

Title

Lasting Power of Attorney Applications

Reference Number: RDF1936-23

Date of Response: 17/10/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

I would like to know what the Trust's policy is regarding Doctors / Nurses signing Lasting Power of Attorney applications as 'certificate providers'.

1. Trust Staff are permitted to sign LPAs (Lasting Power of Attorney applications) if they are asked to do it.
2. However, the advice given to staff is that they are not obliged to do so.
3. When signing at work, they will be signing as a professional and need to consider their professional accountability. It is a personal decision.
4. Where there have been any doubts about the person's capacity, they are advised that they should not sign an LPA as they are not the right person to assess for the decision to have an LPA.