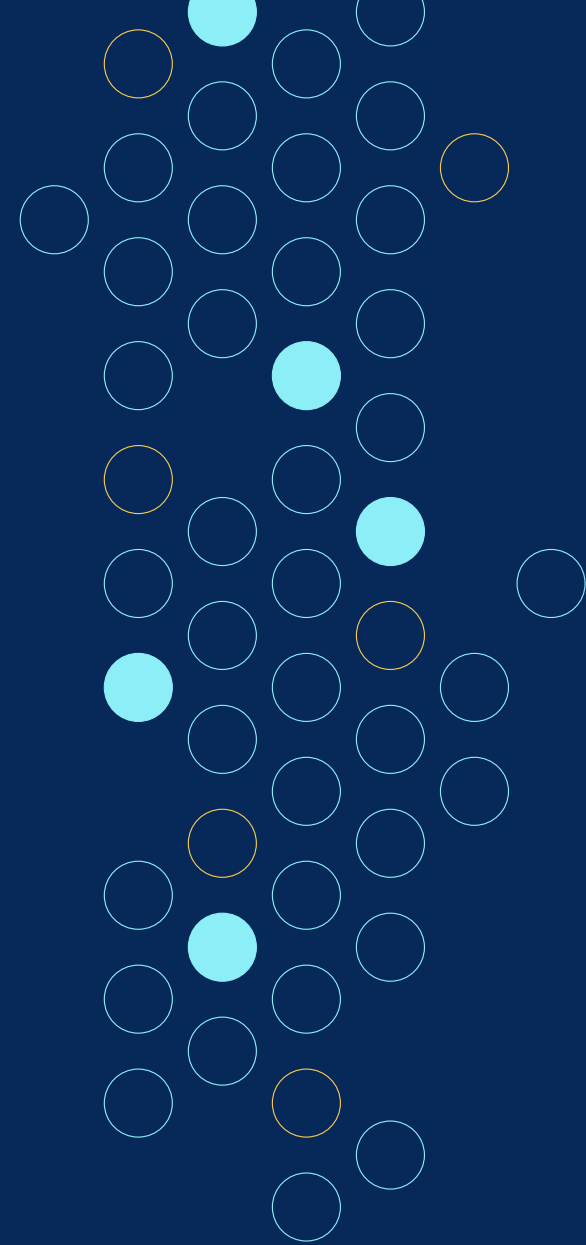
Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Explain the obligations of a public authority under the Human Rights Act and how those obligations relate to the provision of services to children and adults.
- Define what human rights are and the values that underpin them (FREDa).
- Recognise the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and the UK's commitment to its implementation.
- Identify the Articles of the ECHR most relevant to a local authority in child and adult social care.
- Use the knowledge gained in the course when making decisions and scrutinising decisions around commissioning and contracting for all service providers.
- Identify how human rights links to the seven principles of public life and the standards outlined in the LGA Model Councillor Code of Conduct.



Mental Health Courses



An Introduction to the Mental Health Act 1983 (1 Day)

The Mental Health Act 1983, as amended by the Mental Health Act 2007, tells us how to define a mental disorder and what the assessment and treatment rights of people with mental disorders are. Together with its Code of Practice, it provides the legal framework which balances the rights and interests of the individual with the protection of both the health and safety of that individual and the safety of the wider public.

Course Overview

Working, at any level, with patients who are either detained or are eligible to be detained under the Mental Health Act, demands a knowledge of the key principles of the Act. Providing care and treatment in a consistent, lawful way which fully respects the rights of those who are detained, is a non-negotiable, minimum, expected standard.

This course gives a thorough grounding to those who are new to working with psychiatric patients. Using group discussion and case studies, the course will clarify the complex legal principles behind such detentions.

Key Learning Points

- Discuss the meaning of “mental disorder”, as defined by Section 1 Mental Health Act 1983.
- Identify the roles and functions of the professionals named by the Act.
- Review the various pathways for admission into and compulsory detention at psychiatric hospital.
- Explore the legal meaning of “appropriate to receive medical treatment” and “appropriate treatment” within the context of the Mental Health Act 1983.
- Explain the circumstances under which a patient must consent to treatment if it is to be administered and those in which treatment can be administered by force, together with the legal safeguards which ensure that such administration is balanced with the needs of the patient.
- Outline how the Mental Capacity Act 2005 interacts with the Mental Health Act 1983.

AMHP Legal Update (1 Day)

This course will look at key legal developments in the field of mental health. It will include a round-up of any key cases decided within the past 18 months, as well as any new guidance. During the day delegates will examine challenges they are currently facing, as well as those which are likely to occur in the near to mid-term. Delegates will also have the opportunity to meet and discuss these matters with other AMHPs while achieving a third of their yearly CPD requirement.

Course Overview

This course will look at the white paper on the reform of the Mental Health Act itself and the impact the reform proposals will, if implemented, have on the way we all work, as well as how the decision to delay LPS is likely to affect patients who lack the capacity to consent to physical health treatment.

Key Learning Points

- Review developments in caselaw over the last year.
- Discuss the impact of the draft Mental Health Bill should it become law.
- Clarify what the position with LPS is and its impact on mental health patients.
- Examine the impact of RCRP as it is rolled out across the country.
- Examine the latest AMHP workforce study and the CQC's findings in “Monitoring the Mental Health Act”.
- Illustrate the interaction between S117 aftercare and CHC funding.
- Discuss NHS England's guidance on blanket policies for psychiatric wards.



