

Corporate	CO07: Health and Safety Policy
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Version Number	Date Issued	Review Date
V4.2	November 2020	November 2022

Prepared By:	Governance Manager, North of England Commissioning Support
Consultation Process:	NHS North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group
Formally Approved:	Quality and Safety Committee: 3 rd November 2020

Policy Adopted From:	CCG CO07 Health and Safety Policy v4.1
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DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Date	Significant Changes
1	28/02/2013	First issue
2	28/04/2014	Minor amendments to roles and responsibilities
3	4/2016	Commitment statement added. New EIA added.
4	03/04/2018	Review
4.1	April 2020	No legislation updates or impact on external environment impact identified. Recommend extension due to impact of COVID19.
4.2	October 2020	No legislation updates or impact on external environment impact identified. Extension request. Accessible Information Standard Statement included.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Date	Issues
April 2018	Complete

POLICY VALIDITY STATEMENT

This policy is due for review on the latest date shown above. After this date, policy and process documents may become invalid.

Policy users should ensure that they are consulting the currently valid version of the documentation.

ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION STANDARDS

If you require this document in an alternative format, such as easy read, large text, braille or an alternative language please contact NECSU.comms@nhs.net

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1. Policy Statement of Intent

- 1.1 The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of its staff and visitors as a matter of prime importance and will, so far as is reasonably practicable, establish procedures and systems necessary to implement this commitment and to comply with its statutory obligations under Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.
- 1.2 The CCG will provide and maintain a healthy and safe working environment with the objective of minimising the number of instances of occupational accidents and illnesses.
- 1.3 The CCG will pay particular attention to ensuring that:
 - safe systems of work are set and followed;
 - a safe working environment without risks to health is maintained;
 - there is provision of adequate welfare facilities;
 - there is provision of sufficient training, instruction, supervision and information to enable all employees to contribute positively to their own safety and health at work and to avoid hazards and control risks;
 - plant and equipment are safe;
 - there are safe arrangements for the use, handling and storage and transport of articles, materials and substances;
 - there is safe access and egress.
- 1.4 Whilst the CCG will take all reasonable steps to ensure the health, safety and welfare of its employees, health and safety at work is also the responsibility of the employees themselves. It is the duty of each employee to take reasonable care of their own and other people's health, safety and welfare, and to report any situation which may pose a serious or imminent threat to the wellbeing of themselves or any other person.
- 1.5 The Governing Body endorses the need for managers and staff to work together positively to achieve a situation compatible with the provision of high quality services where the risk of personal injury and hazards to the health of staff and others can be reduced to a minimum. Thus risk must be assessed and significant findings recorded.
- 1.6 This policy is supplemented by other policies/procedures on specific areas of law. This documents sets out the arrangements for health and safety management; it determines the levels of responsibility at all levels and the channels of communication for health and safety matters.

- 1.7 It is the responsibility of employees at all levels to familiarise themselves and comply with the CCG's procedures and systems on health and safety.

Signed.....
Chief Officer

Date.....

2. Definitions

- 2.1 **Manager** – the Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 defines senior managers as those who play a significant role in making decisions about the management of the whole or a substantial part of their organisation's activities and those who actually manage or organise those activities.
- 2.2 **Competent Persons** – the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, Regulation 7 requires every employer to appoint one or more competent persons to assist with putting measures in place to ensure legal compliance. The Competent Person can be either an individual or a company providing these services. The person is regarded as competent if they have 'sufficient training and experience or knowledge and other qualities to properly assist the employer to meet their safety obligations.'

3. Organisation and Arrangements for Health and Safety

- 3.1 The CCG has ultimate responsibility for managing Health and Safety.
- 3.2 A Health & Safety Service Level Agreement exists with the CSU and specific responsibilities are outlined within this document.
- 3.3 It is a disciplinary offence, which could lead to dismissal, to work or permit others to work in a way which is contrary to the requirements of health and safety legislation and the CCG's Health and Safety Policy.
- 3.4 The relevant legislation includes the following:
- Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
 - It is the duty of every employer, so far as is reasonably practicable, to ensure the health, safety and welfare at work of all his employees.
 - Every employer must conduct his undertaking in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that persons not in his employment are not exposed to risks to health or safety.
 - Employees are to take reasonable care for the health and safety of himself and of others who may be affected by his acts or omissions at work.
 - Corporate Manslaughter & Homicide Act 2007

- An organisation is guilty of the offence of corporate manslaughter if the way in which any of the organisation's activities are managed or organised by its senior managers –
 - a) causes a person's death; and
 - b) amounts to a gross breach of a relevant duty of care owed by the organisation to the deceased.
- Health & Safety Offences Act 2008
 - The maximum penalties under this Act are:
 - £20,000 fines in lower courts for nearly all summary offences, unlimited fines in higher courts;
 - Imprisonment for nearly all offences – up to six months in Magistrates Courts and two years in the Crown Court.

