

Safeguarding children and the Care Quality Commission Review: Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Trust Compliance Declaration

In July the Care Quality Commission (CQC) published a report on their review of arrangements in the NHS for safeguarding children. In line with this Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Trust (NTW) has considered its own processes, procedures and policies in regards to safeguarding children and has worked with its partners to respond to initiatives and reviews at both national and local levels. In particular, the Board is assured that:

- Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Trust meets the statutory requirement with regard to the carrying out of Criminal Records Bureau checks;
- Child protection policies and systems are up to date and robust, including a process for following up children who miss outpatient appointments and a system for flagging children for whom there are safeguarding concerns;
- All eligible staff have undertaken and are up to date with safeguarding training at level 1. In addition, a review of other training arrangements will be completed within 6 months and will incorporate the emerging recommendations from the national review of safeguarding training;
- The Named Doctor, Named Nurse responsible for Safeguarding are clear about their roles and have sufficient time and support to undertake them;
- The Executive Director of Nursing and Operations is the Board level Director for safeguarding children. The Board reviews safeguarding across the organisation regularly and has audited the safeguarding processes to assure that the safeguarding systems and processes are working.

On the basis of this work Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Trust confirms that the Board has considered its own position in regards to safeguarding children and has the necessary assurance that it is meeting its statutory requirements and is following good practice.

Dr Gillian Fairfield
Chief Executive
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