Record Keeping for Mental Health Tribunals (1 Day)

Records, including notes, are an essential tool which care professionals must be able to use effectively to meet their various legal and professional responsibilities.

Course Overview

This interactive course will give you an understanding of how, when and why to write timely and accurate care records, as well as how they can be used to defend your recollection under cross-examination in a courtroom environment. Throughout the day, with the assistance of a thought-provoking video case study, we will consider who might read what you have written, what should be recorded in care records, what should not be recorded in them and the importance of focusing on not just what was said, but also on what the service user is not saying, as well as their overall presentation.

Towards the end of the day, we will turn to consider what “good” looks like from your perspective and within your role. You will be assisted to formulate a note keeping template which will help you capture all of the relevant information imparted by your service users.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course you will be able to:

- Describe what a timely care record is.
- Describe what an accurate care record is.
- Explain why timely care records should be kept.
- Explain how timely care records should be kept.
- Practice contemporaneous record keeping.
- Use a contemporaneous record to create a report.
- Defend your recollection by using a report and contemporaneous record under cross-examination.

Report Writing for Mental Health Tribunals (1 Day)

As part of regular clinical practice, psychiatric healthcare professionals will be required to produce statements and/or reports, which may be used in Mental Health Tribunals and Hospital Managers' Meetings, as well as for internal audits, responding to complaints and regulatory proceedings.

Often they are written in a format that makes them difficult to read or understand. They fail to provide accurate information, leaving the writer open to scrutiny, undermining the quality of the clinical evidence provided and possibly leaving the hospital open to claims for unlawful imprisonment and other forms of malpractice.

Course Overview

This practical course will teach you how to turn clinical notes into effective statements and reports. Through exercises, you will review the structure of statements and reports including style and format, while also gaining the ability to identify the relevant information that needs to be included. Delegates learn how to distinguish between fact, inference and opinion, and explore common pitfalls and mistakes made by healthcare professionals, and importantly how to avoid them.

Key Learning Points

- Identify the issues to be addressed.
- Distinguish between fact, inference and opinion.
- Ensure any opinion is based on fact.
- Use records, notes and other relevant material as the basis for statements and/or reports.
- Adopt appropriate format, layout and style consistent with the Senior President of Tribunals' Practice Direction.
- Develop an objective and critical approach to written evidence.



Giving Evidence in Mental Health Tribunals (1 Day)

Giving evidence in contested Mental Health Tribunals and Hospital Managers' Meetings can be a daunting experience. Many psychiatric healthcare professionals can find themselves and their evidence being subjected to enormous scrutiny, by members of the panel and the patient's solicitor.

Course Overview

This highly practical training session is designed to ensure that psychiatric healthcare professionals undergo a process of familiarisation - to equip them with the necessary skills to give a confident account under questioning or cross-examination.

The day is split into two halves. The morning looks at the theory of giving evidence and is designed to demystify the whole process. Attendees explore the various techniques lawyers use to discredit healthcare professionals in cross-examination, and learn how to withstand them and remain in control.

In the afternoon, we set up a mock Mental Health Tribunal in which delegates will be cross-examined by an experienced lawyer-trainer, to consolidate the day's learning.

Key Learning Points

- Understand the inquisitorial process employed by Mental Health Tribunals and Hospital Managers' Meetings and the legal tests which they must employ in every case.
- Identify the procedures, order of events, and roles and responsibilities of those involved.
- Prepare how to give evidence to best practice standards.
- Demonstrate how to make appropriate use of supporting evidence, documents and records while under cross-examination.

Part 4 & 4A of the Mental Health Act 1983 (1 Day)

The Mental Health Act 1983 is the key piece of legislation governing the detention and treatment of psychiatric patients. Part 4 of the act sets out the circumstances as to what treatment can be given to which patient and when. Part 4A performs a similar role with regard to patients being treated in the community.

Getting this right in every case is crucial. Any failures in regards to the legislation can result in complaints being made against the individual members of any clinical or community team, civil action being taken against their employer or, in the worst cases, criminal prosecution.

Course Overview

The key to getting it right every time can be found in Chapters 23 to 26 of the Code of Practice of the Mental Health Act. This one-day course will carry out a detailed examination as to what is meant by appropriate medical treatment, which treatments are subject to special rules and procedures and how to carry out safe and therapeutic responses to behavioural disturbances.

Key Learning Points

- Identify which treatment requires patient consent and/or a second opinion.
- Define "urgent treatment" and the legal framework under which it can be administered.
- Detail which treatment does not require consent and the time limit with which such treatment can be given.



Eating Disorders and the Mental Health Act 1983 (1 Day)

Many patients with eating disorders report that their encounters with the Mental Health Act 1983 have been largely negative experiences. Often, they and their families feel disempowered and shut out of decisions surrounding their treatment, which can then be forcibly administered if they object to it.

Patients who go on to recover often ascribe that recovery to some positive interaction with the Act, where a professional or MDT places them at the heart of their own care and help them rediscover who they are.

Course Overview

This one-day course draws on a combination of legal principles, guidance and practical experience, as it follows the journey of a young person with anorexia nervosa through the psychiatric system. With a focus firmly on the law and legal theory surrounding each step of the admission and treatment process, you will develop your own approach to your profession in assisting patients to recover and take responsibility for their own care and treatment.