3.5 Health and Safety Policies

Policy documents and Standard Operating Procedures on particular aspects of health and safety will be developed in consultation with stakeholders and will be approved at the appropriate committee on behalf of the CCG Governing Body or in the case of Standard Operating Procedures, by the relevant head of service.

3.6 Health and Safety Training

Mandatory training requirements regarding Health and Safety training for all staff is revised on a yearly basis, additional training necessary for the job should be determined as a result of the risk assessment process e.g Fire Wardens, First Aiders, etc.

3.7 Health and Safety Communication

The CCG will ensure that suitable and relevant information relating to health, safety and welfare in the workplace is communicated to staff and users. Statutory notices will be displayed throughout the workplace. Consultation and communication over health and safety issues will be encouraged at all levels within the CCG.

3.8 Specialist Advice

3.8.1 Whilst the Health and Safety team should be considered as the primary source for expert legal advice on complying with health and safety legislation and CCG policy, where necessary the Chief Officer will ensure staff have access to other Competent Persons (as defined in the Management of Health and Safety at work Regulations 1999) either through separate appointments or robust and appropriately monitored Service Level Agreements with third party providers.

3.8.2 These will include as a minimum;

- Occupational Health Service (including physiotherapy)
- Advice relating to infection prevention and control
- Estates/ facilities services
- Human Resources
- Fire
- Security

4. Duties and Responsibilities

Council of Practices	The Council of Practices has delegated responsibility to the Governing Body (GB) for setting the strategic context in which organisational process documents are developed and for establishing a scheme of governance for the formal review and approval of such documents.
Chief Officer	The Chief Officer, as Accountable Officer, has overall responsibility for the strategic direction and operational management, including ensuring that CCG process documents comply with all legal, statutory and good practice guidance requirements. In addition, the Chief Officer is required to have appropriate health and safety policies and programmes of work in place in order to improve and maintain procedures within the organisation's premises.
Chief Finance Officer	<p>The Chief Officer, as Accountable Officer, has overall responsibility for the strategic direction and operational management, including ensuring that CCG process documents comply with all legal, statutory and good practice guidance requirements.</p> <p>The responsibilities of the Chief Officer are discharged through the Nominated Executive for Health and Safety.</p> <p>They will ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the CCG complies with all statutory obligations in relation to health and safety. • mechanisms are in place to effectively monitor performance on behalf of the Governing Body and that they are fully implemented. • the Governing Body and appropriate committees are informed and advised regarding action needed on any significant health and safety event and actual or potential risk. • the establishment and maintenance of an effective health and safety advisory service to the CCG through the appointment and/or training of adequate numbers of Competent Persons. • the availability of adequate health and safety training programmes for all levels of staff. • adequate resources are made available to ensure compliance with statutory health and safety obligations.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • update and review with the Health and Safety team the Health and Safety Policy in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the associated regulations issued by the Health and Safety Executive. • the appropriate committees function in accordance with statutory and mandatory health and safety regulations. • so far as is reasonably practicable that all Managers are aware of their responsibilities. • a management system exists for reporting and investigating incidents. • health, safety and welfare performance is measured, strategic targets set and progress monitored and reviewed. • adequate provision for health and safety is included in any service level agreements/contracts
All managers	<p>Managers are responsible for:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring the release of staff time to undertake Manual Handling Training as set out in the CCG Mandatory Training requirements for commencing employment and at refresher training at appropriate intervals; • Ensuring that risk assessments of manual handling activities are carried out and appropriate control measures put in place to manage the risks as far as reasonably practicable. This may include provision to provide appropriate equipment; • Enabling staff to utilise their learning from the training when back in their learning environment; • Determining that all agency staff and short-term staff carrying out manual handling activities, receive Manual Handling Training. • Identification and provision of moving and handling equipment needs through assessment and practical evaluation of equipment suitability and compatibility; • Ensuring that moving and handling equipment is maintained in a safe and serviceable working state. That its use remains appropriate to the task for which it is intended and that relevant staff are trained and competent to operate the equipment in use in line with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998 (7) and the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) 1998 (8); • Identification of moving and handling risks by monitoring practices, auditing department incident reports and thorough, prompt, accident investigation and reporting to the Governance Manager, Health and Safety.

<p>All Staff</p>	<p>CCG employees are responsible for actively co-operating with managers in the application of this policy to enable the CCG to discharge its legal obligations and in particular;</p> <p>Regulation 5 of the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended) states that:</p> <p>“Every employee while at work shall make full and proper use of any system of work provided for his use by his employer in compliance with Regulation 4(1)(b)(ii) of these regulations.”</p> <p>All employees already have a duty under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to report any areas where they feel they are working at risk to themselves or their colleagues.</p> <p>Shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They take care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their activities when involved in manual handling operations; • They know their role in the implementation of the Moving and Handling Policy and comply with the policy; • They participate in any training (including required updates) given in manual handling principles relevant to their work prior to undertaking any hazardous manual handling operations as part of their duty. This training is mandatory; • They are competent in the use of, and do utilise any equipment that has been provided to reduce the risk of injury in moving and handling activities or other factors relating to this activity; • They bring to their manager’s attention to any equipment that is needed to reduce the potential risk of injury in moving and handling operations or report any defects/problems in mechanical aids relating to this activity; • They participate in the risk assessments of hazardous moving and handling operations to determine measures to reduce the potential risk of injury; • They report any change in working conditions, personnel involved in moving and handling operations or a significant change in the nature of the task or the load that may necessitate a review of the risk assessment procedure; • They report to their managers any medical conditions (including pregnancy) that might affect their ability to undertake manual handling operations; • They report promptly to their managers any accidents and incidents resulting from moving and handling operations and complete an incident report form. • They self-refer to Occupational Health if they suspect their injury resulted from a manual handling operation.
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CSU staff	Whilst working on behalf of the CCG, CSU staff will be expected to comply with all policies, procedures and expected standards of behaviour within the CCG, however they will continue to be governed by all policies and procedures of their employing organisation.
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5. Implementation

