



SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING (SDM[®]) through PERSON-CENTRED RISK MANAGEMENT

National strategy requires that people have a greater level of autonomy and control over their lives and are supported to make real choices about the everyday things others may take for granted. Everyone wants **independence, choice and control** for themselves and others, but this can present difficulties when supporting children, young people or adults who may lack capacity or who may present with challenging or risky behaviour.

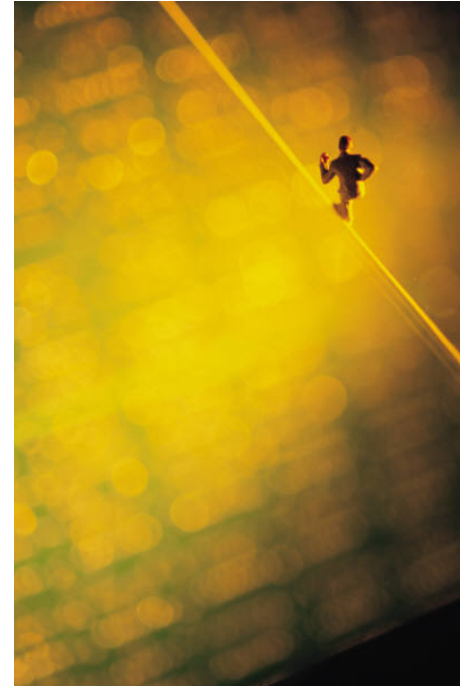
To achieve independence, choice and control, some people need support to better understand their rights and responsibilities, and the consequences of their decisions and actions.

The two-day '**Supported Decision-Making**' (SDM[®]) programme has been designed to examine, identify and promote professional practice that supports people in achieving independence, choice and control in a responsible way. The programme enables staff and carers to develop and implement a range of person-centred approaches that explore these issues in the context of **risk management** so that any potential harm is minimised and any decisions made are in the best interests of the individual.

The **SDM[®]** programme is suitable for staff and carers who work directly with children, young people and adults who present challenging or risky behaviour. It can be delivered as a standalone training event or as a complementary component to any or all of the existing and future Positive Options programmes, including:

- **Promoting Positive Behaviour in a Person-Centred Way (PPB[®])**; and
- **Managing Actual or Potential Aggression (MAPA[®])** training.

SDM[®] is linked to national guidance⁽¹⁻⁶⁾ and the workforce development agenda e.g. NVQ, LDO and National Occupational Competencies. The programme includes a participant learning pack that provides a range of course materials to enable participants to transfer their learning into the workplace.



References:

¹ Better Regulation Commission (2006): *Risk, Responsibility and Regulation – Whose Risk is it Anyway?*

² Commission for Social Care Inspection (2006): *Making Choices, Taking Risks*

³ European Court of Human Rights (1998): *Human Rights Act*

⁴ Mental Capacity Implementation Programme (2006): *Making Decisions - A Guide for People who Work in Health and Social Care*

⁵ Department of Health (2007): *Our Health, Our Care, Our Say*

⁶ Department of Health (2007): *Independence, Choice and Risk: A Guide to Best Practice in Supported Decision Making*



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Programme Aims:

- To define 'risk' and to understand the impact it has on the person and others.
- To provide an overview of the legal and professional framework for staff and/or carers in relation to risk.
- To explore a range of person-centred approaches that can be used to support effective decision-making in relation to risk management.



Programme Themes:

- Understanding and applying the principles of person-centred working.
- Definitions of risk management, risk prediction, risk assessment and risk taking.
- The legal, professional and ethical implications of risk.
- Understanding the approaches to, and critical errors in, decision making (subjective and objective strategies).
- How attitudes, values and beliefs influence our approach to risk-taking.
- Using person-centred approaches and a risk assessment process for supported decision-making.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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