Key Learning Points

- Identify the core patient rights which must be considered at all times when supporting someone with an eating disorder.
- Describe what the duty to take “reasonable steps” to protect life means within the context of eating disorders.
- List the procedural safeguards which must be in place if someone is to be detained under the Mental Health Act 1983.
- Apply the principle of autonomy and respect for “unwise decisions” made by patients, identify when a deprivation of liberty is taking place and apply the proper legal test for capacity to consent to in-patient psychiatric treatment.
- Review the factors which must be considered both when assessing whether it is in the interests of a patient’s health or safety for them to be detained in hospital under section and whether detention in hospital is appropriate.
- Understand the circumstances under which treatment without consent can be administered to a detained psychiatric patient.

Assessing Children and Young People under the Mental Health Act 1983 (1 Day)

Mental health emergencies can be devastating and life-threatening and the long-term effects of failing to provide effective mental health care in childhood is now well recognised. Deciding to apply to detain anyone under the Mental Health Act 1983 should never be easy but such applications are particularly difficult when it comes to social workers and student social workers with regard to those under the age of 18.

Course Overview

You will explore how to ensure that your aims of helping children and young people with mental health difficulties align with the key human rights principles of autonomy, control and participation. This course will use a series of case studies in which we follow a child through the process of a Mental Health Act assessment and explore the alternatives to compulsory admission under the Act.

Key Learning Points

- Understand the careful tension between the Mental Health Act 1983, The Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Children Act 1989.
- Assess the capacity of a young person to consent to inpatient admission to a psychiatric ward.
- List the guiding principles behind such an admission.
- Analyse how the child and young person’s voice should be at the heart of every decision in care and treatment.
- Appraise personal practice and develop a gold-standard understanding of the legal principles underpinning the detention, treatment and care of children and young people in a psychiatric setting.



Hospital Managers' Panels - Their Role and Responsibilities (1 Day)

It is the responsibility of the managers of every psychiatric hospital to ensure that the people appointed to their managers' panel receive suitable training to:

- Understand the law surrounding detention under the Mental Health Act.
- Work with patients and professionals.
- Be able to reach sound judgements and properly record their decisions.

Hospital Manager's Panels should understand equality issues and the needs of patients from minority cultural or ethnic backgrounds; patients with physical impairments and/or sensory impairments; and patients with learning disabilities or autistic spectrum disorders. Members must only be appointed for a fixed period of time. Reappointment should not be automatic and should always be preceded by a review of that person's continuing suitability to be a member of the panel.

Course Overview

This interactive one-day course offers panel members thorough training as to the sections of the Mental Health Act 1983 and parts of the Code of Practice to the Mental Health Act relevant to their role. We also consider the scope and impact of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards on reviews of psychiatric detention.

In the afternoon, through a case study and a mock Hospital Managers' Meeting, we review recent relevant case law and reprise the lessons learnt from South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust vs Hospital Managers of St Georges' Hospital.

Hospital Managers are encouraged to attend the training as part of the suitability review process or, if preferred, can be given a written test and, where appropriate, course completion certificates.

Key Learning Points

- Reprise their role and responsibilities.
- Gain a full understanding of equality and diversity issues.
- Understand the importance of gaining insight into the needs of particular groups of vulnerable people.
- Be aware of the law and evidential considerations which should be applied in all of their decisions.
- Understand the difficulties involved in the decisions to withhold reports from patients.
- Appreciate why and how to draft legally correct, written decisions.
- Obtain an update on all recent relevant case law.

Community Treatment Orders (1 Day)

Community Treatment Orders were first introduced in 2007, following an amendment made to the Mental Health Act 1983. They have had a significant impact on the way psychiatric patients are discharged from hospital and treated in the community. They are highly controversial, with many patients and professionals having strong views over their use and length. It is clear though, that even when the Mental Health Act 1983 is reformed, CTOs will remain, albeit in a slightly altered form.

Course Overview

Properly imposing a CTO requires a fundamental understanding of the key principles of the Mental Health Act 1983, the purpose of CTOs, their scope, the extent to which aftercare must be planned and monitored, as well as clear communication with the patient through the lifetime of the CTO.

This one-day course:

- Clarifies the powers available to clinical and community teams.
- Considers which patients are and are not eligible for a CTO.
- Reviews the legislation and guidelines detailing patients who would and would not benefit from a CTO.
- Discusses factors which suggest longer term leave might be more appropriate.
- Considers the interaction between CTOs and Guardianship, especially for Children and Young People.
- Examines the interaction between CTOs and the Mental Capacity Act 2005, including when DoLS should be applied for.
- Contemplates the extent to which treatment can be imposed both in the community and on recall.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course you will be able to:

- Describe the purpose of a Community Treatment Order.
- Explain who should, and should not, be considered for a Community Treatment Order.
- Identify the CTO criteria.
- Apply the provisions of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 to a patient either on, or about to go on, a CTO.
- Summarise the issues to consider and procedures to follow when revoking a CTO.
- Design CTO conditions, associated packages of care, capacity assessments and best interest assessments (using a case study).



The Interface between S117 Aftercare and Continuing Healthcare (1 Day)

Working out who pays for what care when a person with a mental disorder is discharged from a hospital section, is a difficult process. When that person also has an enduring physical health problem, for which they require nursing or other medical care in a community setting, obtaining appropriate funding to manage that person's needs becomes even more complex. Assessments are required to determine whether the person's primary needs relate to their physical health, mental health or need for social care.

The ramifications for getting such assessments wrong, or conducting them incorrectly, are significant for everyone involved.

Course Overview

During this one-day course you will consider the relevant statutes, case law and up-to-date guidance which will enable them to understand how decisions are made about section 117 needs, CHC eligibility and to avoid the significant pitfalls in the decision-making process.

