

WEBINAR: MENTAL CAPACITY IN PRACTICE: FROM MCA PRINCIPLES TO PITFALLS

TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2026 – 11:00 – 12:00

Webinar details: The platform is **Zoom** and can be viewed on a mobile, tablet, laptop or PC. The link to join will be emailed to you nearer the time. It would be helpful to download Zoom on to your device beforehand - the app is Zoom Cloud Meetings. Please note that it may not be possible to access your video and microphone if you are remote accessing your office computer - you may want to forward the link.

Cost: £20 – Member and Associate Members of BDLS/Trainee Solicitor
£40 – Non-Member of BDLS

Booking Reference: 680

CPD: 1

SRA Competence: B [SRA | Statement of solicitor competence](#) | [Solicitors Regulation Authority](#)

Join Gary Spencer-Humphrey, independent social worker and expert capacity assessor, for this practical one-hour CPD session for lawyers working with capacity issues in day-to-day practice. You will leave with a clear framework for engaging with clients, supporting decision-making, and recognising red flags that may require further enquiry, specialist input, or a formal capacity assessment. Gary will share practical interviewing techniques, how to scaffold questions to explore understanding, retention and weighing of information, and practicable steps to support clients who may be neurodivergent or living with mild cognitive impairment.

What You Will Take Away:

- A rundown of the MCA cardinal principles.
- A structured approach to engaging with clients and supporting decision-making.
- Practical assessment and interviewing techniques for more meaningful client interactions.
- Strategies and reasonable adjustments for clients who may be neurodivergent or living with cognitive impairment.
- Increased awareness of amber and red flags when supporting vulnerable clients (and when to escalate for a formal capacity assessment).

Speaker Profile:

Gary Spencer-Humphrey is an Independent Social Worker with Nova Care Consultants and a Specialist Member of the Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales. He has over 18 years' experience across adult social services and mental health, including leading multidisciplinary teams. He is an Approved Mental Health Professional, Best Interests Assessor and DoLS Authorising Officer. Gary is available for instruction to undertake care and capacity assessments across the South Coast.



Please book online at:

<https://www.bournemouthlaw.com/bournemouth-district-law-society-lectures>