

**Safeguarding Adults Annual Report**

**North East Lincolnshire CCG**

**2015-2016**

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**1 Introduction**

1.1 All Adults have a right to live lives free from abuse and neglect. CCG’s have a duty to take measures to safeguard patients who are unable to protect themselves from abuse and neglect in their commissioned services. This includes working within a multi-agency framework to take measures to reduce the risk of neglect and abuse and responding where abuse has occurred or is suspected of occurring.

1.2 Local Safeguarding Adults Boards are the multi -agency partnerships, led by the Local Authority, that drive local safeguarding arrangements. CCG’s should be active members of this partnership.

1.3 CCG’s have duties to take additional measures in establishing effective structures for safeguarding within their organisation. This includes the development of policies, robust governance arrangements and leadership across the local health economy.

**2 Current Context**

2.1 NHS North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (NEL CCG) is committed to working with partner agencies to ensure the safety, health and well-being of the local people in North East Lincolnshire. Protecting adults at risk is a key part of the CCG’s approach to commissioning and, together with a focus on quality and patient experience, is integral to our working arrangements. Our approach to adult safeguarding is underpinned by quality and contracting systems and processes that aim to reduce the risk of harm and respond quickly to any concerns.

2.2 The Care Act, which commences on 1st April 2015, sets out how health, in partnership with the care and support system, will work within a clear framework to protect adults at risk from abuse or neglect. The financial year of 2015 to 2016 has been one of transition, embedding the statutory status of Safeguarding Adults.

2.3 Further guidance released by NHS England included: Safeguarding Vulnerable People in the NHS – Accountability and Assurance Framework (2015) which provides a framework of the safeguarding roles, duties and responsibilities of organisations commissioning NHS health and social care. This guidance highlights the commissioners’ responsibilities to assure themselves of the safety and effectiveness of the services they have commissioned, as well as demonstrating they have appropriate systems in place to discharge their own statutory duties as a CCG.

2.4 Since the 1st April 2015, Local Authorities were required to set up a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB), formalising the arrangements already existing in North East Lincolnshire. In addition:

* The Boards must include the Local Authority, NHS and Police who will discuss and act upon any local safeguarding issues
* They must work with the local people to develop plans to protect the most vulnerable adults
* They must publish plans and review them annually and report on progress, allowing different organisations to ensure they are working together in the best way possible.
* The objective of the SAB is to help and protect adults in North East Lincolnshire and the way in which a SAB must seek to achieve its objective is by co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of what each of its members does.
* A SAB may do anything which appears to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of achieving its objective.

2.5 A SAB should arrange for there to be a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) review of a case involving an adult in its area with needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority has been meeting any of those needs) if it meets the criteria within the Care Act (2014).

2.6 Each member of the SAB should co-operate in and contribute to the carrying out of these reviews with a view to:

* Identifying the lessons to be learnt and
* Applying those lessons to future cases.

**3 Key Professionals**

3.1 TheDirector of Quality & Nursing is the Executive Lead for Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults, and is the Executive Lead representing NEL CCG on the North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

3.2 NLCCG employs a full time Designated Professional for Safeguarding Adults, who is shared half time with North East Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (NELCCG). There is a Memorandum of Understanding in place which sets out the governance and accountability arrangements within the two localities. The Designated Professional provides an advisory function to the Safeguarding Adults Board , Operational Leadership Group and chairs the SAR/ SILP and Good Practice Group.

3.3 A North East Lincolnshire GP is named as the Lead GP for Safeguarding Adults and works with the CCG in delivering the safeguarding adults agenda across primary care.

**4 Accountability and Structure**

4.1 NHS North East Lincolnshire CCG’s Chief Executive has the overall accountability for Safeguarding Adults, with the responsibility for ensuring the contribution by health services to safeguarding and promoting the safety of adults at risk and vulnerable people.

4.2 The Director for Quality and Nursing, reporting to the CCG Chief Executive, is the Executive Lead for Safeguarding Adults across North East Lincolnshire. As a member of the SAB and CCG Governing Body, they take the responsibility for ensuring that Safeguarding is embedded across the health community, operationally delivered through local commissioning arrangements.

4.3 The Designated Professional for Safeguarding Adults reports to the Director for Quality and Nursing and attends the SAB and Operational Leadership Group to provide clinical advice. Reporting to the Quality Committee of the CCG, they provide assurance on CCG and multi-agency processes in safeguarding adults. As part of the Quality Committee, they are responsible for the monitoring of Safeguarding Adults governance processes, reporting any risks or achievements to this committee. Across the health community, the Designated Professional provides support and leadership, ensuring that any lessons learnt are disseminated.

**5 Governance and Statutory Arrangements**

5.1 The Executive Lead for Safeguarding Adults sits on the Local Safeguarding Adults Board in North East Lincolnshire and is and a member of the CCG Governing Body.

5.3 The Designated Professional for Safeguarding Adults attends the SAB, Operational Leadership Group as the Clinical Adviser, chairs the SAR/ SILP and Good Practice Group, is a member of the Quality Assurance and Performance sub-group. The Designated Nurse has a dotted line of accountability to NHS England and as such can represent NHS England at the SAB.

