

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT)
Annual Safeguarding Report
2022-2023



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1. Introduction from the Executive Lead for Safeguarding

I am pleased to be able to present the latest Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust Annual Safeguarding Report 2022-23. This year has seen a period of reform and restoration in the Safeguarding agenda for LPT services, and the LPT Safeguarding team, following the disruption caused by the pandemic.

This annual report will outline the work the trust has undertaken to improve and strengthen its safeguarding governance, through better alignment of the safeguarding and Mental Capacity Act priorities. The safeguarding team have made significant improvements in the organisation of work and new processes have increased capacity to frontline services.

The report also outlines the strengthened multi-agency work carried out to execute the Trusts statutory responsibilities with the four safeguarding boards, and the work with both police and probation partners on the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and Prevent.

The Trust undertakes work and contributes to the various multi-agency reviews which are commissioned including Local Safeguarding Child Practice Reviews (LSCPR), Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) and Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR). Through contributing to these reviews, LPT are at the forefront of identifying learning which is disseminated to all staff in the trust through presentations, training and the Safeguarding Newsletter.

The senior leaders in the Safeguarding Team provide support to the organisation through advising and guiding on safeguarding matters and where appropriate contribute to responses to our regulators e.g., CQC or the commissioners, ICB & NHSE. The team are also linked into several regional and national forums to support the Trust in staying ahead of safeguarding developments as they emerge nationally. The team were also central to the preparation for a Joint Area Targeted Inspection (JATI) inspection in Leicester City during 2022.

As we move into 2023/24 the safeguarding objectives set out for the coming year are linked with the safeguarding boards objectives demonstrating the trusts commitment to close partnership with other agencies for the safety of our communities.

Anne Scott

Executive Director of Nursing & Allied Health Professionals – Executive Lead for Safeguarding

2. Safeguarding Declaration

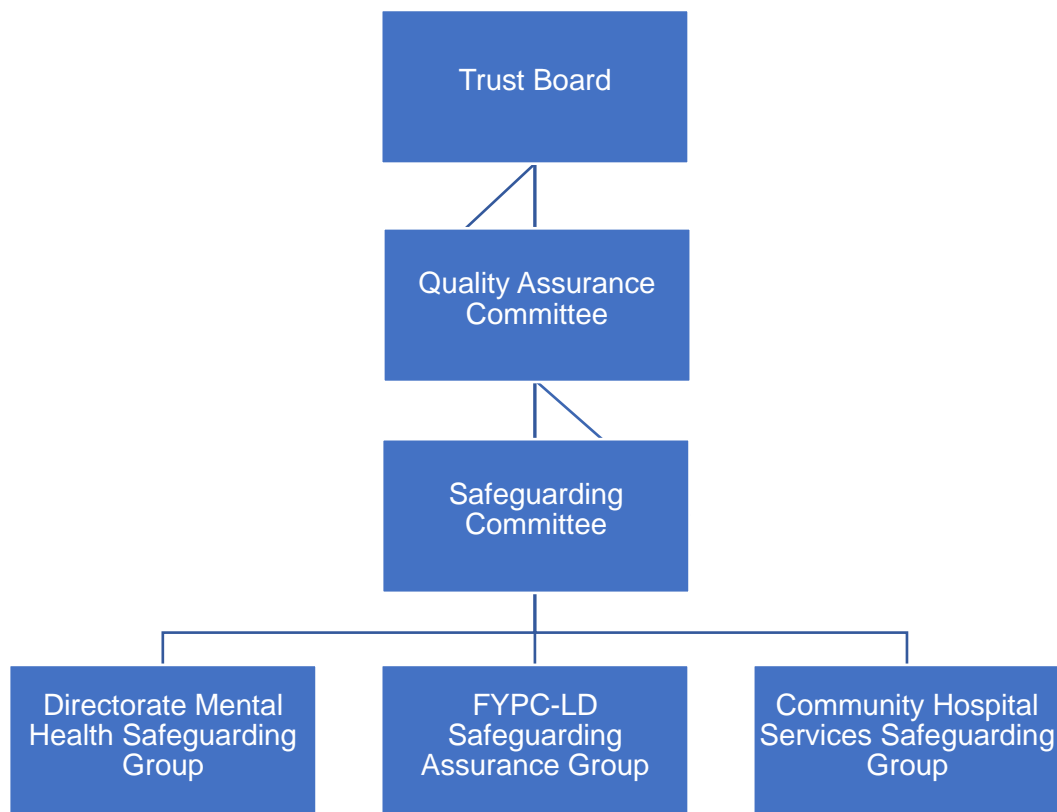
The Trust is compliant with the requirement to have an annual safeguarding declaration on the website. This action is overseen jointly by the Safeguarding Committee and the Communications Team.

