



Sussex Community
NHS Foundation Trust

Safeguarding Strategy 2019 - 2022

Safeguarding Adults and Children within Sussex Community
NHS Foundation Trust



*Excellent care at the
heart of the community*

Reader Box	
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Contact details	
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Secondary audience(s)	All SCFT Personnel
Notes	To be reviewed annually to reflect local & national policies/ legislation and best practice

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● Introduction

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust (SCFT) serves a wide geographical areas which includes, West Sussex, Brighton & Hove and East Sussex Lewes, Newhaven and Weald areas and provides health services in the community to both adults and children.

This strategy sets out the SCFT's strategic approach to strengthen our arrangements for safeguarding both adults and children over the next 3 years and into the future. It makes clear the roles and responsibilities for all staff to protect patients from abuse, identify and report abuse when it has occurred.

Safeguarding starts at the very beginning with safe recruitment process and established procedures to ensure appropriately qualified and suitable staff are selected and employed within SCFT services to deliver excellent care within the community. All staff have access to mandatory and statutory training including safeguarding both adults and children at level 2 for all roles and positions within the Trust and higher level training as required for specific cohorts of staff as laid out within the Intercollegiate documents:-

- Safeguarding Children and Young People: Roles and Competencies for Healthcare Staff, Jan 2019, and;
- Adult Safeguarding Roles and Competencies for Health Care Staff, August 2018

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust employs staff within a safeguarding service working across the Trust to provide expert advice, support, knowledge and guidance within the complex processes of safeguarding including dedicated advice lines for SCFT staff for staff working within both adult and children's services.

● **Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust Safeguarding Vision**

SCFT is committed to enabling the safety of children, young people and adults whilst accessing our community health services and for staff to recognise signs of abuse and how to report it.

● **What is Safeguarding?**

Everybody has the right to be safe from abuse and protected from harm, no matter who they are or what their circumstances. It is about the protection of harm by abuse, neglect and exploitation which undermines people's relationships and self-belief. Safeguarding is a range of activities aimed at upholding a child and/ or adult's human right to be safe and free from abuse.

This strategy considers all the steps taken by SCFT to prevent safeguarding issues from escalating and how we endeavour to protect children, young people and adults as the foundation of our duty to care.

Within safeguarding children there are four main categories of abuse as defined within Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 and reflected as part of the Pan-Sussex Safeguarding Procedures. These are;

- Physical abuse;
- Emotional abuse;

- Sexual abuse; and
- Neglect.

Within adult safeguarding, there are ten main categories of abuse as defined within the Care Act 2014 and reflected as part of the Pan-Sussex Safeguarding Procedures. These are;

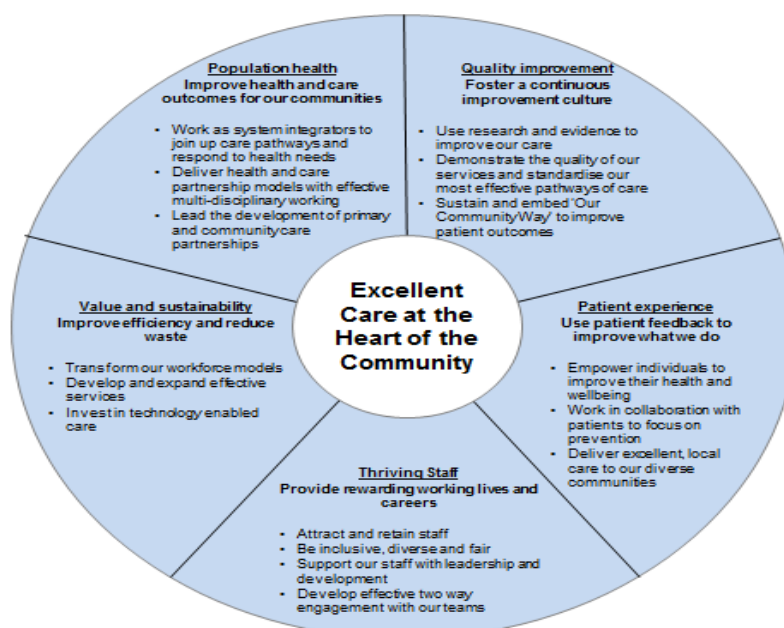
- Physical abuse;
- Emotional abuse;
- Sexual abuse;
- Neglect / self-neglect;
- Financial abuse;
- Psychological and/ or emotional abuse;
- Discriminatory abuse;
- Modern Slavery;
- Domestic abuse;
- Organisational abuse.

• **Key Legal Framework of Safeguarding**

Adult Safeguarding	Safeguarding Children
The Care Act 2014	Working Together 2018
Mental Capacity Act 2005	Children Act 2004
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 2007	Children and Families Act 2014
Human Rights Act 1998	Human Rights Act 1998

Local Driver

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust Strategic Objectives



● Objectives

1. **The Safeguarding Team will deliver an effective safeguarding service to all SCFT staff to support a service delivery that is safe for all our patients.**

Strategic Objective Drivers. Patient Experience/ Thriving Staff/ Quality Improvement

We will do this because:

Patient's who are accessing SCFT services have the right to be kept safe and free from abuse and have access to staff who know what to do should they wish to report an abuse that has occurred to them. As a corporate service the safeguarding team is established to provide specialist expertise within both adults and children safeguarding across all services within the Trust to support our patients.

