

## **South West Strategic Health Authority Safeguarding Declarations**

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 On 16 July 2009 David Nicholson wrote to all Chief Executives of NHS organisations requesting that they assure themselves of basic safeguarding practice and make a declaration of their position.
- 1.2 The South West Strategic Health Authority has agreed the following statement for all NHS provider organisations and their constituent partners when making these declarations on your web sites, in board papers and other formal material.

### **2. Declaration by Provider Organisations**

- 2.1 The Committee of Somerset Community Health, the arms length Provider organisation of NHS Somerset, is assured that the following requirements are in place in line with the recommendations of the Care Quality Commission to ensure that systems and processes are in place to safeguard children and young people:
  - Somerset Community Health meets all statutory requirements in relation to Criminal Records Bureau checks;
  - Somerset Community Health has a child protection policy in place that meets with the requirements of Working Together to Safeguard Children;
  - Somerset Community Health has a process in place that meets with the standards agreed by the South West Strategic Health Authority to ensure all children who miss an outpatient appointment for whom there are safeguarding concerns are flagged with the safeguarding team;
  - All eligible staff within Somerset Community Health have undertaken level 1 child protection training;
  - Somerset Community Health has undertaken an audit of safeguarding training needs and outcome and all recommendations are being delivered;
  - Somerset Community Health has a lead safeguarding professional Sarah Ashe, Named Nurse, in place to full fill the requirements as detailed in Working Together to Safeguard Children;
  - The Somerset Community Health Committee level Executive Lead with the responsibility for safeguarding in NHS Somerset Community Health is Ethna Bashford, Lead Officer Children and Young People;

- The Board of NHS Somerset Community Health reviewed these systems and processes on 14 October 2009 and the outcome of this review was last presented to the Board on 14 October 2009. All recommendations from this review are monitored quarterly by our Somerset Community Health Integrated Governance Committee and report to the Somerset Community Health Committee annually.

### **3. Completion of Declaration**

These arrangements will be arranged on a quarterly basis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.A. Brown", with a horizontal line extending to the left and a small dot at the end.

**Judith Brown  
Chief Operating Officer  
Somerset Community Health  
October 2009**