3. Modern Slavery Declaration

The Trust is compliant with the responsibility to have a statement regarding its commitment to ending Modern Slavery, through its support and oversight of the Modern Slavery Act. This is available on the Trusts website. <https://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/modern-slavery-act-2015/>

4. Safeguarding Organisational Governance Structure

The organisational structure for safeguarding is embedded in the organogram below. It is important to note that the requirement for the Head of Safeguarding to have direct access to the Trust Board is maintained through the links via the Deputy Director of Nursing and Director of Nursing who has the Executive function and responsibility for safeguarding.



5. Safeguarding Team

The LPT Safeguarding Team is led by the Head of Safeguarding supported by Adult and Childrens Safeguarding lead practitioners who also have responsibility for key areas of safeguarding, for example Mental Capacity, Domestic and Sexual Violence and PREVENT. The team are also supported by a Safeguarding Governance Manager, who also leads the administrative support to the team.

Over the last few years recruitment to the team has focused on broadening the clinical knowledge and experience within the team. The team now has representatives from all fields of nursing; Adult and Children trained, Mental Health and Learning Disability trained, Health Visitors, School Nurses, Midwives and a Social Worker. This enables the team to utilise staff with the most appropriate knowledge and experience to lead on tasks, projects, and provide supervision and support to direct care staff.

The CDOP (Child Death Overview Process), is externally commissioned by Public Health, the ICB, Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Local Authorities Departments and the 2 Children’s Safeguarding Partnership Boards. This statutory function is hosted by LPT on behalf of the commissioners. It is supported by the LPT Safeguarding Team, but it is recognised as a separate bespoke service. Due to the statutory requirements of CDOP, this team produce their own separate annual report on behalf of Public Health.



As a result of changes in the clinical commissioning arrangements to school nursing services in Leicestershire and Rutland for children from 11 years of age in secondary education, the trust has had an opportunity to work alongside local authority colleagues to ensure statutory requirement for a 'health' practitioner to be involved in strategy meetings with the police and local authority can be achieved. LPT were commissioned to provide a

temporary arrangement for this service initially from 1st November 2022 – 31st October 2023. There are ongoing audits and evaluation of the new model and the early results have highlighted the knowledge, experience and quality the health practitioners have brought to the service.

Other activities carried out by the safeguarding team include:-

- Design and delivery of specialist safeguarding training.
- Running a safeguarding advice line between the hours of Monday-Friday 9-5pm for frontline services to get advice and support.
- Facilitating safeguarding supervision sessions.
- Attending a variety of multi-agency meetings (VARM, MAPPA, Prevent)
- Creating policies and procedures for the trust
- Incident investigation.
- Disseminating lessons learned from multi-agency reviews.
- Writing reports for multi-agency reviews (LSCPR, SAR, DHR).
- Working on quality improvement plans for safeguarding.

6. LPT Safeguarding Committee

The LPT Safeguarding Committee meets bi-monthly (6 times per year), and there is a detailed workplan in place to oversee and coordinate the safeguarding responsibilities of the organisation. The Safeguarding Committee reports directly into the level 1 Quality Assurance Committee (QAC).



Each of the Clinical Directorates are represented on the Safeguarding Committee, which enables collaboration, communication and sharing and learning between the central safeguarding function and direct care staff. Each directorate group report to the safeguarding committee with assurance the safeguarding work plans are being delivered and detail any issues for escalation, oversight or support.

