

ADASS Priority Tool

A Screening tool to prioritise the requirement to authorise a deprivation of liberty in domestic settings.

Due to the increase in demand for assessments under the Deprivation of liberty safeguards the ADASS task force have shared practice in relation to prioritisation and produced this screening tool. The aim of the tool is to assist Councils to respond in a timely manner to those cases which have the highest priority. The tool sets out the criteria most commonly applied which indicates that an urgent response/application to CoP may be needed to safeguard the individual concerned. The use of this tool must be balanced against the legal criteria for the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards which remains unchanged. **The criteria should be used as an indicative guide only as it will generally be based on information provided by the professional working with the person who is potentially deprived of their liberty in the community.** If the person resides in a residential home, nursing home or is currently a patient within a hospital setting this triage document is not required and the Managing Authority should be advised to submit an application for Standard Authorisation to the DoLS Team.

HIGHER	MEDIUM	LOWER
<p>A situation which technically meets the acid test (The ‘acid test’ is met if an incapacitated person is not free to leave & under continuous supervision and control) and requires the safeguards to ensure urgent more substantive protection.</p>	<p>A situation which technically meets the acid test (The ‘acid test’ is met if an incapacitated person is not free to leave & under continuous supervision and control) and requires the safeguards but there are some actions which can be taken in the short term, in the persons best interests, to manage the impact of the arrangements.</p>	<p>A situation which technically meets the acid test (The ‘acid test’ is met if an incapacitated person is not free to leave & under continuous supervision and control) and requires the safeguards, but there is no evidence to suggest there needs to be any substantive changes.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active objections from the person (verbal or physical, e.g. repeatedly saying they want to go or packing bags) • Meaningful, successive attempts to leave not simply leaving due to disorientation. • Sedation/medication is used frequently PRN to control behaviour (particularly covert medication), this has not been 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not making any active attempts to leave but may ask to leave or state they are leaving soon, if asked. • Appears to be unsettled some of the time but staff have measures in place to redirect, reassure or to distract which are effective, in the short term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence that this is a settled situation with no evidence of objection etc., but may meet the requirements of the acid test. • The person agreed to the care arrangements previously, with mental capacity, and is not distressed by the arrangements now they have lost capacity.

<p>regularly reviewed and the person is negatively impacted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessive Physical restraint is used regularly which causes distress to the person and goes beyond what staff feel the MCA allows. Restrictions on family/friend contact (or other significant Article 8 issue) Objections from family /friends or family seeking to move the person in an unplanned way. Person is not supported by independent person (family, friend or IMCA if un-befriended) Anticipated challenge to Court of Protection, or application for Deputyship including a dol. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restraint or sedative medication is used infrequently, and staff could rely on the protection of the MCA, in the short term. Person is supported by independent person (family, friend or IMCA if un-befriended) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal impact on the person of continuous supervision and control. No evidence of specific restraint or restrictions being used but rather a general sense of supervision and control such as expected in the setting. Person is supported by independent person (family, friend or IMCA if un-befriended) End of life situations, which may meet the acid test but there will be no benefit to the person from the Safeguards. 	
CASE NO:		DATE:		PRIORITISED BY :	
SUMMARY OF CRITERIA					
ALLOCATED PRIORITY:					