

# Safeguarding Strategy Children, Young People & Adults

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<b>Document Author</b>	Director of Nursing and Quality & Deputy Director of Nursing		
<b>Document Lead</b>	Director of Nursing and Quality & Deputy Director of Nursing		
<b>Related Trust documents</b>			
	Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults Strategy		
	Serious Incident Policy / Adverse Events Policy		
	Safeguarding Training Competencies Framework and Passport		
	Was Not Brought Policy		
	Freedom To Speak Up Policy		
	Disciplinary Policy		
	Safeguarding Supervision Policy		
	Managing Allegations Policy		
	Domestic Abuse Policy		
	Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Policy		
	Prevent Policy		
<b>Overview &amp; purpose</b>			
<p>The Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults Strategy sets out the priorities in relation to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk of abuse or neglect which supports the overall vision, strategy and objectives of Dudley Integrated Health and Community NHS Trust</p>			

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## 1 KEY PRINCIPLES

### 1.1 Introduction

- The Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults Strategy sets out the priorities in relation to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk of abuse or neglect which supports the overall vision, strategy and objectives of Dudley Integrated Health and Community NHS Trust
- The Trust holds the belief that living a life that is free from harm and abuse is a fundamental right of every person. The Trust is fully committed to providing safe, effective, responsive and accountable care for all service users, as determined within their corporate strategic intentions which promises to deliver “unmatched quality of care for every time we touch lives” across Dudley borough.
- The safeguarding agenda for children, young people and adults is informed by, and must be consistent with the need to reflect and adhere to legislation and government guidance (Effective safeguarding arrangements in every local area should be underpinned by two key principles:
  - Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility: for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part; and
  - A child-centred approach: for services to be effective they should be based on a clear understanding of the needs and views of children”. (Working Together 2018 HM Government)
- The Care Act 2014 introduced comparable requirements with respect to safeguarding adults from abuse or neglect and makes provision about care standards. It reformed current legislation regarding care and support for adults and that, in relation to support for carers, replaced existing, outdated and complex legislation.
- DIHC NHS Trust has a statutory duty to ensure it makes arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and to protect adults at risk from abuse and neglect in accordance with both the Children Acts (1989 and 2004) and the Care Act (2014). This Safeguarding Strategy sets out the DIHC’s strategic framework for the continuing development of safeguarding services over the next year to strengthen internal arrangements whilst continuing to work in partnership with other key stakeholders.

### 1.2 Scope

- DIHC Trust bring together a number of service which includes integrating primary care across Dudley with community physical and mental health services for adults and children. It will have responsibility for the health and wellbeing of the whole population of Dudley. It has a corporate duty of care to patients which includes responsibility for safeguarding those individuals who are at risk of harm based upon legislative definitions. All staff employed by DIHC has responsibility for safeguarding children, young people and adults by raising an alert/making a referral where abuse or neglect is known, suspected, disclosed or discovered. This Safeguarding Strategy sets out the approach taken to ensure

our local populations receive high quality and safe health care, with a specific focus on the care of the most vulnerable groups. In doing so it aims to ensure that children, young people and adults with care and support needs will be effectively safeguarded against abuse, neglect, discrimination or poor treatment, and are treated with dignity and respect.