Key Learning Points

- Understand the relevant legislation, guidance, case law and procedures surrounding S117 aftercare and CHC funding.
- Understand the framework of S117 aftercare funding and CHC funding following psychiatric hospital discharge.
- Recognise the importance of written and other evidence in the screening, assessment, review and appeal process.
- Identify and consider the potential pitfalls in the decision-making process.
- Understand the screening and assessment process.
- Understand the purpose of the review panel and the appeals process.

The Interface between the Mental Health Act 1983 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (1 Day)

All healthcare professionals working with patients being treated under the Mental Health Act (MHA) 1983 should also understand the provisions of the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005.

The MCA is an incredibly important piece of legislation which, provided the correct tests and procedures are followed, allows others to make decisions on behalf of those who lack the capacity to do so. Unfortunately, all too frequently, due to professionals failing to understand where the provisions of the MHA end and those of the MCA begin, vital decisions affecting patient care and treatment are either not made, made incorrectly or are made without regard to proper procedure.

Course Overview

This highly practical one-day course explores the concept of capacity, mental capacity assessments and best interests decisions. It then moves on to consider how and when the MCA should be used for patients who are detained under section in psychiatric hospital or being treated under a CTO in the community.

You will be introduced to the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and will discuss how and when an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate should be involved on the patient's behalf.

Key Learning Points

- Be able to apply the key principles of the both the MHA and MCA to clinical practice.
- Have the skills to make and document a mental capacity assessment.
- Be able to reach balanced and informed best interests decisions.
- Know when and how to involve an IMCA.
- Learn the skills to navigate complex healthcare issues with patients who have mental health disorders, physical health problems and who lack the necessary capacity to make decisions as to their care and treatment for both.
- Understand recent case law developments which touch upon patients who lack the capacity to make key decisions in psychiatric settings.



Mental Capacity and Deprivation of Liberty for Young People (16 and 17 year olds) (1 Day)

In hospitals, residential accommodation, residential special schools, children's homes, care homes and many other places throughout England and Wales, children and young people with disabilities, mental health problems and mental capacity problems are being deprived of their liberty without any lawful authority.

Despite the rights given to everyone, regardless of age, by Article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights, there is a perception that the "zone of parental control", including the zone of control exercisable by the corporate parent, extends far further than it really does.

A deprivation of liberty is only lawful if it is imposed "in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law". If a young person between 16 and 18 is lacking in capacity to consent to or refuse accommodation provided under section 20 of the Children Act 1989, then the provisions of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 must be adhered to.

Course Overview

This course is for health and social care professionals who work with young people. It has been designed to provide an interactive and essential overview of the Mental Capacity Act 2005, including DoLS. There will be a discussion of the ramifications of the April 2023 announcement about the Liberty Protection Safeguards in relation to 16 and 17-year-olds, as well as those working with them.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course the delegate will be able to:

- Identify a deprivation of liberty.
- Identify the legislation which authorises a deprivation of liberty.
- Describe the 5 core principles which guide any application of the Mental Capacity Act 2005.
- Explain how someone's capacity should be assessed.
- Discuss how to carry out a best interest assessment with proper regard to the wishes, feelings, values, and beliefs of the individual being assessed.
- Use case studies to, demonstrate when and how to apply to the Court of Protection for an order authorising a deprivation of liberty.
- Understand the implications of the law when accommodating a young person who lacks the capacity to consent to arrangements being made for their care and treatment.

Human Rights and the Policing and Crime Act 2017 (1 Day)

Approved Mental Health Professionals and Police Officers are very often at the forefront of a decision to remove people who are suspected of being mentally unwell to places of safety. These decisions are often made quickly and in a highly pressured environment. The legislation surrounding such decisions is complex, yet failure to properly understand and apply it can result in members of the public being wrongfully detained, in contravention of their basic Human Rights.

Course Overview

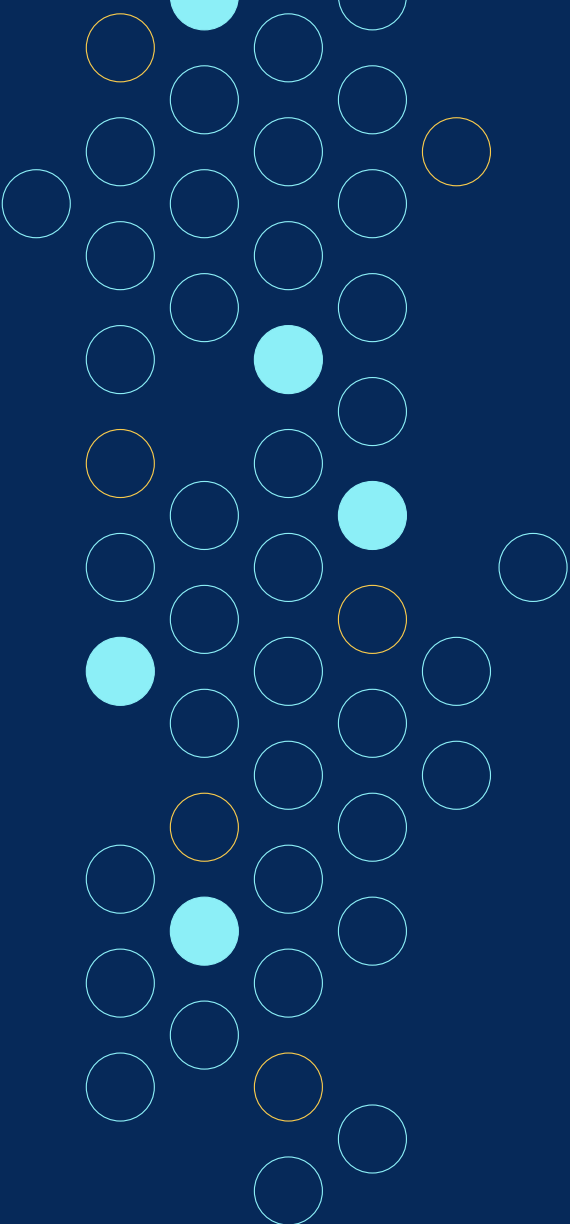
This one-day course enables the AMHP to take a step back and review their practices through a combination of practical exercises and a careful examination of the legislative framework.

