

Safeguarding Children and Adults Annual Report 2017 – 2018



Contents

2. Purpose.....	3
3. Key Achievements 2017/2018	3
4. Areas for Development for 2018/2019	4
5. Statutory Frameworks and National Policy Drivers	4
5.1 Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015	4
6. Partnership Working and Assurance	5
6.1 Safeguarding strategy and associated action plan.....	5
6.2 Health Strategic Safeguarding Forum	5
6.3 Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children’s Board (NSCB).....	5
6.4 The Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB)	5
6.5 Named/Designated Professionals Forums.....	5
6.6 Provider Safeguarding Meetings.....	5
7. NHS England	5
8. Children’s and Adult Safeguarding	6
8.2 Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).....	6
8.3 Section 11 Audit	7
8.4 Safeguarding adult self-assessment and assurance framework (SAAF)	7
9. Serious Case Reviews (SCR) and Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR).....	7
10. Domestic Homicide Review (DHR).....	7
11. Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards	8
11.1 Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA).....	8
11.2 The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 2009 (DoLS)	8
12. Summary and Conclusion	8

1. Introduction

This report reviews the work undertaken by NHS Nene and NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) safeguarding team during 2017-2018.

2. Purpose

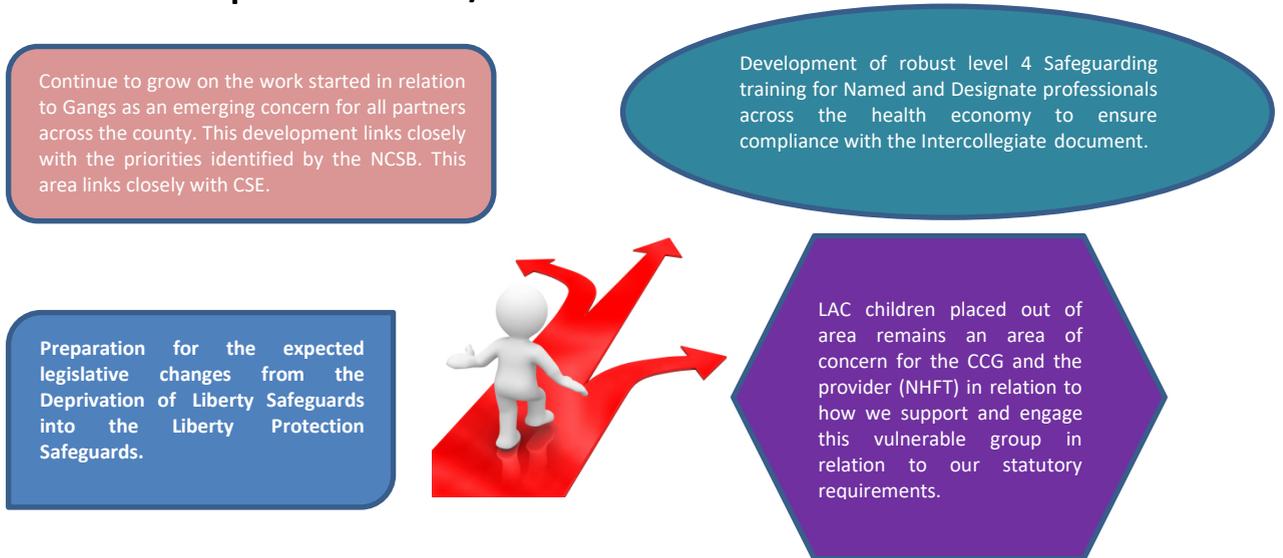
The purpose of the report is to provide assurance to NHS Nene and NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Group governing bodies that the CCGs have discharged their statutory responsibility to safeguard the welfare of children and adults, building on previously produced Safeguarding Annual reports.

The report also identifies planned areas for development for 2018/19. The report will be shared with the Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB) and Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB).

3. Key Achievements 2017/2018



4. Areas for Development for 2018/2019



5. Statutory Frameworks and National Policy Drivers

5.1 Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

Published on 4th July 2018, *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018* sets out new requirements for improved partnerships to protect children. Strengthened guidance sets new legal requirements for the three safeguarding partners, who will be required to make joint safeguarding decisions to meet the needs of local children and families.

CCG'S, council and police leaders will jointly be responsible for setting out local plans to keep children safe and will be accountable for how well agencies work together to protect children from abuse and neglect.

