

Safeguarding Declaration

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all individuals

The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust (RUH) is committed to promoting the welfare of individuals who use our services. We understand our responsibility to protect those who are risk of harm, abuse, or exploitation, including children, young people and adults.

Our ethos is that Safeguarding is 'core business' and everybody's responsibility, we have clear leadership and lines of accountability.

The Vulnerable People Assurance Committee (chaired by the Chief Nursing Officer) provides assurance to the Board.

We work in partnership with relevant agencies including the local Safeguarding Partnerships and Integrated Care Board to protect children, young people and adults at risk of harm. Safeguarding activity adheres to all relevant legislation and local and national guidance, including the Care Act 2014 and Section 11 of the Children Act 2004, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023. The Trust contributes to National and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Safeguarding Adults Reviews, Domestic Homicide Reviews and other multi-agency reviews, developing action plans and monitoring their implementation through the Joint Safeguarding and Prevent Operational Group (JSPOG).

Staff safeguarding practice is guided by the Trust's safeguarding policies, these are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure they comply with statutory requirements and best practice.

Safeguarding training is mandatory for all staff regardless of role and the Trust has a robust system in place for monitoring and ensuring compliance. Training is aligned to intercollegiate guidance. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a legal duty on NHS trusts to consider the Prevent Duty when delivering their services. In accordance with our duty, we have an identified Prevent lead, we deliver awareness training, we engage with the partnership forums that coordinate the Prevent Duty and we make referrals as required.

The Trust has a clear process for ensuring that staff have a Disclosure and Barring Service check. Enhanced level checks are also carried out, where appropriate, and where safeguarding responsibilities are included in the employee's job role.

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