

Welfare guardianship

4.50 You should assess the immediate need for specific welfare decisions which need to be taken on behalf of the adult and consider what decisions may be needed in the foreseeable future that the adult lacks the capacity to make for him/herself. These could include in particular power to:

- decide where the adult should live;
- apply for a community care assessment for the adult;
- consent to community care services;
- apply to receive and manage self-directed support (previously known as direct payments) from the local authority social work department; ⁴
- have access to personal information concerning the adult, held by any body or organisation, such as medical records or personal files held by social work services;
- consent or withhold consent to medical treatment for the adult, where not specifically disallowed by the Act; ⁵
- arrange for the adult to undertake work, education or training;
- take the adult on holiday or authorise someone else to do so;
- consent to the adult's participation in research, in accordance with safeguards set out in Part 5 of the Act;
- provide access to the adult for medical treatment, dentistry etc. where this will benefit him or her;
- make decisions on the adult's dress, diet and personal appearance;
- make decisions on the social and cultural activities that the adult may pursue;
- pursue, defend or compromise any legal action on behalf of the adult involving his or her personal welfare;
- decide with whom the adult should or should not consort.