Key Learning Points

- Understand the steps to be taken to avail themselves of the legal protection afforded by Section 139 Mental Health Act 1983.
- Define what does (and what does not) comprise a "Place of Safety".
- Properly apply the principles of necessity and proportionality when deciding whether to remove a member of the public to a place of safety.
- Effectively calculate the various new time limits introduced by the Policing and Crime Act 2017.



Skills



Record Keeping (1 Day)

Records, including notes, are an essential tool which care professionals must be able to use effectively to meet their various legal and professional responsibilities.

Course Overview

This interactive, practical course has been designed to give an understanding of how, when, and why to write timely and accurate records, including understanding the importance these may have in potential legal proceedings.

This course has been designed to help professionals to adopt a defensible practice to their notes and records, while also considering their own accountability and that of their organisation.

Throughout the day, delegates will consider what should, and should not be recorded in care records and the importance of focusing on not just what was said, but also on what is not being said by the person receiving care, alongside their overall presentation.

Delegates will consider what “good” looks like from their perspective and within their role. They will be assisted to formulate a note keeping template which will help them in capturing all relevant information, while also considering who may read their notes and records.

The course will conclude with a short cross-examination exercise to further highlight the importance of good records.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Describe what a timely care record is.
- Describe what an accurate care record is.
- Explain why timely care records should be kept.
- Explain how timely care records should be kept.
- Practise contemporaneous record keeping.
- Use a contemporaneous record to create a report.
- Defend their recollection by using a report and contemporaneous record under cross-examination.

Statement/Report Writing for Court (1 day)

Course Overview

As the Mental Capacity Act 2005 continues to embed itself into everyday practice, more and more adult social workers find themselves being called upon to provide written and oral evidence in the Court of Protection.

When compared to their peers, for those working in children’s services, this can still be unfamiliar territory and can cause significant anxiety.

Social workers are often required to write statements and reports or assist others to do so. A witness statement (COP 24) is one of the primary pieces of evidence that can be submitted to the court as it is the testimony of an individual directly involved in the case. Too often statements/reports lack clarity, credibility and objectivity. Excellent written evidence will often mean that a witness may not be required to give evidence and will help insulate the witness through the process of cross-examination.

This hands on statement/report writing course is designed to help delegates improve the content, structure and style of reports/statements to write to best practice standards.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Identify the issue(s) clearly and be able to include facts that support the issue(s).
- Identify the type, source and weight of evidence that can be included in a report/statement.
- Explain how to use contemporaneous notes as the basis for a report/statement.
- Identify facts from assumptions and opinions.
- Insulate written evidence against cross examination.
- Examine the different formats, layout and formalities required for statements/reports.
- Explain how to use exhibits/appendices/photos/plans/maps in a report/statement.
- Examine how to get your message across with persuasive analysis and conclusion.
- Develop an objective and critical eye in relation to written evidence.



Court Skills/Giving Evidence (1 day)

Course Overview

As the Mental Capacity Act 2005 continues to embed itself into everyday practice, more and more adult social workers find themselves being called upon to provide written and oral evidence in the Court of Protection.

In addition, practitioners could also find themselves giving evidence in the High Court if a case is issued under the court's inherent jurisdiction, the Coroner's Court or a Tribunal. In contrast to peers working in children's services, those working with adults often find that giving evidence is still unfamiliar territory and this can cause significant anxiety.

Having the confidence and skills to be able to give a truthful, coherent account of events and be helpful to the Court is essential.

This highly practical course is designed to give delegates a process of familiarisation to equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills to give a confident account under questioning or cross examination.

The morning session looks at the theory of giving evidence and is designed to demystify the process.

In the afternoon, delegates will participate in a mock courtroom session where they will practice the theory they have learnt in the morning.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Explain the procedures, order of events and roles of those involved in the various Courts and Tribunals.
- Describe what preparation is required in advance of giving evidence.
- Explain the main aims of cross-examination and techniques lawyers use to achieve those aims.
- Describe the role of a witness.
- Apply the knowledge and skills learnt in the morning session into practice.
- Outline how to make appropriate use of supporting evidence while under cross-examination.
- Explain effective ways to withstand lawyers' cross-examination techniques in order to give clear and confident oral evidence in the witness box.

The training can be delivered in the context of any tribunal e.g. Coroner's Court, Court of Protection or High Court.

Coroner's Court Training (1 day)

Course Overview

Often witnesses are unprepared for the experience of presenting evidence at an inquest and can find the process daunting. Many witnesses feel they are on trial, rather than giving evidence to assist the coroner.

This practical course is designed to ensure you have the support and knowledge to give a truthful, confident and coherent account at a Coroner's Court inquest.

The course will demystify the process of giving evidence, in which you will consider the theory of giving evidence at a Coroner's court. Delegates explore the role and responsibilities of everybody involved in an inquest, including their own. A mock Coroner's Court will be set up, allowing attendees to experience the types of questioning they may face in the courtroom. This practical role-play consolidates techniques learnt during the course, helping you remain in control and give effective evidence to the inquest. You will receive feedback on your performance.