We will achieve this by:

- Trust staff knowing the safeguarding team are and how to contact them.
- Providing an internal advice line for staff to have contact with a specialist nurse for advice and support.
- Provide specific services with safeguarding supervision to support service delivery and support for complex cases.
- Participate in and disseminate learning and development from Serious Case Reviews and Safeguarding Adult Reviews to all services as appropriate.
- Hearing the voice of the child and making safeguarding personal for adults throughout all safeguarding enquiries.
- Delivering up to date, relevant and specialist training to identified cohorts of personnel up to level 3 safeguarding adults and children including Workshops to raise awareness of Prevent, (WRAP).
- To ensure all safeguarding relevant policies/ procedures are regularly reviewed and updated to remain fit for purpose.
- Ensuring the safeguarding team have personal resilience and professional motivation to support staff with emotive and sometimes disturbing safeguarding issues.
- Ensure robust relationships with our Named Doctor and Consultant colleagues are maintained and developed to support safeguarding service delivery across all levels.

2. **The Safeguarding team will support the Sussex wide safeguarding partnership by remaining an active member of key safeguarding boards/ partnership bodies.**

Strategic Objective Drivers. Population Health/ Value and Sustainability/ Patient Experience/ Quality Improvement.

We will do this because:

Safeguarding both adults and children relies on effective, cohesive partnership working within a multi-disciplinary and cross agency approach.

We will achieve this by:

- Maintaining current and forging new collaborative relationships with partner agencies.
- Maintaining links with safeguarding partnerships and boards/ NHS professionals meetings with active membership across all SCFT geographic areas.
- Actively participating in multi-agency audits to inform best practice and identify
- To continue to host the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) for both West Sussex and Brighton & Hove within contractual arrangements on behalf of all health providers within the partnership.
- Ensure involvement of all relevant personnel in Section 47 enquires, Individual Management Reviews (IMR)
- To maintain open and honest relationships with the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs).
- To maintain active partnership working with relevant Prevent boards and channel panels to support patients, staff and patient's relatives who are at risk or radicalisation.

3. The Safeguarding Team will support Trust wide innovations, developments and service expansions where appropriate.

Strategic Objective Drivers. Population Health/ Value and Sustainability/ Patient Experience/ Quality Improvement/ Thriving Staff

We will do this because:

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust is continuously striving to develop services in order to provide high quality, effective health services. The Safeguarding team has the corporate responsibility to support service developments in order to provide those staff working within existing or new services with safeguarding expertise and support.

We will achieve this by:

- Ensuring the safeguarding agenda remains as an overarching theme that underpins all aspects of service improvement.
- Identifying resourcing requirements for innovations and service expansion/ acquisition in line with data available, thematics and business requirements.
- Ensuring all new business cases/ plans include Safeguarding support at Service Level Agreement (SLA) highlighting key resources, services delivered within scope and those requiring further investment prior to delivery.
- Regularly reviewing resources and work undertaken to ensure workforce models are fit for purpose and able to maintain capacity to meet demand.

4. The Safeguarding Team will maintain and develop its knowledge and expertise within the safeguarding arena including the authorship, involvement and dissemination of lessons learned within local safeguarding enquiries, serious case reviews, safeguarding adult reviews.

Strategic Objective Drivers. Population Health/ Value and Sustainability/ Patient Experience/ Quality Improvement/ Thriving Staff

We will do this because:

Safeguarding provides organisations with continuous learning opportunities and by ensuring the safeguarding team in SCFT remain at the forefront of local and national learning, the Trust can provide patients and staff with evidenced based practice in relation to keeping people safe.

We will achieve this by:

- Actively participating in local and national Serious Case Reviews/ Safeguarding Adult Reviews.
- Completing Individual Management Reviews (IMRs) within SCFT services in conjunction with key teams and personnel in order to support localised service based learning and development where identified.
- Disseminating learning and development recommendations from all key enquiries.
- Undertaking audits relevant to the safeguarding agenda.
- Ensuring safeguarding supervision remains within compliance statistics and is delivered to a high standard within all appropriate services.
- Monitoring lessons learned and service developments to be assured learning has become embedded into practice.
- Identifying safeguarding thematics and trends within services, geographic areas or patient groups to target learning and development within those services identified within the analysis.
- Utilising cross agency IT systems to ensure a multi-agency/ multi-disciplinary approach to safeguarding and ultimately health care delivery within all patient groups.

● **Governance of the Safeguarding Strategy**

The Safeguarding Strategy will be monitored and governed by the Safeguarding Steering Group on a quarterly basis and will be supported by the annual Safeguarding Adults and Children Action Plan for its implementation.