LANCASHIRE CARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST (LCFT)
SAFEGUARDING DECLARATION
February 2019

Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust (LCFT) as with all other NHS bodies has a statutory duty to ensure that it makes arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people; and to prevent and protect vulnerable adults from abuse or the risk of abuse.

The Trust provides health and wellbeing services for a population of around 1.5 million people. Averages across the three local authorities indicate 23.6% of that figure are children.

Effective safeguarding practice is everyone’s responsibility regardless of role. It is integral to quality care and supports the implementation of the LCFT Quality Plans.

LCFT as with all other NHS bodies, has a statutory duty to ensure that it makes arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people; and to prevent and protect vulnerable adults from abuse or the risk of abuse.

The Trust can demonstrate compliance with relevant CQC Fundamental Standards of Care and key lines of enquiry for safeguarding vulnerable service users. The Executive Management Team receives an annual report on all safeguarding activities. The Trust internal Safeguarding Group has continued to meet on a bi-monthly basis and reports to the Trust’s Quality and Safety Sub Committee in line with the Trust revised accountability framework.

LCFT has a nominated Director at Board Level (Executive Director of Nursing & Quality) with responsibility for Safeguarding; this is devolved to the Deputy Director of Nursing & Quality.

Led by the Associate Director Safeguarding and Operational Lead Nurse, the Trust has a dedicated expert Safeguarding Team who are highly knowledgeable, skilled and experienced in all aspects of safeguarding.

The Safeguarding Team consists of a core safeguarding team as well as hosting specifically enhanced commissioned arrangements providing expert knowledge and support across the health economy. The team consist of Named Nurses, Named Doctor, Specialist Safeguarding Practitioners for adults and children, Mental Capacity Act Lead, Paediatric Liaison Services, SUDC service and Administration support. Specialist safeguarding is enhanced by Safeguarding Champions across the Trust Teams.

Safeguarding Training is mandatory within the Trust to ensure the principles of safeguarding are embedded in everyday business and care delivery.

The organisation recognises that to effectively safeguard children and adults, robust partnership arrangements with other statutory and voluntary bodies including the 8 Local Safeguarding Children’s/Adults Board’s and Clinical Commissioners, are essential to achieve positive outcomes for all children, adults and families at risk. The organisation is committed to a partnership approach in all safeguarding functions. LCFT ensures that there are appropriate policies, procedures, training in place and access to expert advice to ensure that those at risk are identified and when appropriate a referral is made to children or adult’s social care.

LCFT has strong systems in place in order to safeguard children and adults. Safeguarding guidance and legislation is posted on the intranet and information regarding any local and national drivers is included in induction and safeguarding training.
LCFT is also required to undertake an annual audit of its safeguarding arrangements against the NHS Safeguarding Standards, the requirements of Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 and the Care Act (2014). These are submitted to the Safeguarding Boards and CCG’s who validate and monitor any actions required.

The LCFT Safeguarding Vision illustrates the Trust’s commitment to a three-year year strategic approach to maintain safe and effective safeguarding services, strengthening arrangements for safeguarding children and adults and incorporating full implementation of the Mental Capacity Act.

The Trust meets the statutory requirements with regard to carrying out Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checks. Safer recruitment processes and managing allegations procedures are in place. Safeguarding responsibilities are clarified within job descriptions. The Trust ensures appropriate referrals are made to DBS if the Trust has dismissed or removed a person from working with children or adults at risk because the person has behaved in a way which may have caused harm.

LCFT offers managerial, clinical and safeguarding supervision in various forms and safeguarding issues can be addressed within those arrangements. Specific safeguarding advice and supervision is available upon request from the Safeguarding Team.

Safeguarding incidents within the Trust are reported on the Trust’s incident reporting system.

### Safeguarding Children

The NHS has a key part to play in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Individual children, especially some of the most vulnerable children and those at greatest risk of social exclusion, will need co-ordinated help from a range of organisations including health, education, children’s social care and the voluntary sector. Within LCFT, safeguarding responsibilities include service users who are under the age of 18, children who are carers or parents, or are the children of services users.

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a duty on every NHS Trust to have arrangements in place to ensure that the organisation and all staff working within it have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. LCFT regularly reviews its arrangements against these requirements and declares compliance with its statutory responsibilities.

The arrangements that LCFT has in place reflect the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, outlined in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

### Safeguarding Adults

The Care Act 2014 came into effect on the 1st April 2015, putting Adult Safeguarding on a statutory footing in line with Children’s Safeguarding. The Act introduced a person-centred approach which achieves the outcomes that people want and puts the adult’s wishes and desired outcomes at the centre of safeguarding enquiries. It supports making safeguarding a personalised (MSP) experience, aiming to achieve the outcomes identified by adults at risk of harm or abuse.

LCFT has integrated the Local Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) priorities and plans in determining its own strategic plans to protect adults from abuse and neglect with the networks, also incorporating plans into their business, reporting progress to LCFT Safeguarding Group.

The LCFT Safeguarding Team and Networks continue to actively contribute to Section 42 safeguarding enquiries across designated Local Authority areas in line with the requirements of the Care Act (2014) by providing relevant information, a clinical perspective and wider contribution to assessment, care planning, risk management and mitigation strategies.
Following the publication of the Adults Intercollegiate document LCFT Safeguarding team have reviewed the Safeguarding and Mental Capacity Act training model to ensure that training is better targeted to staff according to role, knowledge and competency requirements commensurate with individual’s occupational role and responsibility:

The principles of Making Safeguarding Personal are integrated into LCFT quality plans and vision, robust risk management arrangements are in place and the patient’s voice is captured and acted upon by our Experience Team.