### 1.3 Background

- The NHS Outcomes Framework March 2020 identifies that sustainable quality improvements are achieved when the focus is on outcomes, rather than being process driven. The DOH Outcomes Framework sets out five overarching high-level outcome domains for quality improvements including the following two areas:
  - Domain 4: Ensuring people have a positive experience of care
  - Domain 5: Treating and caring for people in a safe environment and protecting them from avoidable harm.
- The revised guidance “Safeguarding Vulnerable People in the NHS: Accountability and Assurance Framework (NHS England 2019) sets out the safeguarding roles including that all organisations commissioned to deliver NHS health and social care. As a statutory body, DIHC NHS Trust has a range of statutory duties including safeguarding children and adults. The Trust is therefore required to demonstrate safeguarding is embedded at every level in the organisation with effective governance processes evident. DIHC NHS Trust must assure themselves, the regulators, and their commissioners that safeguarding arrangements are robust and are working. These arrangements include:
- Identification of a named nurse, named doctor/professional for safeguarding children, a named nurse, named doctor for looked after children/ children in care and a named nurse, named doctor/professional adults safeguarding and the Identification of an MCA lead – this must include the statutory role for managing adult safeguarding allegations against staff.
  - Safer recruitment practices and arrangements for dealing with allegations against staff.
  - Provision of an Executive Lead for safeguarding children, adults at risk and Prevent.
  - An annual report for safeguarding children to be submitted to the Trust Board.
  - A suite of safeguarding policies and procedures that support local multi-agency and West Midlands safeguarding procedures.
  - Effective training of all staff commensurate with their role and in accordance with the Intercollegiate Document for Safeguarding Children, Intercollegiate Documents for Looked after Children and the Intercollegiate Document for Safeguarding Adults.
  - Safeguarding must be included in all induction programmes.
  - Providing effective safeguarding supervision arrangements for staff, commensurate to their role and function (including for named professionals).
  - Developing an organisational culture where all staff are aware of their personal responsibilities for safeguarding and information sharing.
  - Developing and promoting a learning culture to ensure continuous improvement.

- Policies, arrangements and records to ensure consent to care and treatment is obtained

#### 1.4 Our Vision for Safeguarding

- The Safeguarding Children and Adults Strategy interfaces with existing governance arrangements to ensure safe and effective safeguarding services are delivered for children, young people and adults whilst adding further rigour and assurance mechanisms into the process. There will be an organisational wide approach to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people (including children and young people within the Looked after System) and for adults which will ensure that safeguarding responsibilities are embedded by all levels of staff across all divisions and services in accordance with their statutory responsibilities
- The Safeguarding Strategy is for monitoring and assurance purposes to ensure that throughout 2021/2022 DIHC will:
  - Provide services that protect individual human rights and effectively safeguard against abuse, neglect, discrimination or poor treatment
  - Demonstrate that it has appropriate systems and processes in place in order to discharge its statutory duties in terms of safeguarding children and adults.
  - Work in partnership with CCG,s, local authorities, DSPP and partner organisations to take a co-ordinated approach to ensuring that effective safeguarding arrangements are in place
  - Demonstrate assurance to Commissioners regarding compliance with discharging its statutory responsibilities
  - Share learning from local, regional and national learning and reviews in order to inform practice and shape future service provision
  - Ensure that the voice of the child, young person or adult is captured wherever appropriate in order to improve and better measure outcomes and benefits as perceived by individuals
  - Ensure that staff at all levels are provided with safeguarding training commensurate with their role
  - Enhance the effectiveness of information sharing arrangements between health partners and multi-agency partners to ensure the prevention of, and protection from harm and abuse for children, young people and adults
  - To improve safety and health outcomes for Looked After Children
  - Raise awareness and detection of safeguarding risks in relation to Female Genital Mutilation, Exploitation (including Child Sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation, County Lines involvement), Modern Slavery and PREVENT (anti-terrorism) activities.
  - Raise awareness of Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and care provided to patients with any conditions which may indicate the person has an impairment of the functioning of the brain or mind to all staff within DICH

## 1.5 Delivering the Safeguarding Strategy

- The strategic objectives and priority areas will form the basis of a work plan with key deliverables, outcome measures and timescales. The work plan will form part of the annual reporting cycle which will be delivered by the Safeguarding Committee. The Safeguarding Committee will monitor and review progress and will report to the Quality and Safety Committee which is a subcommittee of the Trust Board.
- Evidence of continuous improvement and compliance is also captured within quarterly dashboards provided to the CCG as commissioners, together with submission of DSPP led section 11 audits and safeguarding assurance frameworks to responsible local authorities. This, together with self- assessments will provide assurance to the Trust Board and to external agencies i.e. CCGs; Safeguarding Children and Adult Boards or as part of Ofsted/CQC Inspections.
- This strategy is an annual strategy for 2021/2022 and will be reviewed during this period together with an engagement piece being undertaken with existing and transferring staff. Thereafter the Safeguarding Children and Adults Strategy will be reviewed every 3 years, or, in response to any significant changes to mandatory requirements, national NHS or social care guidance or as a result of significant learning from serious safeguarding incidents, Domestic Homicide Reviews, Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews or Safeguarding Adult Reviews.