The LPT ICB Designated Nurse representative is also a member of the trust Safeguarding committee to support assurance to the ICB that the safeguarding responsibilities are being delivered and support the trust to escalate any areas of concern to the Safeguarding and Vulnerability Executive Health Group.

7. Legal Duties, Safeguards and Assurance

The Trust has several legal duties and safeguards to uphold as a part of its organisational governance and operational activities. The adult and children's Safeguarding Boards across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) ensure the trust deliver their duties under section 11 (Children Act, 2004) and the Safeguarding Adult Assurance Frameworks [SAAF] as a part of the requirements of the Care Act (2014).

The Trust are also required to complete a quarterly SCAT (Safeguarding Collaborative Assurance Template) which is submitted to the local ICB. The collaborative elements of this assurance are part evidenced through the ICB representative attending the Safeguarding Committee and well as regular meetings and dialogue between the Head of Safeguarding and the Designated Nurse. The SCAT forms part of the evidence for the ICB to demonstrate to oversight of safeguarding practices and processes across the region.

LPT have successfully delivered their duties during 2022-2023 and there have not been any concerns raised regarding the overarching safeguarding governance, processes and practices of the trust.

8. Multi-Agency Working LLR Safeguarding Boards

As outlined earlier in this report, LPT works across LLR and with 4 safeguarding boards.

- Leicester Safeguarding Children's Partnership Board (LSCPB)
- Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Children's Partnership Board (LRSCPB)
- Leicester Safeguarding Adult Board (LSAB)
- Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board (LRSAB)

LPT have continued to provide a strong presence and representation at all meetings held to provide the statutory oversight and management of safeguarding. LPT has ensured a strong contribution at the training groups (the Head of Safeguarding chairs the Children and Young People's training group), the procedures groups, audit and assurance group and the case review groups.

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

LPT as the provider of local specialist mental health services for children, young people and adults is a core panel member of the MAPPA case panels for both level 2 and 3, and we are pleased to report that this year LPT was represented at 100% of the level 2 and 100% of the level 3 meetings.

LPT representation is also present at the strategic MAPPA board meetings representing the whole of the health community and have regularly contributed to developments in this forum and ensured feedback to partner agencies as appropriate.

Prevent & Channel

Prevent is a part of the governments counter terrorism strategy Contest. LPT as the provider of local specialist mental health services for children, young people and adults is a core panel member of the Channel Panels, which review cases and new referrals for Prevent. LPT is required to report into the national database the number of staff who are trained in Prevent, and the number of referrals made.

The trust is expected to have a training compliance for its staff of 85%. We are pleased to be able to report that throughout the year the trust has maintained or excelled in the number of staff trained in Prevent.

VARM (Vulnerable Adult Risk Management)

VARM is a multi-agency meeting forum for safeguarding cases whereby the adult at risk who has capacity to make decisions, is choosing to make an unwise or unsafe choice compromising their health and welfare. Guidance for VARM is held and managed by the two safeguarding adult boards for LLR. Cases which come under VARM may also involve cases of self-neglect (as described in the Care Act, 2014).

LPT has been attending VARM meetings called and hosted by partner agencies and over the last year has increased the number of meetings called by the trust. This has been in part due to improved awareness across the trust through the safeguarding training delivery, but also is as a result of the safeguarding advice line for frontline practitioners who are seeking further advice and support for cases.

Section 42 Responsibilities (Care Act, 2014)

Under Section 79 of the Care Act (2014), this enables the local authority to delegate elements of their functions. LPT has been delegated the responsibility to undertake section 42 (Safeguarding Enquiries, Care Act, 2014) for any safeguarding incident in our services, meeting the threshold to be investigated by the trust for each local authority locality (Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland). Each local authority area meets with the trust to undertake an oversight process which establishes if the individual has been safeguarded and protected, learning has been identified and shared and the quality of the report.



As one organisation, working across three different local authority areas, we have worked hard throughout the year to try and bring together elements of parity and consistency across the three organisations. This work has been identified by the procedures group of the safeguarding adults board as good practice.

In 2022/23 improvement in managing the Section 42 reports and meeting agreed timescales took place and this improvement work will continue into the year 2023-2024.