5.5 The Designated Professional for Safeguarding Adults attends the Regional Safeguarding Forum led by the NHS England Area Team and the Regional Safeguarding Adults Designated Professional’s Network, as well as the Humberside Designated Professionals forum.

5.6 The Designated Nurse is the CCG Prevent Lead and attends the North East Lincolnshire Silver Prevent multi-agency meeting and is the “Health” representative at Channel Panel meetings.

5.7 The Designated Nurse is a member of the CCG Quality Group and reports on a monthly basis to this Group.

**6 Safeguarding Monitoring**

6.1 The Care Act (2014) gives the Local Authority lead responsibility for coordinating local safeguarding arrangements.

6.2 Safeguarding requires collaboration between partners in order to create a framework of inter-agency arrangements. Local Authorities and their relevant partners must collaborate and work together as set out in the co-operation duties of the Care Act.

6.3 In North East Lincolnshire all Safeguarding Alerts are directed through Focus. Alerts are triaged at this point against the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) criteria. Where cases meet certain criteria a multi-agency Strategy Meeting is called of all involved agencies. A decision is made at this meeting to proceed to investigation and the roles and responsibilities of participating agencies within that investigation. Following investigation a multi-agency Case Conference is called to determine the outcome of the investigation.

6.4 The Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults attends both the Strategy Meeting and Case Conferences as appropriate. Where cases of abuse are substantiated, the Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults takes responsibility to ensure any Health associated actions for improvement identified are monitored, completed and outcome measured.

**7 Safeguarding Adults Reviews**

7.1 During the period March 2015 to March 2016, North East Lincolnshire has completed one multi agency Safeguarding Adults Review, which has been published by the Local Authority. No Domestic Violence Reviews or Mental Health Homicide Reviews have been completed during this period.

8 **Prevent**

8.1 Prevent is one part of the Government’s strategy for countering terrorism and extremism in the UK, preventing people from becoming radicalised and involved in, or supporting, terrorism.

8.2 The Preventagenda statutorily requires healthcare organisations to work with partner organisations to contribute to the prevention of terrorism by safeguarding and protecting vulnerable individuals who may be at a greater risk of radicalisation and making safety a shared endeavour.

8.3 The Designated Professional for Safeguarding Adults is the CCG Prevent Lead and is actively involved in Silver Prevent meetings and the locality Channel Panel.

8.4 As North Lincolnshire has been considered and non-priority area, the CCG is required to collate Prevent compliance on a quarterly basis from NHS providers to ensure they are compliant with their statutory obligations.

8.5 All staff members within the CCG have undertaken their required HealthWRAP training, in line with statutory guidance.

8.6 The required HealthWRAP training has been delivered to Primary Care staff at the Protected Learning Time event and further sessions within practices.

**9 Commissioned Services**

9.1 All commissioned services are required to have current Safeguarding Adults Policies and Procedures in place adhering to DH and/or ADASS guidance and best practice.

9.2 Core Providers within North East Lincolnshire have Named Professionals to lead on Safeguarding Adults. Monthly one to one meetings take place between the Named Nurses and the Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults.

**10 Independent Providers Primary Care Services**

10.1 Responsibility for the commissioning and contracting of Primary Care Services moved to NHS England as from 1st April 2012. NHS NL CCG have a shared responsibility for the quality of these services.

10.2 The Named GP for Safeguarding Adults ensures appropriate arrangements are in place within GP Practices and the distribution and monitoring of any lessons learnt.

10.3 The Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults liaises with NHS England to ensure any alert regarding Primary Care Services follows due process as per the North East Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board multi agency policy and procedures.

**11 Independent Providers (Nursing/Care Homes)**

11.1 Responsibility for the commissioning of Nursing/Care homes within North East Lincolnshire rests with the CCG under s75 of the National Health Service Act 2006. NEL CCG has responsibility for the quality within these homes.

11.2 Bi-weekly Market Intelligence and Failing Services (MIFS) meetings take place within the CCG to gather and share intelligence relating to services at risk of failure or interruption, in North East Lincolnshire. Any concerns are then managed through stringent processes and protocols to support and improve the quality of any failing home. However, should improvements not be made, partners work together to ensure the safety of residents and review future commissioning arrangements.

11.3 In the period of April 2015 to March 2016, there has been the closure of one care home within North East Lincolnshire. This followed was as a result of urgent enforcement action by the Care Quality Commission.

A further home closed following CQC and CCG intervention leading to the proprietor’s decision to close. However, CQC and CCG would have taken actions if this decision was not taken.

Three further homes were decommissioned during this period. One due to financial instability and two more following reviews of the service and alternative commissioning strategies being implemented.

**12 Future Objectives/Challenges**

12.1 NEL CCG remains a key partner of the SAB and fully supports and engages in multi-agency work to fulfil the vision and priorities of the forthcoming year.

12.2 During 2016/17 work will continue to ensure that NEL CCG and their Commissioned Services have robust and fit for purpose, policies, processes and procedures to implement the requirements of the Care Act 2014 and any subsequent Safeguarding Adults Guidance.

12.3 The introduction of safeguarding performance reporting will provide a more robust mechanism to report and monitor the safeguarding activity of providers.

Julie Wilburn

Designated Nurse for Safeguarding

15th November 2016