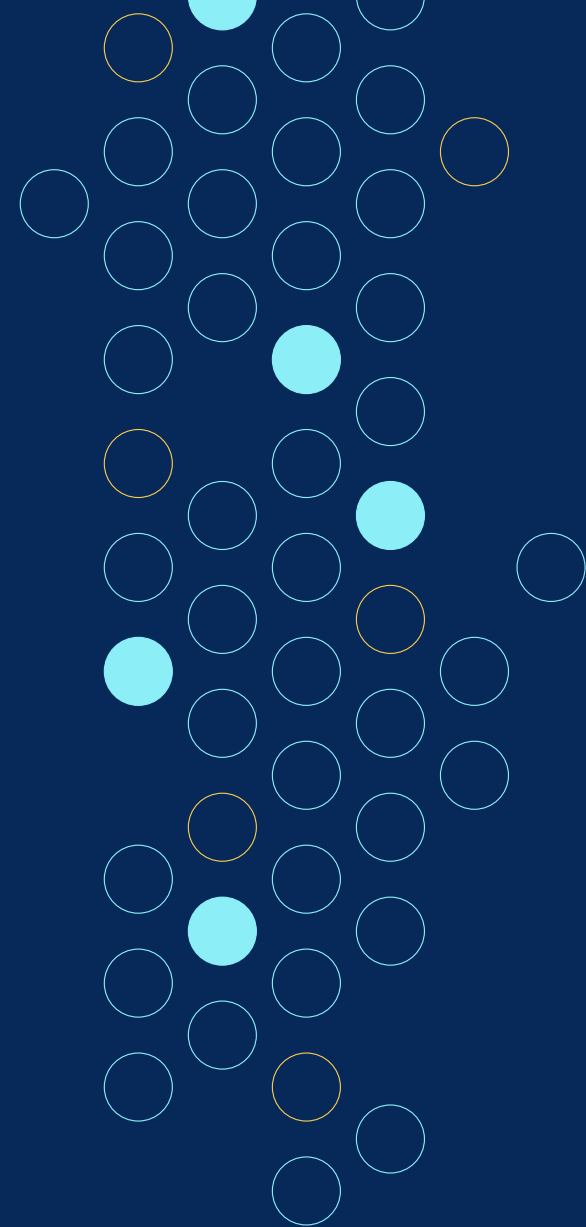
Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Explain how the inquisitorial system works.
- Identify the procedure, order of events, and the roles and responsibilities of those involved.
- Prepare how to give evidence to best practice.
- Identify lawyers' techniques of questioning.
- Be able to combat difficult and adversarial questions.
- Learn how to give clear, honest and objective evidence while under questioning.
- Identify possible findings and verdicts of the Coroner.



People Development Skills



Emotional Intelligence Applied (1 Day)

The course is designed for those that seek to improve their performance through relationships. Research shows that for jobs of all kinds, emotional intelligence is twice as important as IQ with technical skills. EI underpins successful people management and is more than 85% of what sets star performers apart from the average. This course will develop your capability to understand and work with Emotional Intelligence.

Course Overview

Following the publication of Daniel Goleman's book "Emotional Intelligence" in 1995 EI was quickly understood to have a significant impact on effective leadership and management. EI is defined as the ability to sense, understand, and effectively apply the power of emotions as a source of human energy, information, connection, and influence. The course will explore these ideas and enable you to apply techniques to your work.

The course defines emotional intelligence and how it is applied in practical terms. You will consider questions such as:

- Where are you most avoiding issues concerning others?
- What impact and associated cost does this have on your performance, others' performance and business success?
- What stops you from telling the truth to yourself and others?
- What beliefs do you hold about yourself that may limit your capability and performance?

These questions lead to an understanding of personal style and enhanced self-awareness. By attending, you will improve your communication skills so that you can gain 'buy-in' for your ideas and therefore create a bigger impact on your work.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Understand the brain (cortex, limbic and stem) and the interplay with emotions.
- Recognise and avoid emotional hijack.
- Interpret the Goleman 5 Core EI elements model.
- Retain composure through self-regulation and the ability to think clearly under pressure.
- Act with empathy to improve all working relationships.
- Promote self-confidence, achievement-orientation and initiative.
- Positively challenge assumptions and behaviours.

Managing Performance Under Pressure (1 day)

This course will give you skills to respond to stress positively, allowing you to work better under pressure. You will learn preventative measures and ways to eliminate the causes of stress, rather than on the treatment of its effects. This course will help you change your behaviour and response to stress to increase your personal and professional effectiveness.

Course Overview

The course contains a collection of techniques to cope with pressure. There is evidence to suggest that stress due to work is associated with changes in both behaviour and physiological function, which can be detrimental to employees' health. Extreme stress can contribute to the development of various symptoms of occupational ill health and of physical and psychological disorders. The course will equip you with the techniques to develop resilience whilst increasing your performance.

You will explore methods to help you feel in control and problem solve whilst under pressure. Using a practical resource guide, you will understand how to create the work-life balance you need to thrive and manage your time effectively.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Deal with pressure more effectively.
- Understand the nature of pressure.
- Use Emotional Intelligence as a proactive strategy for dealing with internal pressure.
- Adopt techniques and attitudes that work most effectively for you.
- Study the impact of pressure and stress upon your emotional and physical health, performance and relationships.
- Recognise the symptoms of excessive pressure/stress and its associated behaviours in yourself and others.
- Give up 'toxic' practices and create a foundation on which to build resistance to stress.
- Be assertive.
- Understand the power of NOW.



