

7. Decisions about health and care when an adult is incapacitated

If an adult who has previously expressed a clear wish that their family should not be involved in decisions about their health and care becomes incapacitated, professionals should arrange for the involvement of an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) in relation to this decision.

6. Recording when an adult's capacity is considered

- Professionals should record all occasions where an adult's capacity has been considered and why.
- Where there is a concern about the decisions an adult is making, consider how the underlying reasons for this can be explored with the adult and record this.

5. If the plans change

When plans change each professional/ organisation has a responsibility to inform the professional/ organisation with the agreed coordination responsibility so that changes to the agreed plan can be communicated to all the professionals/ organisations involved so that everyone is aware and can agree any new actions that are required.

About Matthew

- Matthew was 44 when he died in January 2018 as a result of a significant deterioration in his health linked to self-neglect.
- Shortly before his death Matthew was due to be admitted to a community hospital, but he changed his mind when the ambulance that was due to take him there arrived.



1. Responding to changes in need

Professionals should take into consideration information that indicates that an adult's health and/or situation is on a deteriorating trajectory and respond in a timely way.

2. Involving other organisations

Professionals should involve the other professionals and/or organisations that are/need to be involved in supporting an adult in multi-disciplinary approaches and meetings in order to avoid 'firefighting' concerns in isolation to others that have/should have an involvement.

3. Multi-Disciplinary Meetings

- A record of must be made of all meetings, actions and who/the organisation that has responsibility for carrying them out.
- This record must be shared with all the professionals/ organisations that are involved to avoid working in isolation

4. Joint Working

In complex situations, where multiple organisations are working to support someone that require specific logistical arrangements, these should be coordinated by a single individual/organisation, with all organisations taking ownership and accountability for ensuring that the elements they are responsible for are delivered.