

Safeguarding Children Declaration Care Quality Commission Core Standard C2

The Board of Directors has received reasonable assurance that the following statutory safeguarding arrangements are in place at Homerton.

Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust works hard to ensure that all patients including children are cared for in a safe, secure and caring environment. We have a number of safeguarding children arrangements in place.

Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust 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 the Trust Child Protection policies and systems are up to date and robust and are reviewed on a regular basis, ultimately by the Board of Directors. The last review occurred on July 29, 2009 and the next review is scheduled for February 2010

The Trust has a process in place for following up children who miss outpatient appointments within any specialty to ensure their care and ultimately their health is not affected in any way. In addition the Trust has a system in place for flagging children for whom there are safeguarding concerns.

All eligible staff have undertaken relevant safeguarding training and this is regularly reviewed to ensure it is up to date. The Trust has a robust training strategy in place with regard to delivering safeguarding training. The trust has an action plan in place to ensure that all relevant staff receive training.

100% of all staff are up to date on level one training – the target is 80%
48% of clinical staff are up to date on level two training – the target is 80%
50% of clinical staff are up to date on level three training – the target is 80%

The last training review occurred on 2nd December 2009 and will be reviewed again in February 2010.

The Trust has named professionals who lead on issues in relation to Safeguarding. They are clear about their role, have sufficient time and receive relevant support and training to undertake their roles, which includes close contact with other social and health care organisations. The total number of professionals in these roles is 6 and are broken down by discipline as follows:

Named Nurse 1 WTE
Named Doctor .2 WTE
Named Midwife .2 WTE

Administration support 1WTE

Additional safeguarding children support comprises:

Paediatric Liaison Nurse 1 WTE

Paediatric Liaison Health Visitor 1 WTE

The team is further supported by a Senior Nurse for Children, Women and Sexual Health Services and the Chief Nurse at Homerton.

The Chief Nurse is the Executive Director lead for Safeguarding Children and she chairs the Homerton Safeguarding Children Committee which reports to the Board on Safeguarding Children.

The Board of Directors takes the issue of safeguarding extremely seriously and receives an annual report on safeguarding children issues. The last Annual Report occurred on July 29, 2009 and the board paper relating to this can be found at www.homerton.nhs.uk.

The Board of Directors has robust audit programmes to assure it that safeguarding systems and processes are working. This is discussed with the Local Safeguarding Children Board every quarter.

The Trust is compliant with CQC Core Standard C2.

Michael Cassidy, Chairman

December 2009