Being Resilient (1 Day)

Personal resilience is arguably the most important resource for succeeding during challenging times - resilient people stay committed and proactive when the going gets tough. Learn how to increase your ability to respond positively to pressures you may encounter in today's workplace.

You can develop resilience. By doing so, you can improve your quality of life at work, as well as your productivity and performance. Resilient people are a vital asset for any business.

Course Overview

At the start of the course, you will identify circumstances that can trigger a pessimistic or negative mindset, this is to understand your psychological reactions in times of stress. You can then understand what you need to do in order to adopt a more flexible and adaptable approach to change. This will help build confidence in dealing with difficult situations, with a can-do attitude of realistic optimism and emotional equilibrium. This results in increased levels of personal satisfaction and organisational success. The course is personally challenging, highly practical and based on delegates' real workplace challenges.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Maintain a positive self-concept and confidence in their strengths and qualities.
- Make realistic plans and implement them.
- Demonstrate greater commitment and enthusiasm for projects.
- Understand how to use Resilience, Positive Psychology.
- Use stress reduction techniques to manage strong impulses and feelings.
- Remain calm and level-headed under pressure.
- Apply emotional awareness to improve decision-making.
- Build a Resilience Development Plan.

Effective Communication Skills (1 Day)

Communication is the "oil in the engine of organisational success." It keeps things moving and the better the quality, the better the parts work together. Effectively communicating is a key responsibility for everyone in every role today without exception and with the challenges of modern technology and evolving language, getting your message across in a way that everyone understands becomes the biggest challenge. This session explores the characteristics of the various communications styles, offering ideas and opportunities for you to "flex" their style of communication dependent on your audience.

Course Overview

In this course we explore the barriers, principles and tools of effective communication which support you in your journey towards becoming a truly expert communicator at every level. It is designed for those who need to be able to communicate and influence effectively. It is particularly useful for those who need to influence others but who do not necessarily have authority over them, e.g. relationship managers, consultants, project managers and sales staff. It is designed to provide you with a more advanced and subtle set of communication tools. You will dissect existing relationships to recognise potential relationship challenges and define strategies to improve ongoing relationships. You will focus on clear and effective communication, making points in meetings or being understood.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Really listen to what people say and understand their intentions.
- Find flexible choices for responding to and communicating with challenging colleagues.
- Communicate and influence effectively recognising signals, language and patterns.
- Understand their own and others' personality types and motivators.
- Increase their flexibility in influencing situations.
- Develop and maintain rapport with others quickly and effectively.
- Maintain control of influencing situations.
- Prepare for any influencing situation.
- Think in new and more effective ways.
- Increase their ability and confidence in handling confrontation.



Effective Stakeholder Management (1 Day)

Dealing with stakeholders can often be challenging, especially when there are many with different interests. The "secret" to dealing with them is to understand how to overcome conflict and to build and strengthen relationships. This is aimed at those of you who want to work on your relationship and communication with stakeholders, in order to improve efficiency and drive business forward.

Course Overview

You will begin by reflecting on your ability to deal with stakeholders – covering your strengths and weaknesses. You will define the "ideal" behaviours of a "Role Model" and the impression these behaviours would make on stakeholders. You will then measure yourself against this "Role Model".

You will learn how to create the right first impression as well as the dos and don'ts of communicating with various personality types. We will introduce the concept of rapport and how it can be built with your voice and what you say. You will evaluate methods used to build rapport and consider what happens when rapport is broken.

Stakeholder relationships can be built by asking the right question, at the right time. The course will introduce a set of powerful generic questions to open up the communication. You will practise active listening to understand what the stakeholder is really saying. You will review how you convey respect when talking to stakeholders and how your bias can get in the way of listening. The course will also cover the core ingredients of trust and how to strengthen relationships. You will use the Perceptual Shift Technique, where you imagine yourself as a stakeholder.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Understand what stakeholders think and want.
- Develop a Role Model to satisfy stakeholders.
- Use enhanced communication and relationship building skills.
- Utilise developed questioning skills.
- Practise effective and active listening.
- Appreciate the requirements to gain stakeholder respect.
- Use language to gain trust.
- Be effective in handling conflict, negotiating and evaluation.

Effective Decision Making (1 Day)

This course focuses on the three underlying and fundamental principles of successful decision-making: objectives, alternatives and risk. The purpose of the course is to equip you with an effective and straightforward decision-making methodology that will enhance rational thought processes, reduce risk and boost performance.

This highly experiential course is designed to help you discover how to use both sides of the brain, to enhance your creative approach to key decisions you face. Mental dexterity is a powerful weapon in the pursuit of excellence. You will consider not only the linear but also the lateral and intuitive elements that make up the decision-making process.

Course Overview

On this course you will learn how to use a number of tools to improve analytical, creative and innovative thinking, giving you a clear methodology for decision-making. This will enable you to overcome the two opposing dangers of procrastination (or rushed decisions) which can result from the overwhelming burden of information – which the modern workplace generates.

You will consider how the brain processes information and how it affects unconscious assumptions, decision-making triggers and mind mapping.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Increase their ability to come up with ideas and generate options.
- Understand the rationale and emotional drivers in decision-making.
- Retain objectivity when setting priorities.
- Use practical instruments such as decision trees.
- Utilise knowledge of and apply several creative thinking tools.
- Understand the concept of judgement and apply structured methods and enhanced skills to the decision-making process.
- Avoid the danger of unchecked assumptions.
- Learn a straightforward and effective approach to problem analysis and risk management.
- Recognise opportunities for, and lead, effective group problem solving sessions.



