

# HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

## 1. Legal Advice

Clear, confidential guidance to help you represent their rights, the process and what to expect at each stage.

## 2. Legal Representation

Professional support from our solicitors and barristers to represent their rights in court.

**You support them  
every day.**

**We can help you  
put that support  
on legal footing.**

# CONTACT US



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Legal Aid Board

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# DO YOU SUPPORT SOMEONE WITH **REDUCED CAPACITY?**

**Contact us now about the  
Assisted-Decision Making Act**



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# ABOUT THE ACT

The Act provides for a number of decision-making supports:

## 1. Decision Making Assistance Agreements and Co-Decision Making Agreements

This is where someone is having difficulty making decisions without help and may need to appoint someone to assist them making decisions or to make decisions jointly with them. These arrangements can be completed through the Decision Support Service and we provide legal advice services to financially eligible applicants in these matters.

## 2. Enduring Powers of Attorney and Advance Healthcare Directives

These are future planning supports which you can put in place now to help if there comes a time when you lose capacity. These arrangements are completed through the Decision Support Service and we provide legal advice in these matters to financially eligible applicants.

# ABOUT THE ACT

## 3. Capacity Applications

We support family members and others in making applications to the Circuit Court, subject to financial eligibility.

We also provide independent legal representation to the relevant person (the person with the difficulty in making the decision). Relevant persons do not have to be financially eligible for legal services.

## 4. Discharge from Wardship Applications

The relevant person leaving wardship is entitled to legal services and does not have to be financially eligible. We will deal with the Committee on behalf of the relevant person. We will also provide legal services after the Discharge hearing to assist with putting in place a Co-Decision Making Agreement, where that is necessary.

We also support other people, family members, friends and others involved with the relevant person, who wish to seek legal advice and representation in these cases, subject to financial eligibility.

# ABOUT THE ACT

The Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015 provides for a new legal framework for supported decision making in Ireland, to deal with situations where a person may have difficulties with making certain types of decision and to provide for ways to plan ahead for a time when that might happen in the future.

