



Somerset Community Health

## **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

Somerset Community Health takes its responsibility for Safeguarding Children and Young People very seriously, and takes all the necessary steps to ensure consistent best practice across the organisation.

Somerset Community Health has a team of Safeguarding Nurses and has well established relationships across agencies to facilitate a partnership approach to Safeguarding.

In July 2009, the Care Quality Commission published a report following a review of the Safeguarding arrangements of all NHS Trusts. The report, which looked at practices following the Baby Peter case, included a recommendation that all Trusts ensure that they have robust arrangements in place.

Somerset Community Health has reviewed its systems, structures and processes for Safeguarding Children and has taken a number of steps to strengthen guidance and improve practice. The report below details the evidence to demonstrate Somerset Community Health's compliance against the areas identified in the Care Quality Commission report.

**Judith Brown**  
**Chief Operating Officer**  
**14 October 2009**



## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

Following the publication of the Care Quality Commission Report of their review of arrangements in the NHS for Safeguarding Children (July 2009) Somerset Community Health is declaring that it has arrangements in place to assure compliance with the Safeguarding arrangements. Somerset Community Health is compliant in the following areas:

Statutory requirements in relation to Criminal Bureau checks	<b>Compliant</b>
Up to date and robust child protection policies and systems, including a process for following up children who miss outpatient appointments and a system for flagging children for whom there are safeguarding concerns	<b>Compliant</b>
Safeguarding training at level 1 undertaken and up to date by all eligible staff	<b>Compliant</b>
Clarity of role and sufficient time and support for designated and/or named professionals	<b>Compliant</b>
Board level Executive Director lead for safeguarding. Board review annually of safeguarding and robust audit programme in the organisation to assure that safeguarding systems and processes are working	<b>Compliant</b>

In addition, Somerset Community Health has robust and appropriate performance monitoring systems in relation to all aspects of safeguarding

**Ethna Bashford**  
**Lead Officer, Children and Young People's Services**  
**14 October 2009**