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Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

**Report to the Meeting of the
Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust**

Board of Directors

30 September 2020

BOD 57/2020
(Agenda item: 12)

Safeguarding Children and Adults Joint Annual Report 2019/2020

For: Assurance and Approval

Executive Summary

Statutory or Regulatory responsibilities

The report provides assurance that the Trust is compliant with its statutory duties and CQC Regulation 13 'Safeguarding service users from abuse and improper treatment'.

The Trust has a statutory duty to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004. Under the Care Act 2014 the Trust has a responsibility to work co-operatively with partners to ensure the welfare of adults at risk. Statute requires that the Board of Directors receives an annual report evidencing the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements.

The Trust contributes to the agendas of local safeguarding children boards/partnerships via sub-groups and must comply with laws and guidance related to safeguarding children. The Trust is a member of the Safeguarding Adult Boards in Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

The safeguarding adult and children teams are now one service within the Corporate Nursing & Clinical Standards Directorate. This reflects the trust wide nature of its work and supports improved integrated working across children and adults and the cross-cutting public protection work such as domestic abuse, modern slavery and Prevent.

This report provides the Trust Board with an overview of the progress against the safeguarding children and adult priorities for period 01/04/2019 to 31/03/2020 in addition to key legislative changes and response to Trust CQC Well Led Inspection 30th July – 1st August 2019. It

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explains the structure of the safeguarding service and how they work in partnership with other Oxford Health services and local agencies to influence positive change and support the most vulnerable in society.

An annual safeguarding children report for the Bath and North-East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire area has been produced for CCG commissioners and provides more details of work in that geographical area.

Regulatory Activity

As part of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) regulatory activity, the Trust was subject to a well-led inspection 30th July - 1st August 2019. The final report was published in December 2019. There were no concerns specifically related to Safeguarding. The report states:

"Staff followed good practice with respect to safeguarding. Staff understood how to protect patients from abuse and the service worked well with other agencies to do so. Staff had training on how to recognise and report abuse and they knew how to apply it."

The Trust is rated overall as good.

The Safeguarding Service worked with the Learning and Development Team as part of their OFSTED inspection in October 2019. Overall it was assessed that the Learning and Development Team were making good progress. The safeguarding service has worked alongside the Learning and Development team to develop clear safeguarding processes with special consideration given to those students who are under 18.

In the joint Safeguarding Children and Adult self-assurance/S11 audit for Oxfordshire, the Trust was rated green (good) in all areas.

A report on the safeguarding service response to COVID 19 was submitted to the Trust Quality Special Safe COVID subcommittee in June 2020 and is added as an appendix to this report.

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From April 2022, under the MCA (Amendment) Act 2019 the Trust will be fully accountable for authorising any deprivation of liberty that occurs in its services. New processes will need to be put in place. Systems will be developed in response to the revised MCA Code of Practice which is being developed nationally and has not yet been received. There is now a formally identified lead for the MCA who is the Associate Director for Social Care.

Multi-Agency working including public protection work

The safeguarding service represent the Trust in the safeguarding partnerships covered by the Trust. This includes being active members of the Local Safeguarding Adult Boards (LSABs) Local Safeguarding Children Boards/Partnerships (LSCBs/LSCPs) and subgroups. Additionally, the teams are core members of key multiagency fora including child exploitation, MARAC (Multiagency Risk Assessment Conferences) in relation to domestic abuse. Operational and Strategic Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) groups.

Team activity in relation to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) has increased in Oxfordshire due to child protection strategy meetings now being processed through the MASH.

There has been a significant increase in the amount of safeguarding review activity. Child safeguarding practice reviews have replaced serious case reviews previously carried out by Local Safeguarding Children Boards as detailed in Working Together 2018. There has been improved joint working in relation to Safeguarding Adult work including reviews in Buckinghamshire.

Area of Work	Number completed 2018-2019	Number completed 2019-2020
Serious Case Reviews/Children Safeguarding Practice Review	3	7
Partnership Reviews	0	5
Safeguarding Adult Reviews	2	0 (4 commenced)

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The service also supports implementation of recommendations and sharing the learning, and this is detailed in the report.

Child Death Overview Process

The statutory requirements are set out in the revised Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 which have been implemented in 2019/20.

The safeguarding service co-ordinates the child death process for the Trust when a child dies or if family members are known to our services and represent the Trust on the Child Death Overview Panel. There is also representation from the safeguarding service at the Trust Mortality review meeting to give feedback on themes of child deaths and any modifiable factors. In turn any learning from the Mortality review meeting is fed back to the CDOP meeting.

Training Supervision and Consultation

The safeguarding team's core work is supporting staff in managing highly complex cases through training, supervision and consultation.

Safeguarding Training is under review to meet level 3 requirements in line with the amended children Intercollegiate document and the adult intercollegiate document being published (Adult Safeguarding: Roles and Competencies for Health Care Staff. First edition: August 2018 and Safeguarding Children and Young People: Roles and Competencies for Healthcare Staff. Fourth edition: January 2019). This includes agreeing which staff require level 3 competencies and undertaking a minimum of 8 hours education, training and learning and an additional 16 hours of role specific knowledge skills and competencies.

Safeguarding children training in the Children and Young People Directorate is above the 90% target set by the Clinical Commissioning groups. However, the Adult and Older People Directorates fall below the target. This has been highlighted at governance meetings, extra sessions made available, online training highlighted and learning and development contacting staff when they require training. For Level 2 safeguarding training all areas have achieved the target of 90%.

Publications

An article on developing the guidance for non-recent disclosure guidance for the Trust has been accepted by the journal Child Abuse Review in March 2020.

The Trust Lead Nurse Safeguarding Children has contributed to the Safeguarding chapter of a Public Health textbook for student health visitors and school nurses.

Priorities for 2020/21

- Maintaining a consistent safeguarding service during the Covid 19 pandemic and participating in the recovery work to improve practice.
- To meet requirements of the Prevent Duty 2015; NHS England Prevent training and competencies framework and Safeguarding Children and Young People: Roles and Competencies for Healthcare Staff Fourth edition: January 2019 and ensure the correct prevent training is on the appropriate staff training matrix.
- Implementation of the revised training strategy.
- Maintaining active engagement with Violence Reduction and exploitation work.
- Support the establishment of the Working with Family's Group to promote all age safeguarding
- Develop a framework to support adult teams to take account of the needs of children
- Further development of working across the safeguarding partnership in Buckinghamshire. A Quality Assurance Framework has been agreed which will require audit of service user and staff perceptions of the safeguarding process.
- Supporting the organisation to implement/embed the relevant recommendations from CSPRs and SARs.
- Develop an audit programme for safeguarding adults in partnership with other agencies that reflect the quality assurance framework in place in Buckinghamshire.
- Review administrative functions to source additional administrative resources across the safeguarding service to support the breath of work undertaken.
- A review of the resource for the health team in the Oxfordshire MASH is required due to the increase in cases processed in the MASH along with the additional work relating to strategy meetings.

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Governance Route/Approval Process

A risk assessment has been undertaken around the legal issues that this report presents and there are no issues that need to be referred to the Trust Solicitors.

This report relates to or provides assurance and evidence against the Strategic Objective(s) of the Trust, see link below:

<http://intranet.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/strategy/>

Recommendation

The Board of Directors need to be assured that effective safeguarding arrangements are in place at the Trust. This report has been prepared in order to evidence the assurances necessary to conclude on the effectiveness of the Trust's arrangements and the Board of Directors is asked to note the work undertaken and approve the report accordingly.

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