Court of Protection jargon buster

If you are new to the Court of Protection, you may notice professionals using various abbreviations when communicating with each other. We have included a list below of some of the most commonly used acronyms.

Please see our individual factsheets for more detailed explanations of the terms used.

ALR — **Accredited Legal Representative**
A lawyer who represents the person at the centre of the proceedings ("P" – see further below). An alternative to a litigation friend.

AM/ ADVM — **Advocates Meeting**
A meeting that takes place between the legal representatives of parties to proceedings.

BID — **Best interest decision**
A decision made on behalf of a person who lacks mental capacity to make the decision themselves.

BIM — **Best interests meeting**
A meeting at which the professionals involved with a person and other persons interested in their welfare will be in attendance. A specific decision may be discussed and a best interests decision made.

CHC — **Continuing Healthcare funding**
NHS funding available to pay for the health and care needs of a person with a primary health need.

COP — **Court of Protection**
See our factsheet "*What is the Court of Protection*" for more information.

CVP — **Cloud Video Platform**
The court-specific software that is often used to facilitate remote court hearings.

DOL — **Deprivation of liberty**
See our factsheet "*What is a deprivation of liberty?*" for more information.

DOLS — **Deprivation of liberty safeguards**
See our factsheet "*What is a deprivation of liberty?*" for more information.

FADA — **First available data after**
This is sometimes used as an abbreviation in draft court orders, where the parties are seeking for the court to list a hearing and would prefer it to take place after a specific date.

ICB — **Integrated Care Board**
(used to be called Clinical Commissioning Group, or "CCG".) An organisation responsible for commissioning healthcare services.

IMCA — **Independent Mental Capacity Advocate**

	An advocate appointed in specific scenarios to assist a person who lacks mental capacity to make certain decisions for themselves.
IMHA	**Independent Mental Health Advocate** An advocate appointed to assist someone who is being treated for a mental disorder under the Mental Health Act 1983.
ISW	**Independent social worker** This usually refers to a social worker who is unconnected to the parties in the proceedings and who is instructed to provide an independent expert opinion to assist the court to determine an issue in dispute.
LA	**Local authority** Also known as the "council".
LPA	**Lasting Power of Attorney** A document conferring authority on a person to make decisions about their health and welfare or property and affairs. See our factsheet "*What is a Lasting Power of Attorney?"* for more information.
MCA	**Mental Capacity Act 2005**, or alternatively **mental capacity assessment**.
OS	**Official Solicitor** The Official Solicitor often acts as litigation friend for P in Court of Protection proceedings.
P	**Person** The person who is alleged to lack mental capacity and who is the subject of the proceedings.
PHD	**Pre-hearing discussions** Discussions that take place between the parties shortly before a court hearing in order to narrow the issues in dispute.
R1.2 rep	**Rule 1.2 representative** An advocate (professional or family member) appointed to monitor the arrangements for P's deprivation of liberty where P lives in the community with care arrangements amounting to a deprivation of liberty which are subject to a court order.
RPR	**Relevant Person's Representative** An advocate (professional or family member) appointed to assist P with matters connected with a deprivation of liberty where there is a standard or urgent authorisation in place.
RPPR	**Relevant Person's Professional/Paid Representative** This refers to a paid professional who is undertaking the role of RPR.
RTM	**Roundtable meeting** A meeting between the parties to proceedings and any other people (professional or otherwise) who have an interest in P's welfare or the issues the court is being asked to decide.