

IMCA IN CARE REVIEWS

Policy and Guidance



Where an IMCA is involved in an accommodation decision, the IMCA should request to the relevant worker or team that they consider whether it would be of particular benefit to the person to invite the IMCA to the next review.

In each case where the local authority or NHS aim to carry out a review of accommodation (as part of a support plan review or otherwise) for a person who lacks capacity to consent to that care plan or to being placed in that establishment,

AND the person has no family or friends who it would be appropriate to consult,

AND the accommodation will be provided for a continuous period of more than 12 weeks

the worker **MUST** consider whether it would be of particular benefit to the person to have an IMCA support them at that review.

This will include reviews carried out within three months of the placement, annual reviews, or reviews undertaken due to change of need or circumstances.

If the worker does not instruct an IMCA in these circumstances, the reason for this should be clearly recorded as part of the record of the review.

Some reasons it may not be of particular benefit to the person to involve an IMCA may be, for example, if another advocate is already involved with the person **OR** if the person expresses a clear wish not to have an IMCA, in which case, consideration should be given to whether the person has capacity to make this decision and if not, whether it would be in the person's best interest to involve an IMCA against the person's stated wishes.

Where the person is to be detained or required to live in accommodation under the Mental Health Act 1983, an IMCA will not be needed since the safeguards available under that Act will apply.

If an IMCA is instructed, the worker must consider the IMCA's report and any other submissions when making decisions.