

# KENT SHARED LIVES

## Policies & Procedures

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### (38) Consent

It is the policy of Kent Shared Lives to ensure that people who use our service are able to receive the necessary treatment and care when consent is an issue and to make certain Shared Lives hosts are aware of their responsibility in relation to consent and the mental capacity act.

This policy relates to giving consent for examination, treatment of the individual living with a Shared Lives host.

Under the Mental Capacity Act:

1. The Mental Capacity Act is in place to empower and protect vulnerable people who are not able to make decisions.
2. An individual should always be considered able to make decisions or assume capacity.
3. If a decision needs to be made with urgency the host is able to support this decision if they can with "reasonable belief" say the person lacks capacity. If required the host would be expected to back this up with factual evidence.
4. The person needs to be able to consent to examination and/or treatment a person needs to be able to retain the information given, and use it to weigh up making the decision.
5. **Under no circumstances** should the host consent to examination or treatment on behalf of the individual.
6. If the individual is unable to consent to treatment, the person requesting the treatment can make the decision to carry out the treatment or a best interest meeting needs to take place.

Information: [NHS Consent to treatment](#)  
[NHS Consent to treatment - capacity](#)  
[SCIE Mental Capacity Act - at a glance](#)