9. Safeguarding Training

LPT Services are expected to have a 95% compliance rate with safeguarding training programmes (except for Prevent where the Home Office set an 85% expectation). Training is managed and overseen through both the trust-wide safeguarding committee and trust board – additionally each of the directorate safeguarding groups also keep an overview of training compliance within their services.



In 2019, the Royal Colleges across the health communities published for the first time a document called the Intercollegiate Document for Safeguarding Adults. This mirrored the longstanding Children and Young Peoples equivalent document, and set out the training standards, competencies and expectations for different health staff professions and groups.

The health community was given a lead in time to address and meet the content and expectations of the document's standards; with all organisations to have begun training by December 2022.

LPT was already compliant with both Level 1 and 2 training expectations and course content, although level 3 was a new expectation. This was designed and implemented in September 2022 (4 month prior to the deadline set by the Intercollegiate Document). The safeguarding team have been delivering the programme at pace since the inaugural session in September, by facilitating weekly sessions for up to 50 staff. With this continued trajectory it is anticipated that this will be completed to the required 95% compliance by the end of January 2024.

The new course is being well evaluated by delegates attending and it has been noted that the course is having a positive impact on practice and recognition of the complexities of adult abuse and neglect.

The full suite of Safeguarding Training offered by the team includes.

- Safeguarding Adults Levels 1, 2 & 3
- Safeguarding Children Levels 1, 2 & 3
- Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberties
- Safeguarding Supervisors Courses
- Prevent
- MAPPA (supporting the multi-agency delivery with Police and Probation)
- Domestic Abuse (including DASH Assessments)

10. Safeguarding Policies and Procedures



The LPT Safeguarding Team are responsible for monitoring, updated and reviewing a suite of safeguarding policies and procedures. These policies are overseen by the Safeguarding Committee. All policies continue to be updated as required and are in date with their scheduled reviews. Many of the policies can be found on the trust website – however, we are continuing to work on further publicising our policies to have the greatest impact for our staff, patients, and their families.

The current suite of policies include:-

- Sexual Safety on a Ward
- Safeguarding Adult and Children's combined policy
- Domestic Abuse
- Domestic Abuse for Managers Supporting Staff
- Mental Capacity Act
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
- Managing Allegations Against Professionals

11. Multi-Agency Reviews

There are three types of multi-agency reviews which LPT have been involved with throughout the year, Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR); Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) and Local Safeguarding Child Practice Reviews (LSCPR). These reviews are commissioned by the four safeguarding partnership boards across LLR and the variety of Community Safeguarding Partnerships also across the same LLR footprint.

LPT has engaged with all relevant reviews and shared and applied the learning from these reviews into the organisation and teams. Overviews of the completed and published reviews are circulated to the safeguarding committee and trust board. The Safeguarding Governance Facilitator collates and keeps each of the action plans, which are shared with each of the clinical directorate. The directorates are responsible for ensuring the appropriate actions are taken, evidence of actions collated and shared with the LPT Safeguarding Team –shared with the respective safeguarding board. This has been a relatively new system and change (introduced in quarter 4 of the financial year). This has proven to be a very positive move with the safeguarding boards who are receiving more timely feedback and updates on open actions. Additionally, it has ensured that the learning has been better shared within the directorates and team –responsible for implementing the learning. The safeguarding committee now have stronger oversight of the actions, and assurance regarding embedded learning.

12. Safeguarding Quality Improvement Work

In 2019, the trust commissioned a programme of quality improvement works to be delivered from 2020-2023. The programme of works looked at and included implementing new systems and structures, training and knowledge frameworks, and key development with the Mental Capacity Act agenda, and Domestic Abuse.

Slow progress was made initially due to the unexpected global Covid 19 pandemic, and with the safeguarding committees' agreement, the implementation of the strategy was extended until 2024.

Work has continued at pace throughout this year with making key development and changes including.

