

Wiltshire Health and Care Board Safeguarding Compliance Statement 2024-25

Wiltshire Health and Care takes its responsibilities for safeguarding adults and children within Wiltshire seriously. Safeguarding is an important part of the care we provide to the population of Wiltshire and is underpinned by our values of quality, integrity, partnership and change. We can confirm that Wiltshire Health and Care is compliant with the statutory requirement to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check prior to employment for all staff (including volunteers) who have patient contact. Dependent on role, staff will have a standard or enhanced level of assessment.

All of the organisation's policies and systems on safeguarding children (including child protection) and safeguarding adults are robust and are reviewed every two years or more frequently, if required, to comply with any new national guidance or legislation.

Wiltshire Health and Care has a robust training strategy in place to deliver safeguarding training (both safeguarding children and safeguarding adults) that complies with the relevant guidance. Staff receive level 1, 2 or 3 dependent on their role as defined in the Intercollegiate Documents for Adult and Child Safeguarding, and we aim to ensure 90% of the relevant staff have received training. The levels are as follows:

Children

- *Level 1: All staff are required to complete level 1 training: Knowing what to look for which may indicate possible harm and knowing who to contact and seek advice from if they have concerns.*
- *Level 2: All clinical staff that have any patient contact are required to complete level 2 training: Knowledge and understanding to identify any signs of child abuse or neglect. Recognising potential impact of a parent's / carer's physical and mental health on the wellbeing of a child (level 1 competencies included).*
- *Level 3: All clinical staff working with children, young people and/or their parents/carers and/or any adult who could pose a risk to children and who could potentially contribute to assessing, planning, intervening and/or evaluating the needs of a child or young person and/or parenting capacity (regardless of whether there have been previously identified child protection/safeguarding concerns or not)*

Adult

- *Level 1: All staff working in health care setting.*
- *Level 2: All practitioners who have regular contact with patients, their families or carers, or the public.*
- *Level 3: Registered healthcare staff working with adults who engage in assessing, planning, intervening and evaluating the needs of adults where there are safeguarding concerns (as appropriate to role).*

Compliance with training requirements is monitored through electronic staff records and reported through performance monitoring. Keeping up to date with training is also an important part of staff appraisal.

The organisation has named individuals with clear roles and responsibilities for safeguarding children and adults; they are managed by the Executive Lead for Safeguarding (the Director of Quality, Professions and Workforce). 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 health and care organisations. The total number of professionals is as follows:

<i>Director of Quality, Professions and Workforce</i>	<i>1 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) – shared across multiple portfolios.</i>
<i>Safeguarding Lead(s) (Adult and Child)</i>	<i>1.6 WTE</i>
<i>Specialist Safeguarding Practitioner</i>	<i>0.6 (raising to 0.8 September 2024)</i>
<i>Administrator</i>	<i>1 WTE (also covers Safety Services)</i>

The Wiltshire Health and Care Board takes its responsibilities to oversee the arrangements in place to safeguard adults and children extremely seriously and receives an annual report on safeguarding.

This statement is approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by Shirley-Ann Carvill, Managing Director.

Signed: 

September 2024