## 1.6 Counter Fraud Statement

In creating this policy, the authors, reviewers, and Committee have considered and minimised any risk which might arise from discharging its duties in relations to fraud, theft, bribery, or other illegal acts and are ensured that the terms of reference are robust enough to withstand evidential scrutiny in the event of a criminal investigation. Where appropriate, they have sought advice from the Trust's Local Counter Fraud Specialist.

## 1.7 Fair Blame statement

The Trust is committed to developing an open learning culture. It has endorsed the view that, wherever possible, disciplinary action will not be taken against members of staff who report near misses and adverse incidents, although there may be clearly defined occasions where disciplinary action will be take

## 2 REFERENCES

- Children Acts 1989 and 2004
- Care Act 2014
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- HM Government (2018) Working Together to Safeguard Children and Young People – A Guide to Interagency Working to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children and Young People
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

- DSPPB – Practice Guidance
- West Midlands Safeguarding Adults Multi-Agency Policy & Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Policy
- Information Sharing: Advise for Practitioners Providing Safeguarding Services (published 2015, updated July 2018) [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

## APPENDIX 1: Responsibilities

Title	Responsibilities

## APPENDIX 2: Glossary

Term	Definition

## APPENDIX 3: Equality Impact Statement

DIHC is committed to ensuring that the way we provide services and the way we recruit and treat staff reflects individual needs, promotes equality and does not discriminate unfairly against any particular individual or group. The Equality Impact Assessment for this policy has been completed and is readily available upon request. If you require this policy in a different format e.g. larger print, Braille, different languages or audio tape, please contact the HR Team or the Equality and Diversity lead.

## APPENDIX 4: Sustainability Impact Statement

DIHC is committed to ensuring that the way we provide services is responsible and minimises the impact on the environment e.g. zero waste to landfill, recycling and reuse percentages, commuting and starts to support the reporting of the Trust's annual carbon footprint and progress against Climate Change Act and NHS targets, and on progress against the Green Government Commitments and carbon reduction targets where applicable.

## APPENDIX 5: Data Protection and Freedom of Information Statement

This statement reflects legal requirements incorporated within the Data Protection Act and Freedom of Information Act that apply to staff who work within the public sector. All staff have a responsibility to ensure that they do not disclose information about the Trust's activities in respect of service users in its care to unauthorised individuals. This responsibility applies whether you are currently employed or after your employment ends and in certain aspects of your personal life e.g. use of social networking sites etc. The Trust seeks to ensure a high level of transparency in all its business activities but reserves the right not to disclose information where relevant legislation applies.

## APPENDIX 6: Monitoring effectiveness of this policy

<b>Safeguarding Strategy Children, Young People &amp; Adults – Monitoring Framework</b>		
<b>Auditable standard / KPI</b>	<b>Frequency / Method / Person Responsible</b>	<b>Where results and any associated action plan will be reported to and monitored</b>
Safeguarding data will be collated from the Trusts risk management system in order that this information can be analysed by the Safeguarding team	Quarterly	Provided to Commissioners
A dashboard which collates activity /compliance/ performance measures and provides an analysis of trends, patterns and local intelligence.		
Evidence of how lessons are learned learnt / recommendations from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews / Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews are shared will also be used to inform future training provision and changes required to practice, systems or processes.		
Assurance reports	Monthly	Safeguarding Committee Q&S Committee



### APPENDIX 7: Amendment history

Version	Date approved	Approved by	Date issued	Summary of change
1.0				New document for DIHC (formally Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust)

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