- Improving the role, function, and remit of the safeguarding advice line
- Becoming an authorised user of the police data base 'Modus'
- For all High-Risk Domestic Abuse cases LPT are enabled to make direct referrals into the MARAC
- Supporting the review of the safeguarding training agenda and update of course materials.
- Improving on the monitoring and reporting to both the safeguarding committee and trust board regarding areas including MAPPA, Prevent, MARAC, MCA Audits, Developments in SystemOne (patient electronic records, and the team having their own safeguarding unit), improvements to the allegations against staff processes, improvements regarding the safeguarding pressure ulcer pathways, and introduce the new Liberty Protection Safeguards*



**It should be noted that the MCA/DoLS/LPS agenda was not a focus due to awaiting the government guidance regarding the introduction of LPS. LPT attended the planning and preparatory meetings with partner agencies in anticipation for the changes. However, when the government announced that LPS was going to be delayed until after the next election, and organisations were to continue to practice with the current legislation (MCA & DoLS), LPT re-energised its commitment to this work and relaunched the MCA support programme (which would cover some of the actions highlighted in the QI development plan.)*

13. Trust Safeguarding Objectives



Specific trust safeguarding objectives for the year have focused on the joint delivery of the four safeguarding boards across LLR.

The priorities across Adult and Children’s Safeguarding Boards included:-

- Safeguarding Babies
- Child Mental Health and Emotional Well-Being
- Keeping Adolescence Safe
- Safeguarding Children from Diverse Backgrounds
- Effective Safeguarding in Independent and Out of Schools Settings
- Self-Neglect
- Domestic Abuse
- Cuckooing
- Adults with Learning Disabilities
- Care Homes

14. Risk Register

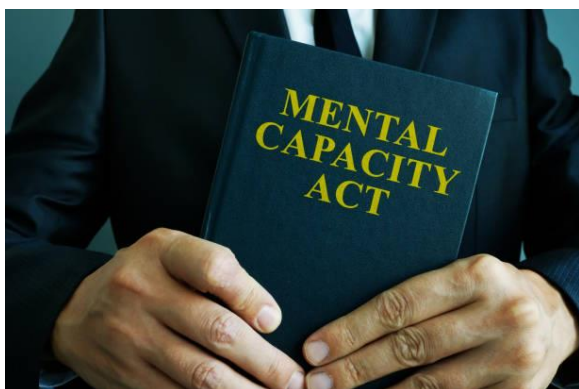
The LPT Safeguarding Committee holds a risk register that is reviewed at each meeting. During this period there have been well managed risks related to staffing within the LPT Safeguarding Team that have impacted on the delivery of training initially and oversight of



some improvement projects. For example, the increased awareness of the advice line has also increased the demand on the service and at times this caused some delays in providing a timely response back to staff. However, improvements have been made and close monitoring continues with regards to responding in a timely way to requests for advice and support.

15. Mental Capacity Act (MCA) & Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)

As outlined earlier in the report, there has been limited development on this throughout the year as we awaited national guidance on the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS). Whilst waiting for guidance the health community and local partner agencies worked together to prepare.



In October 2022 the Government stated they were reviewing the planned implementation of LPS; this was confirmed April 2023, with a delay until after the next general election. Therefore, with confirmation of the government plans, all Trusts refocused work on MCA/DOLs to support, training and offer practical guidance across the trust.

The MCA actions outlined in the trust QI plan were also revisited, and much of this work will be undertaken in 2023-24.

16. Students, Learning and Openness

The LPT Safeguarding Team recruited a Social Work Practice Educator to become a part of the multi-disciplinary team. This has enabled the team to offer 4th year social work students the opportunity for placement with the team. During this year, the safeguarding team supported its first student, this was a well-received placement by the student, and the university who evaluated the placement as offering a high standard of learning opportunity. Further plans are in place to offer nursing student opportunities in the next year.

The team also offer insight days student nurses, health visitor trainees, school nursing trainees and therapy students. These prove very popular to enable student and services to understand how the team works, and the types of work undertaken.



Plans and Objectives for 2023-24

1. To continue to deliver of the Quality Improvement Plan 2023-24.
2. To continue to support the local safeguarding boards on the delivery of the board objectives.
3. To design and deliver on a trust strategy for Safeguarding Supervision.

LPT Safeguarding Team

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