## l like to be called

## Support with helping assess mental capacity for specific health investigations/treatment.

Remember that it is assumed that all people have capacity to make decisions, but where somebody who has a learning disability who MAY NOT have the capacity to weigh up the risks and benefits for a specific health investigation or treatment and May refuse essential treatment WITHOUT understanding the risks of that decision, then a MENTAL CAPACITY ASSESSMENT SHOULD BE MADE by the HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

If it is safe to delay treatment and allow time to support the person to make an informed decision, then the Health Professional should seek the support of the people who know the person best to take time to communicate with them in the most effective way and environment for that person.

[PLEASE NOTE – This form is NOT for use when there is immediate risk to health. In that circumstance the assessment of capacity will need to happen immediately and where it is agreed that the person does not have capacity to make an informed decision for this investigation / treatment then a Best Interest Decision would be needed immediately]

1. [To be completed by requesting Health Professional] Medical intervention/treatment required/recommended and DATE:

## 2. [To be completed by requesting Health Professional] Exact questions and answers the health professional will be assessing capacity against:

e.g. Covid Vaccine – the person will need to understand that 1. Covid is a nasty illness that people can die from. 2. The injection helps reduce chances of being very poorly if I get Covid.
3. More people with learning disabilities die from Covid than those without learning disabilities.
4. The doctor thinks it is a good idea for me to have the injections.)

**3.** [To be completed by requesting health professional] **What is the timeframe for the people** who know this person well to return this information for the health professional to make the mental capacity assessment?:

4. [To be completed by People who know this person well] Following support to the person Note the ways that the information was communicated, the number of attempts, what the person's responses were and the level of understanding these responses indicate the person had:

**Wedical professional** – the assessment of mental capacity remains a clinical decision, it is your clinical judgement whether the information provided is enough for you to make this assessment or whether you need further face to face to confirm, before moving onto a best interest decision (if they lack capacity).