

## The role of the IMCA

To support and represent the person who lacks capacity:

- ⇒ meet the person to find out their wishes, feelings, preferences and values
- ⇒ evaluate information (including relevant health and social care records)
- ⇒ consult with others in the person's life
- ⇒ ascertain alternative courses of action
- ⇒ prepare a report which the decision maker has a legal duty to consider

## IMCAs in Hampshire

Employed by members of the HARG consortium, all IMCAs have attended the Department of Health approved training course, and are experienced in working with people who lack capacity across the client groups



H A M P S H I R E  
A D V O C A C Y  
R E G I O N A L  
G R O U P

A consortium working together  
to promote advocacy across  
Hampshire and the cities of  
Southampton and Portsmouth

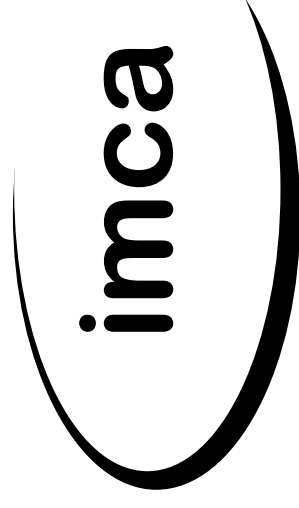
HARG is a registered company—number  
6050515

Registered office:

Portman House, 53 Millbrook Road East,  
Southampton SO15 1HN

Telephone: 02380 715679

Web site: [www.hampshireadvocacy.org.uk](http://www.hampshireadvocacy.org.uk)



## Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy

for people in the county  
of Hampshire



01256 478999 (phone and fax)



17 New Road, Basingstoke  
Hampshire RG21 7PR



[imca@hampshireadvocacy.org.uk](mailto:imca@hampshireadvocacy.org.uk)



H A M P S H I R E  
A D V O C A C Y  
R E G I O N A L  
G R O U P

Working together to promote advocacy

# The Mental Capacity Act

The Act creates the Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) service.

The 5 main principles of the Act are:

- ⇒ the assumption that a person has capacity unless proved otherwise
- ⇒ a person who lacks capacity should be supported to take part in decision making using all practicable steps
- ⇒ a person is not to be treated as unable to make a decision merely because they make an unwise decision
- ⇒ an act done or decision made must be in the person's best interests
- ⇒ consider the least restrictive alternative

Local authorities and health bodies have a duty to consult an IMCA where:

⇒ a decision is being made about either

1) serious medical treatment or

2) long term moves

⇒ **and** the person does not have capacity to make that decision

⇒ **and** there are no family or friends

appropriate to consult with

There is a power to consult an IMCA in the following situations:

⇒ accommodation reviews (where the person lacks capacity and there is no-one appropriate to consult with)

⇒ adult protection procedures (where the person lacks capacity, but there may be family and friends)

**Contact us to discuss your referral in more detail**