

---

<b>Title</b>	NHS Waltham Forest Clinical Commissioning Group (WFCCG) Safeguarding Children/Statement 2017 NHS Waltham Forest Clinical Commissioning Group (WFCCG) Safeguarding Children/Statement 2017
--------------	---

---

<b>Date</b>	8 September 2017
-------------	------------------

---

WFCCG is committed to safeguarding children across the organisation. The safety and welfare of children who come into contact with our services either directly or indirectly is paramount and all staff have a responsibility to ensure that best practice is followed, including compliance with statutory requirements.

Safeguarding is a fundamental element of commissioning plans as set out in the planning guidance and, therefore, is an area that forms a core part of the CCG's commissioning assurance process. The CCG can demonstrate that there are appropriate systems in place for discharging its statutory duties in terms of safeguarding children. These include:

- 1) **Requirement: a clear line of accountability for safeguarding, properly reflected in the CCG governance arrangements, i.e. a named executive lead to take overall leadership responsibility for the organisation's safeguarding arrangements.**

**Response:**

The WFCCG Accountable Officer has overall accountability for Safeguarding children. The responsibility is delegated to the Director of Nursing, Quality and Governance (DoN) who is the nominated Executive Lead with responsibility for Safeguarding. The DoN has the overall leadership responsibility for the organisation. This is reflected in her job description with identified actions in relation to this role as part of her individual work plan/ performance management plan/WFCCG Objectives.

The DoN works closely with Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children and Looked after Children. The DoN attends WFCCG Governing Body meetings, Waltham Forest Children Safeguarding Board Meeting (WFSCB), and is the co-chair of WFCCG Performance and Quality (P&Q) Committee. The monthly P&Q is also attended by the Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children and Looked after Children (LAC). The DoN is trained to the appropriate level. Safeguarding Children is a standing agenda item for both the WFCCG Governing Body and P&Q Committee a written report for Safeguarding and LAC is submitted bi monthly with exception reporting as necessary. The DoN has clear objectives in her work plan for Safeguarding children and LAC. Members of the WFCCG Governing Body have been trained to the appropriate level. The DoN also has regular meetings with the WFCCG Designated Nurse.

- 2) **Requirement: clear policies setting out their commitment, and approach, to safeguarding children including safe recruitment practices and arrangements for dealing with allegations against people who work with children and adults as appropriate;**

**Response:**

The CCG meets all statutory requirements in relation to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and the process of pre-employment checks is managed through a robust centralised process via North East London Commissioning Support Unit Human Resources (NELCSU HR).

The Safeguarding policies and procedures (2016-19) are updated to bring them in line with changes to legislation and statutory guidance. These are published on the WFCCG website @ [www.walthamforestccg.nhs.uk](http://www.walthamforestccg.nhs.uk).

**3) Requirement: training their staff in recognising and reporting safeguarding issues, appropriate supervision and ensuring that their staff are competent to carry out their responsibilities for safeguarding expected for their competencies and roles.**

**Response:**

Safeguarding training during the induction period is mandatory for all WFCCG staff. They have to complete the online level 1 and 2 safeguarding training through the OLM or Bluestream skills for Health websites. There is a standard safeguarding responsibilities statement in all WFCCG job descriptions. The Safeguarding Children Statement on the WFCCG website clearly states that Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Safeguarding Children Policy sets out roles and responsibilities of all staff across the organisations. Training packages evidence that responsibilities are promoted in all training and have been endorsed by the WFSCB. The training offer also includes Prevent awareness raising. Peer Reviews and supervision are provided quarterly and or as required.

**4) Requirement: effective inter-agency working with local authorities, the police and third sector organisations which includes appropriate arrangements to cooperate with local authorities in the operation of LSCBs and health and wellbeing boards.**

**Response:**

The WFCCG DoN is a member of the WFSCB and takes the lead on behalf of the CCG. The Designated Nurse is in attendance at both the WFSCB and Corporate Parenting Board Meetings and associated sub-groups. The WFSCB meetings are also attended by the Designated Doctor for Safeguarding children and Child Deaths and the Corporate Parenting Board meetings by the Designated Doctor for Looked after children.

The WFCCG Safeguarding Team has had joint multi-agency training sessions.

The WFCCG Accountable Officer sits on the WF Health and Wellbeing Board and is an active member.

**5) Requirement: ensuring effective arrangements for information sharing;**

**Response:**

WFSCB has a comprehensive information resources guide which includes best practice guidance on sharing information - policies referred to in guidance are on the WFSCB website: <https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/service-categories/information-professionals>

WFCCG is a signatory to the Waltham Forest MASH information sharing protocol. WFCCG has an information sharing policy in place, and safeguarding children remains integral to this. In line with National Information Governance requirements and Caldicott Guardian 2 WFCCG complies with the Information Governance toolkit and staff are provided with clear guidance on keeping personal information secure and on respecting the confidentiality of service users.

Information sharing is covered in all safeguarding children training and within the Safeguarding Policies.

Sections of the training focuses on multi-agency information sharing, confidentiality & consent issues in safeguarding. Advice is available from the safeguarding children team and at supervision and on an adhoc basis. Information Governance training is mandatory and an annual test of knowledge is included as part of the training.

**6) Requirement: employing, or securing, the expertise of designated doctors and nurses for safeguarding children and for looked after children and a designated paediatrician for unexpected deaths in childhood;**

**Response:**

WFCCG has a safeguarding team which consists of Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children and Looked after Children, Designated Doctor for Safeguarding Children, and Looked after Children and Child Death, Clinical Lead GP for Safeguarding in Primary Care, and a PA/Administrator for the Team.