The new advice is aimed at all professionals who come in to contact with children and families and includes guidance on current threats to child protection, such as sexual and criminal exploitation, gangs and radicalisation.

- Revised *Working Together to Safeguard Children* statutory guidance; and
 - *Local Safeguarding – Transitional Arrangements* statutory guidance.
- Both can be found at www.gov.uk/working-together-to-safeguard-children-2

The 2018 version replaces the 2015 version. The transitional guidance helps explain how to move to the new arrangements. The statutory framework sets out the legislation relevant to safeguarding and it should be read alongside the statutory guidance.

6. Partnership Working and Assurance

6.1 Safeguarding strategy and associated action plan

The CCGs, in recognising their role to ensure the health economy works together, agreed a 3year Safeguarding Strategy with providers endorsed by the CCGs Joint Quality Committee and refreshed in July 2017. Good progress has been made in completing the actions.

6.2 Health Strategic Safeguarding Forum

The strategic and operational planning, delivery and monitoring of all NHS safeguarding activity is managed through the Health Strategic Safeguarding Forum, which initially met monthly, moving to quarterly, with the first quarterly meeting convened in May 2017.

6.3 Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children's Board (NSCB)

All provider organisations have a duty to co-operate with the NSCB through active participation in all NSCB committee activity. The CCG monitors attendance and engagement by health providers at NSCB and the sub committees of the Board.

6.4 The Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB)

The CCG remains a committed partner to the Board, ensuring alignment in relation to the Boards priorities and those established within health.

6.5 Named/Designated Professionals Forums

Northamptonshire's Named and Designated safeguarding professionals from across the NHS meet regularly to agree and operationalise the action plans associated with the NHS safeguarding priority action plan. These meetings are utilised to share learning and good practice across the health economy.

6.6 Provider Safeguarding Meetings

Safeguarding meetings are chaired by the Director of Nursing of each organisation. All aspects of safeguarding activity within the organisations are discussed. The CCG Designated Nurses attends these committees providing opportunity for external scrutiny of progress and a conduit for information sharing.

7. NHS England

The safeguarding team has worked closely with NHSE area team in the development of a CCG Safeguarding Assurance Tool (SAT). A Peer review took place against the SAT Tool on 30th May 2018. The CCGs have been rated as amber with a small amount of evidence to be collated prior to the next assessment in October 2017 in order for this assessment to be fully green.

8. Children's and Adult Safeguarding

8.1 Safeguarding in General Practice:

- Safeguarding website; content includes a variety of training materials and links, including 17 PowerPoint presentations on a range of safeguarding topics. Practice leads can book training events through the website which contains an up-to-date directory of safeguarding services.
- Train-the-trainer programme; 4 training days during 2018 covering the child, family, adult and practice modules including a panel question time and a session to share ideas on how to deliver training to the practice team.
- Practice assurance; spreadsheet recording practice engagement including a traffic light section which records the occurrence and response of practices to child and adult safeguarding incidents.
- Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service; pilot with NDAS engaging with first-wave practices for the purpose of seeing patients (clients) who disclose to primary care and to provide training and guidance to the practice team.
- GRACE framework; practices can request training on victim risk assessment following a disclosure of domestic abuse, to inform management strategies and referral to local services.
- Serious case and domestic homicide reviews; There have been 1 SCR, 2 DHR, 2 SAR, 3 MACA audits and 13 scopes undertaken. Recommendations and learning from SCR and DHR Independent Management Reports (IMR's) are shared with practices via safeguarding forum meetings, incorporated into 'Train the Trainer' safeguarding training and practice development projects. They are also included in the PCCJC RSG report.
- Multi-Agency Case Audit; retrospective study to inform the prospective review of child safeguarding referrals into MASH.
- Safeguarding Risk Assessment; ongoing development of a code filter within SystemOne and EMIS which will create a view of all safeguarding codes within a patient's record. The view will also highlight healthcare events associated with abuse e.g. repeated DNAs or childhood injury.

8.2 Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The designated doctor and nurse have continued to support the MASH through attendance at the MASH strategic management group. An identified objective for the reporting period was to participate in a multiagency review of the effectiveness of the MASH.