Handling Conflict and Difficult Situations (1 Day)

This course develops the people skills needed to manage conflict effectively. In particular, it introduces techniques to make these skills an integral part of everyday business life and uses real situations to enable you to build confidence. Conflict can have a positive effect, but left unchecked it can result in reduced creativity and productivity, lost commitment, and wasted financial resources. By taking a number of conflict management tools, techniques and theories and putting them into practical situations, this course aims to turn conflict into a productive force.

Course Overview

You will explore the stages in the evolution of conflict, why it arises and what can be done to avoid escalation. You will learn how to handle difficult situations, including recognising and managing emotions in yourself and others and how to adopt an assertive response. You will examine the thought processes that lead to conflict in the workplace. You will spend time reflecting on any current conflicts, reviewing your previous approaches and looking at how you can modify your thinking and actions, in order to influence the overall outcome. You will look at how to approach challenging, one-to-one conversations, including when it is necessary to deliver feedback which may be hard to hear. The emphasis will be on trying out practical new approaches and techniques that you can apply to resolve current and future conflict.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Identify exactly what conflict is, why it arises and how it can be utilised for maximum benefit.
- Recognise the various stages of conflict and prevent them from escalating.
- Defuse potential clashes before they arise.
- Deal with conflict with a greater awareness of the conflict management style of themselves and others.
- Use the Thomas Kilmann Conflict Model to assess the different approaches.
- Utilise a variety of methods for managing difficult situations successfully.
- Tackle a variety of "difficult" conversations with increased skill and confidence.
- Engage with conflict in a way that creates stronger, more productive relationships.
- Give clear, constructive feedback with confidence.

Understanding Self and Others (1 Day)

The quality of relationships at work is a key factor not only in the success of any organisation but in the well-being of its members. Understanding various personality types in the workplace is essential to ensure that there are effective communication and working practices. Conflict and difficulties can be diffused once individuals can identify their style of relating and how it fits with others. It is especially important for a manager or leader to grasp these key insights in order to be able to get the best out of their team by deploying flexible leadership styles.

Course Overview

You will be introduced to the different styles of relating as well as the four leadership styles. An introduction to the situational leadership model will allow you to improve your channels of communication and to motivate your team members successfully. A highly practical feedback technique will give you the ability to develop other people effectively and improve performance. You will also work to identify the filters through which you perceive the world and how these can affect your relationships at work. The two major influencing styles are introduced, and you are encouraged to reflect on how and when to employ which one.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Understand how they relate to others and how this affects their own attitudes and behaviour.
- Collaborate effectively with people of many nationalities.
- Identify and appreciate personal strengths and those of others you work with.
- Apply this information to enhance key relationships.
- Enhance their communication with others and see performance increase as a result.
- Deploy flexible leadership and influencing styles.
- Appreciate and value difference.



De-escalation, Lone Working and Breakaway Techniques (1 day)

Course Overview

This course is designed to give your staff the knowledge and confidence to reduce the risk of harm to them when faced with a potentially violent situation by using effective de-escalation techniques. They will learn that break away techniques are always a last resort.

Attendees will be taught that size and strength isn't important but that the techniques taught are. All techniques are effective and risk assessed, ensuring you meet your legal responsibilities as an employer under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

Key Learning Points

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Recognise the signs of aggression.
- Know the importance of de-escalation.
- Demonstrate de-escalation techniques.
- Understand the stages of a violent episode (Kaplan and Wheeler).
- Explain the 'Batari box' and how this affects our relationship with an aggressive person.
- Explain the Behavioural Influence Stairway Model (BISM). This model was devised by the FBI to resolve conflict with a person. The model is 90% effective in resolving conflict without using force.
- Consider risks - the factors that should be considered when thinking about personal safety.
- Use the People, Environment and Task (PET) risk assessment method.
- Have improved communication skills when dealing with an aggressive person.
- Comply with the legislation allowing the use of force against another person.

Working with Difficult to Engage Adults (1 day)

Course Overview

The course aims to arm social workers, working with difficult to engage adults, with the skills to identify what leads to a lack of engagement and to define and recognise difficult to engage behaviour such as ambivalence, avoidance, confrontation, and violence. The course will also explore what is meant by professional curiosity and respectful challenge.

Delegates will consider relevant legislation for intervention to include the Human Rights Act 1998, the Care Act 2014 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005, along with statutory guidance and best practice guidance around Making Safeguarding Personal. Delegates will also explore how the appropriate and timely sharing of information and a multi-agency approach is vital to safeguard adults and professionals where adults are not willing to engage or cooperate directly or indirectly.

Key Learning Points


By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Define "difficult to engage adults".
- Explain what leads to a lack of engagement with some adults.
- Describe types of uncooperative behaviour to include ambivalence, avoidance, resistance, intimidation, confrontation and violence.
- Explore what is meant by "professional curiosity".
- Explore the relevant legal framework from Human Rights through to policy and procedures.
- Prioritise the adult's needs by applying Making Safeguarding Personal.
- Assess the effectiveness of multi-agency working and sharing of information to safeguard adults and professionals.
- Recognise the importance of creating and collecting factual evidence that builds a holistic picture around the adult.
- Recognise the importance of risk assessments and the production of well-crafted action plans which identify how risks can be managed or reduced.
- Evaluate if there is adequate support and supervision of staff to enable staff to respond appropriately to risky or hostile behaviour.
- Identify the key learning from some of the adult safeguarding reviews.



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