



Portsmouth Mental Health,
Mental Capacity and Care Act
Advocacy Team

IMHA, IMCA, RPR &
Care Act

6 Principles of Safeguarding

- Empowerment
- Prevention
- Proportionality
- Protection
- Partnership
- Accountability

Supporting clients through the process either under the Mental Capacity Act (IMCA), DoLS, RPR Paid Rep or Care Act 2014 (CAA)



Wearing 3 Hats...



1. An Advocate may identify a safeguarding or incident requiring escalation in the course of their role.
2. An Advocate be requested to support a client who may be identified as at risk. This may be in any of the statutory roles of Advocacy – IMCA safeguarding referral or Care Act.
3. An Advocate may also be requested to support an ‘alleged perpetrator’ of a safeguarding issue – again within various Advocacy roles.





Safeguarding and its Effects on Advocates



Effect on the Advocate

The effects on the wellbeing of the advocate can be very different within each of these scenarios:

1. A conflicted & often overwhelming sense of responsibility.
2. May need additional support to resolve mental conflict to support client.
3. Distressed or negatively impacted.
4. Challenge to own belief systems - unconscious and conscious bias.
5. Becoming desensitised over time to the distressing situations we may encounter.



Effect on the Advocate

Psychological and physical effects of exposure and desensitisation:

1. Reduced ability to empathise
2. Sensitivity
3. Physical responses
4. Mental health and wellbeing
5. Trigger and trauma response
6. Moral compass and responses

DESENSITISATION: can make you less able to read client responses.



Contact details:

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