

# Mental Capacity Act Update

Edition 16 - October 2007



Welcome to Edition 16 of the Mental Capacity Act Newsletter.

## What's new?

### Office of the Public Guardian

October 2007						
Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### The Office of the Public Guardian

The Office of the Public Guardian started work on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007. It has taken over from the Public Guardianship Office.



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29	30	31				

### The new Court of Protection

The new Court of Protection started work on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007. It deals with decisions about people's healthcare, where they live, their money and what they own.

This update is from the Mental Capacity Implementation Programme whose members are:

Ministry of JUSTICE

DH Department of Health

  
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

  
public guardianship office



## The Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) Service in Wales

The IMCA Service started in Wales on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007.

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29	30	31				



## Information about the Mental Capacity Act

The Office of the Public Guardian now deals with any questions about the Mental Capacity Act and how it works.

## Communications and Events



### Handing over

We would like to thank everyone who worked hard to get everything ready for the Mental Capacity Act as part of a Government project called the Mental Capacity Implementation Programme (MCIP).



The Office of the Public Guardian will now deal with any questions about the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

## New Office of the Public Guardian website



The new Office of the Public Guardian website is at:

[www.publicguardian.gov.uk](http://www.publicguardian.gov.uk)



It has been set up so it is easy to use and meets rules about being accessible.



It has information about the Act and what Office of the Public Guardian does.



You will be able to get the Code of Practice, forms and information on the website.

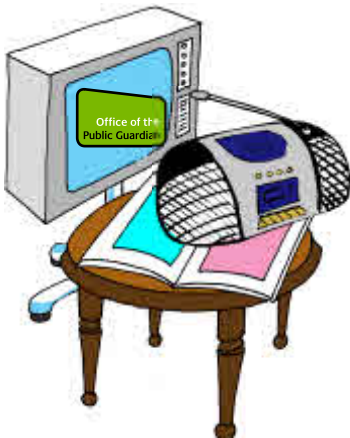


## Telling people about the Mental Capacity Act

We have been working on telling people about the Mental Capacity Act.



We wrote some booklets, a leaflet and set up a new website.



A company called Amazon PR is helping us to work with newspapers, radio and television to tell more people about the Act and the Office of the Public Guardian.



This work started in September. We are using stories to tell people about the Act and how it could help them.



There is a special website to help people who write for newspapers, television and radio.

**FINANCIAL TIMES**

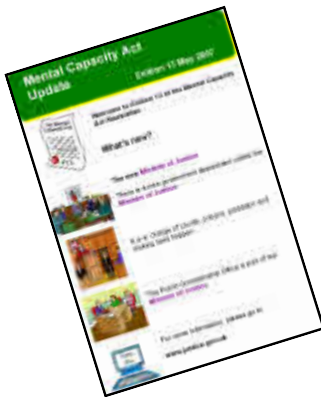
**BBC**

There has already been information about the Act in the Financial Times newspaper and BBC radio.

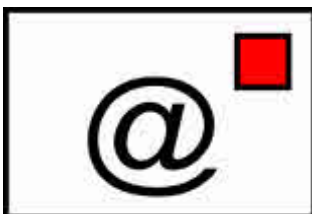


Please send this newsletter onto anyone:

- who is interested in the Mental Capacity Act
- who may be affected by the new law.



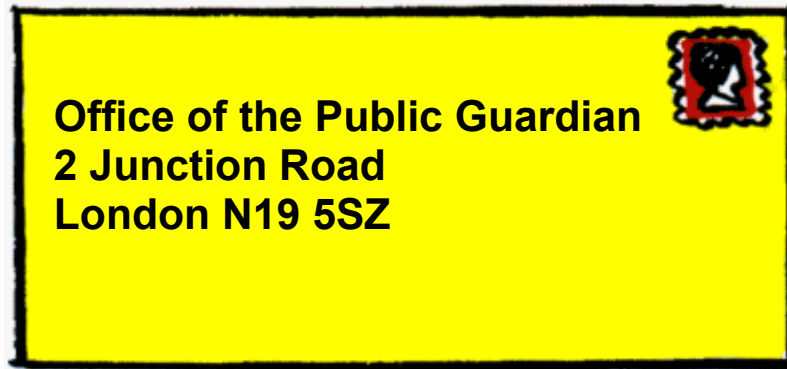
If you would like to be sent newsletters in the future by e-mail please e-mail:



**MCAUPDATE@guardianship.gsi.gov.uk**

# Getting in touch with us for more information

You can write to:



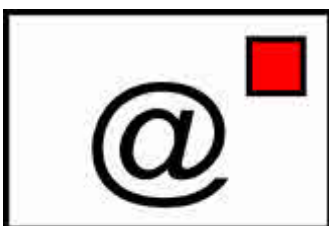
Or telephone at local rate:

**0845 330 2900**



Or fax:

**0870 739 5780**



Or e-mail:

**MCAUPDATE@guardianship.gsi.gov.uk**



Website:

**[www.publicguardian.gov.uk](http://www.publicguardian.gov.uk)**

# What the words mean

## **Court of Protection**

The new court which deals with everything to do with the Mental Capacity Act. The court decides what is best for people who cannot decide for themselves.

## **IMCA – Independent Mental Capacity Advocate**

Someone who speaks up for people who have no family or friends. They help when important decisions have to be made by the NHS or local authorities. Decisions can be about things like serious medical treatment or moving to a hospital or care home.

## **OPG - Office of the Public Guardian**

This is a new office set up under the Mental Capacity Act. It will:

- help the Court by looking after the paperwork and applications for Lasting Powers of Attorney and Deputies
- keep an eye on Deputies to make sure they are doing their job properly
- work with the police and social services when they think that somebody may have been abused.

## Credits



This paper has been designed and produced for the Public Guardianship Office by the 'easy read' service at Inspired Services. Ref IS243/07. September 2007.



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