



NHS HOUNSLOW AND HOUNSLOW AND RICHMOND COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN DECLARATION July 2010

Safeguarding children is one of the highest priorities for NHS Hounslow both as a commissioning and a provider organisation and we are therefore committed to ensuring that the risk of physical, sexual or emotional harm and neglect of all children is minimised.

The Trust fully complies with both NHS standards and current legislation and meets statutory requirements in relation to carrying out Criminal Records Bureau checks for all staff and all those working with children have an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

All NHS Hounslow's child protection policies and systems are up to date, robust and are reviewed on a regular basis, ultimately by the Board and are accessible to all staff via the Trust Intranet. The last review occurred in September 2008. All child protection policies due for review in 2010 are currently being undertaken.

NHS Hounslow has assured itself that it 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 Hounslow and Richmond Community Healthcare have a system in place for flagging children for whom there are safeguarding concerns.

The majority of eligible staff have undertaken safeguarding training and this is regularly reviewed to ensure it is up to date. NHS Hounslow has a robust training strategy (which is currently being updated) in place with regard to delivering safeguarding training.

NHS Hounslow: safeguarding children training

- 75% of eligible staff in contact with a health care setting is up to date with level 1 training
- 100% of eligible clinical staff is up to date with level 2 training
- 100% of eligible clinical staff who work primarily with children is up to date with level 3 training

The Director of Commissioning Primary & Community Care is the Executive Lead for NHS Hounslow's Board for safeguarding children and represents NHS Hounslow on the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). She chairs the



LSCB Quality sub group and reports to the Board on all safeguarding children matters.

[Read the action plan for Safeguarding Training for Independent Contractors](#)

Hounslow and Richmond Community Healthcare: safeguarding children training

- 88% of eligible staff in contact with a health care setting is up to date with level 1 training
- 66% of eligible clinical staff is up to date with level 2 training
NB. This percentage relates only to staff who has attended level 2 training since September 2009 when the content of the awareness training was reviewed and upgraded to assure quality and compliance
- 68% of eligible clinical staff who work primarily with children is up to date with level 3 training

Plans are in place to maintain and improve on the percentages of staff trained to appropriate levels in 2010. There are staff who have undertaken training but not at the appropriate level for their job role and this will be addressed.

The training program was last reviewed in November 2009 and has now been reviewed June 2010.

NHS Hounslow has Designated and Named professionals in post 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, which includes close contact with other social and health care organisations.

The total number of professionals in these roles is five and these are broken down by discipline as follows:

Designated Doctor	0.2	WTE
Designated Nurse	1.0	WTE
Named Doctor/GP	0.2	WTE
Named Nurses	2.0	WTE
Administration support	0.6	WTE

The Director of Quality and Integrated Governance / Clinical Director is the Executive Lead for safeguarding children for Hounslow and Richmond Community Healthcare and chairs the Joint Safeguarding Committee which



reports on safeguarding children matters to the Joint Provider Board, a sub-committee of the NHS Hounslow Board.

NHS Hounslow's Board takes the issue of safeguarding children extremely seriously and receives an annual report on safeguarding children issues as well as additional reporting throughout the year by the Executive Director lead and the Designated professionals.

The last annual report occurred in November 2009 and the Board paper relating to this can be found on the NHS Hounslow website www.hounslowpct.nhs.uk.

The Trust Board has robust audit programmes to assure itself that safeguarding systems and processes are working.

NHS Hounslow has robust and appropriate performance monitoring systems in place with all providers, including the independent sector, in relation to safeguarding children. All contracts and Service Level Agreements contain specific reference to safeguarding children.

Safeguarding children standards have been developed for use with each provider and work will continue during 2010 to embed in contracts and monitoring systems to increase the effectiveness of performance monitoring systems across the health economy.

The outcomes from monitoring systems are reported to the NHS Hounslow Board Committee for Quality, Safety and Patient Experience which provides Board assurance.

NHS Hounslow has ensured that GP practices and staff have robust systems and practices in place to ensure they can fulfill their role in safeguarding children.

The implementation of the standards mentioned above will strengthen these systems.

Currently NHS Hounslow has training and performance monitoring systems in place for general practice and community pharmacists through practice visits.

A self-assessment declaration process is also in place for general practice which will be strengthened during 2010/11.



Child protection training for dental practices and pharmacists is in place and performance child protection training for community optometrists will commence in 2010.

NHS Hounslow has scrutinised the declarations of providers from whom they commission services and also monitor their compliance with Section 11, Outcome 7.

All issues related to safeguarding children are discussed with the relevant Local Safeguarding Children Board at least every four months.

NHS Hounslow was recently part of an integrated OFSTED / Care Quality Commission Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children Services which achieved an overall OFSTED rating of 'GOOD'.

We reiterate that NHS Hounslow is committed to ensuring that children are protected and that we follow the national and local child protection guidance.