

Whittington Hospital NHS Trust

Safeguarding Children declaration – February 2011

The Whittington Hospital works hard to ensure that all patients, including children, are cared for in a safe, secure and caring environment. As a result a number of arrangements for safeguarding children are in place. These include:-

The Whittington Hospital meets statutory requirements in relation to Criminal Records Bureau checks. All staff employed at the Trust undergo a CRB check prior to employment and those working with children undergo an enhanced level of assessment.

All Trust child protection policies and systems are up to date and robust and reviewed on a regular basis by the Trust Clinical Governance Committee. As the Trust becomes an Integrated Care Organisation (ICO) on 1st April, policies will be reviewed in the first quarter of 2011/12. The current guidelines are fit for purpose.

The Trust has a process in place for following up children who miss outpatient appointments within any specialty to ensure that their care, and ultimately their health, is not adversely affected in any way

Staff undertake relevant safeguarding training and the content of training is regularly reviewed to ensure it is up to date. The Trust has a robust training strategy in place for delivering safeguarding training. The figures below relate to standards in the Royal college of Paediatric child health intercollegiate document 2006. This guidance has recently been revised and the new document was published September 2010.

- 76.6 % of all staff are up to date on level one training (target is 80%) (verified March 2011)
- 83% of eligible staff are up to date on level two training (2010)
- 87% of eligible staff have attended at least one level three education session within the last year (2010)

The Trust is continue to develop robust systems of recording all training undertaken by staff utilising function within the Electronic Staff records. There have been additional administrative resources identified to achieve this.

The Trust has named professionals who lead on issues in relation to safeguarding. They are clear about their roles, have sufficient time and receive relevant support and training to undertake their roles. There are three professionals, which are broken down by discipline as follows:

- Named nurse: full time (1wte)
- Named doctor: one designated PA per week. (Plan for further pa to be allocated in the spring to Consultant Neonatologist for safeguarding.)
- Named midwife: 0.25 wte (post holder 1 wte)

The director of nursing and clinical development is the executive lead for safeguarding children, and chairs the Trust child protection committee, which reports to the Trust clinical governance committee and ultimately to the Trust board.

The Trust board takes the issue of safeguarding extremely seriously and receives an annual report on safeguarding children issues. The last annual report was presented to the board in October 2010, and the Board paper relating to this can be found at www.whittington.nhs.uk under “about us” and “trust board”. The Trust has robust audit programme to assure the board that safeguarding systems and processes are working. This is discussed at the Local Safeguarding Children Board for Islington and Haringey, of which the director of nursing and clinical development is a member.

The Whittington has participated in Haringey Ofsted, Islington Peer Review of social care and Health and SIT visits positive feedback has been received on our services.

The next safeguarding children declaration will be presented as a intergrated care organisation declaration Whittington Health NHS Trust within the next 12 months