A partnership review of MASH was commenced in December 2017 to ensure that MASH is responsive to the safeguarding needs of children in Northamptonshire. This has resulted in increased numbers of children going through the MASH process and increased workload for

the health economy. This transformation process will continue throughout the next financial year and the designated doctor and nurse will continue to contribute and monitor progress.

8.3 Section 11 Audit

The section 11 audit is the quality assurance tool used by NSCB to assess the effectiveness of children's safeguarding arrangements across all NSCB partners. The audit commenced across the County in December 2017/January 2018. Whilst all health partners were able to give good assurance governance processes it did highlight multi-agency concern regarding the function of the MASH in relation to applied thresholds and decision making. A lack of level 4 Safeguarding training was also a common theme across the county for all partners.

8.4 Safeguarding adult self-assessment and assurance framework (SAAF)

The tool is still being used across the county. However a pilot is currently underway with Kettering General Hospital to develop a Safeguarding Assurance Tool (SAT), similar to that used by the CCG, for completion by providers. This would then replace the current SAAF process.

9. Serious Case Reviews (SCR) and Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR)

There have been an unprecedented number of cases discussed as part of the SCR process. Within this reporting period there were 4 SCR underway and 2 Safeguarding Adult reviews commenced. The increased activity has significantly impacted on the Safeguarding teams' allocated resource and will remain a challenge to administer during the coming year.

Some of the key recommendations for health services from the published SCRs include:

- Recognising risk and assessing needs associated with concealed pregnancies
- The ongoing need to raise awareness of the risks of co-sleeping.
- The need for robust Maternal mental health pathways
- Further actions to support the recognition and assessment of neglect
- The need to recognize the increasing gang activity across the county.

10. Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)

A domestic homicide is defined as 'a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person 16 years or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by a person to whom they were related, or a person with whom there was or had been an intimate personal relationship, or a member of the same household.'

One DHR from the Northampton Community Safety Partnership (CSP) been published in this reporting period. Two other DHRs, commenced in the previous reporting year, remain in the Panel process; one from the East Northants CSP, the other Northampton CSP. The

CCG Designated Nurse has been a DHR panel member. There has been a four DHR which is ongoing.

11. Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

Legal judgments on the Mental Capacity Act (MCA), Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) have had a significant impact on our services. These cases have placed additional responsibilities on social care and care providers to conduct mental capacity assessments and ensure that appropriate safeguards are in place.

11.1 Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA)

MCA is included in the NHS standard contract and also forms part of the local Quality Schedules. As reported in previous years, MCA is still not fully integrated into practice. Considerable work has been undertaken by the CCGs to help improve awareness, understanding and practice through the use of NHS England MCA project funds.

11.2 The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 2009 (DoLS)

The CCGs are continuing to monitor the activity of DoLS across the health providers as part of the SAAF and quality monitoring visits. The CCG note that increased activity remains a significant pressure on the local authority DoLS Team. There are lengthy delays in providers obtaining assessments for DoLS standard authorisations.

12. Summary and Conclusion

The Safeguarding Team continue to strive to ensure all safeguarding processes are robust and effective, There has been a huge amount of work and developments in order to improve processes and build on existing systems and procedures and we will continue to strive to further improvement and achieve good compliance against all our safeguarding standards internally and externally.

A robust work plan has been created to action priorities for 2018 /2019 and to fulfil our Safeguarding Statutory and Strategic objectives.

The Safeguarding Team are looking forward to the year ahead in ensuring safeguarding is maintained as a high priority for the CCGs and providers and above all,this is everyone's business.

Final words from the Safeguarding Executive Lead:

"This annual reports demonstrates the wide range of activity the Nene and Corby safeguarding team undertakes, to develop and ensure that the services provided within Northamptonshire protect the most vulnerable people in our society. I would like to highlight the focus on education and training, which particularly supports primary care in having the best possible

services.

I thank the whole team for their dedication and hard work over the past year”-Dr. Matthew Davies, Medical Director, NHS Nene Clinical Commissioning Group.

Authors:

Tina Swain, Head of Nursing & Safeguarding

Julie Ashby-Ellis, Designated Nurse for Children’s Safeguarding and Looked After Children

Georgette Fitzgerald, Designated Nurse for Adult Safeguarding

Jane Napier, Designated Doctor for Children’s Safeguarding

James Findley, Safeguarding Named GP