

Trust's Key Principles of Safeguarding: Joint Position Statement 2017-19

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (BTHFT) will strive to work with partner agencies to keep adults at risk, children and young people safe. Being safe from harm is a basic human right. People who are vulnerable may need assistance and advocates to ensure their safety and well-being. Bradford Teaching Hospitals will ensure that there are systems and processes in place to promote the safeguarding and well-being of all patients. In line with the Trust commitment to putting patients first, safeguarding plans will be person-centred / child-focused. Safeguarding truly is everyone's responsibility.

Engage in Multi-Agency Working

The Trust is an active partner in Bradford Safeguarding Adult and Children Boards and has representation in all their subgroups as well as the Bradford Domestic and Sexual Violence Strategic Board. BTHFT is committed to working collaboratively with other agencies and sharing information in a safe and appropriate manner, in order to safeguard vulnerable patients.

Ensure Robust Leadership

The Trust has effective executive team oversight of safeguarding business within the Trust. The Chief Nurse is the Executive Lead for safeguarding and oversees activity, with clear lines of responsibility. The Trust will ensure that dedicated safeguarding children and adult teams are in place and fully-staffed. The Board of Directors, will receive an annual report and interim updates.

Have Up-to-Date Policies & Procedures

The Trust has up-to-date safeguarding policies in place to guide staff. These are regularly reviewed and updated. The Trust policies are in accordance with the West Yorkshire Safeguarding Children and Adult procedures.

BTHFT will:

Identify vulnerable children & adults and ensure all members of staff within the Trust understand their safeguarding responsibilities. Ensure staff within the Trust have the knowledge and resources to identify children or adults "at risk" who may need protection and identify individuals who may be a risk to others. There are clear procedures for reporting concerns.

Provide Adequate Training & Supervision

The Safeguarding Children and Adult teams provide a training strategy in line with national guidance, for the whole workforce, with designated levels of training for staff dependent on their role. Training is provided via e-learning and face-to-face sessions with a varied programme and includes learning from Serious Case Reviews and Serious Incidents. Safeguarding Supervision is encouraged and available for all staff.

A newsletter is produced 6 monthly and circulated to all staff. Further information is available through the safeguarding children and adults webpages on the Trust Intranet.

<http://www.bradfordhospitals.int:2269/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.bradfordhospitals.int:2230/Pages/Safeguarding%20Adults.aspx>

Ensuring a Safe Workforce

The Trust has a robust Recruitment and Selection Policy and Employment Checks Policy which fully comply with the NHS Employment Check Standards and DBS checks in relation to employees. In addition, there is a clear policy for allegations against staff. All new staff are required to attend a corporate induction programme at the start of their employment which includes a mandatory face to face safeguarding training session.

Maintain Standards & Learning

There are transparent governance arrangements to provide robust internal challenge. This is assessed as part of the "Safe" domain of CQC inspections. In addition, BTHFT will provide evidence to the commissioners for assurance around safeguarding standards for both adults and children. Examples of other types of assurance include Declaration of Section 11 audit data to the Bradford Safeguarding Children on a regular basis., participation in Serious Case Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews, contribution to Learning Lessons reviews and Challenge Panels.

The Trust continues to be committed to developing a culture of learning from incidents internally and regionally in order to drive up standards. There is a rolling programme of audit to enable a measurement of effective activity and to identify gaps in staff knowledge and service provision.