

So you can be
you

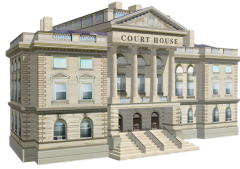
Supreme Court
decision about
Deprivation of
Liberty (June
2026)



easy read



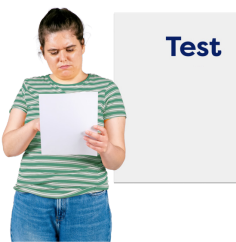
The **Supreme Court** made a new decision about **Deprivation of Liberty** on 2 June 2026.



The **Supreme Court** is the most important court in Britain



Deprivation of Liberty is about keeping people safe when they cannot make some decisions.



Before this decision, there was a rule called the “**acid test**.”



The **acid test** said someone was deprived of liberty if:

- they were always supervised, and



- they were not free to leave.



This rule helped decide when people needed extra legal protections. These are the **Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards**, or **DOLS**.



Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards include:

- independent checks



- support from advocates



- help to challenge decisions



The **Supreme Court** has now said the acid test should not be used anymore.



Instead, decisions about giving people these safeguards must look at the **whole situation of the person**. This includes things like:



- where the person lives



- how restrictions affect them



- what they understand



- how they feel



The Court also said a person may be able to agree to their care, even if they lack **capacity**.



Capacity means being able to understand a decision and make your own choice about it.



This means some people who seem happy with their care may not be seen as deprived of liberty.



Because of this, those people may not get the same legal safeguards as before.



Some charities are worried this could mean rights are not protected as strongly.



But organisations also say people are not alone and support will continue.



Some of these changes may sound big. But remember that most of the law about care and support has not changed.

For example:



- The Care Act has not changed



- The Mental Capacity Act has not changed



The government is expected to give new guidance soon.



Organisations like Dimensions will keep supporting people in the same safe and respectful way.

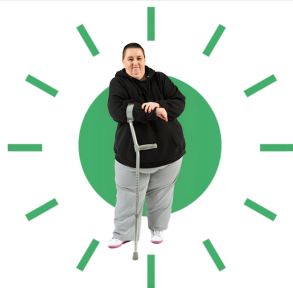
We will still:



- listen to you



- record your feelings and wishes



- use the least restrictive care possible



Care Act reviews are very important to check your support is right.



The most important thing is that you should be safe, listened to, and supported to live well.