

## **Safeguarding Children Declaration**

Boards of all Trusts (including NHS Trusts, PCTs and NHS foundation trusts) are required to publish a declaration locally on their websites ) and also in other medium at their choice) as soon as possible when they are satisfied minimum safeguarding arrangements are in place. NHS trusts and PCTs are required to share their declarations with SHAs and the Department.

This declaration identifies NHS Oxfordshire is committed to protecting and safeguarding children and that:

1. The organisation meets statutory requirements in relation to Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) checks.

- The PCT and all its commissioned services meet the statutory requirement.

2. Child Protection Policies and systems are up-to-date and robust – including missed appointments for children and a flagging system for when there are safeguarding concerns and asking all patients about dependants.

The PCT and all its commissioned services across NHS Oxfordshire have up-to-date Child Protection policies and systems which include:

- A process for following up children who miss out patient appointments
- A system for flagging children for whom there are safeguarding concerns

3. All eligible staff are up-to-date with training (including locums) and a review of other training arrangements to be completed in six months taking account of emerging messages from the national review of safeguarding training.

- There is a programme of quality assured safeguarding training in place across NHS Oxfordshire. All training is consistent complimenting the Oxfordshire safeguarding Board training that is provided.
- The e-learning training programme has facilitated improvements in level one training across Oxfordshire. The acute trust has an action plan in place to ensure all staff are appropriately trained by March 2010. Oxfordshire PCT has also included training uptake in the quality schedule of all contracts.
- The Designated Doctor and Nurse have undertaken training across GP Primary care consortia, and details of all other available safeguarding training have been circulated to all GPs. The PCT has an action plan to audit training of GPs. The PCT is satisfied GPs are compliant through the process of QOF visits, Standard Management 1 requiring individual health care professionals in GP practices to have access to local child protection procedures

4. Designated and named professionals are clear about their role and have sufficient time and support to undertake it.

- All Oxfordshire NHS Trusts have a Named Nurse and Named Doctor. The PCT resource consists of a Designated Doctor (0.3 wte) with a clear job description and a Designated Nurse (0.8wte) also with a clear job description with responsibility for safeguarding adults and children.

5. There is an executive director lead at board level, an annual review of safeguarding arrangements and a robust audit programme to assure the board that systems and processes are working.

- The Associate Director of Quality and Clinical Standards is the Board member for safeguarding. The Board reviews safeguarding arrangements as a minimum annually. All NHS organisations undertake a Section 11 audit which is scrutinised by the PCT.

6. In addition PCTs must ensure:

- Robust and appropriate performance monitoring systems with all providers including the independent sector.
- Scrutinise the declarations of all providers of commissioned services.

Schedule 3 part 4a of the contract requires organisations to provide information to the PCT. Individual agencies are required to publish an annual report to include performance against Core standard 2 and Section 11 requirements. The PCT requires a copy of these reports.

7. The PCT has reviewed all declarations of its acute, mental health and community providers. To support the declaration evidence has been gathered from the Section 11 audit process, and the findings of the HCC/CQC recent Safeguarding questionnaire.

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**The Board agreed this declaration statement on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010.**