- 5.1 This policy will be available to all staff for use in relation to dealing with issues pertaining to health and safety.
- 5.2 All managers are responsible for ensuring that relevant staff within the CCG have read and understood this document and are competent to carry out their duties in accordance with the procedures described.

6. Training Implications

It has been determined that there are no specific training requirements associated with this policy

7. Related Documents

7.1 Other related policy documents

- Fire Safety Policy
- Policy for Moving and Handling
- Incident Investigation and Reporting Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- H&S Procedures
- Health, Safety Strategy

7.2 Legislation and statutory requirements

- Cabinet Office (1974) *Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974*. London. HMSO.
- Cabinet Office (2007) *Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Act 2007*. London. HMSO
- Cabinet Office (2008) *Health and Safety Offences Act 2008*. London. HMSO.

7.3 Best practice recommendations

- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999

8. Monitoring, Review and Archiving

8.1 Monitoring

12.1.1 The Governing Body will agree a method for monitoring the dissemination and implementation of this policy. Monitoring information will be recorded in the policy database.

12.1.2 The Finance and Quality Committee have delegated responsibility for all Health and Safety Matters, this is included within the Terms of Reference of the group. Copies of minutes are forwarded to the Governing Body.

8.2 Review

12.2.1 The Governing Body will ensure that this policy document is reviewed in accordance with the timescale specified at the time of approval. No policy or procedure will remain operational for a period exceeding three years without a review taking place.

12.2.2 Staff who become aware of any change, including legislative changes, which may affect a policy should advise their line manager as soon as possible. The Governing Body will then consider the need to review the policy or procedure outside of the agreed timescale for revision.

12.2.3 For ease of reference for reviewers or approval bodies, changes should be noted in the 'version control' table on the second page of this document.

NB: If the review consists of a change to an appendix or procedure document, approval may be given by the Executive lead and a revised document may be issued. Review to the main body of the policy must always follow the original approval process.

8.3 Archiving

The Governing Body will ensure that archived copies of superseded policy documents are retained in accordance with Records Management: NHS Code of Practice 2016.

9. Equality Impact Assessment

Initial Screening Assessment (STEP 1)

As a public body organisation we need to ensure that all our current and proposed strategies, policies, services and functions, have given proper consideration to equality, diversity and inclusion, do not aid barriers to access or generate discrimination against any protected groups under the Equality Act 2010 (Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion/Belief, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Marriage and Civil Partnership).

This screening determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, projects, service reviews and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- The relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- Whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered for due regard to the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED).
- Whether or not it is necessary to carry out a full Equality Impact Assessment.

Name(s) and role(s) of person completing this assessment:

Name: Lee Crowe

Job Title: Governance Manager (Health and Safety)

Organisation: North of England Commissioning Support Unit (NECS)

Title of the service/project or policy: Health and Safety Policy

Is this a;

Strategy / Policy

Service Review

Project

Other Not applicable

What are the aim(s) and objectives of the service, project or policy:

The aim of the policy is to ensure CCG considers Health and Safety along with its other business objectives and to ensure that the CCG follows the details stipulated within H&S Regulations.

Who will the project/service /policy / decision impact?

(Consider the actual and potential impact)

- **Staff**
- **Service User / Patients**
- **Other Public Sector Organisations**
- **Voluntary / Community groups / Trade Unions**
- **Others, please specify** [Click here to enter text.](#)

Questions	Yes	No
Could there be an existing or potential negative impact on any of the protected characteristic groups?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has there been or likely to be any staff/patient/public concerns?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Could this piece of work affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Could this piece of work affect the workforce or employment practices?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the piece of work involve or have a negative impact on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment Advancing quality of opportunity Fostering good relations between protected and non-protected groups in either the workforce or community 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If you have answered no to the above and conclude that there will not be a detrimental impact on any equality group caused by the proposed policy/project/service change, please state how you have reached that conclusion below:

Not applicable

If you have answered yes to any of the above, please now complete the 'STEP 2 Equality Impact Assessment' document

Accessible Information Standard	Yes	No
Please acknowledge you have considered the requirements of the Accessible Information Standard when communicating with staff and patients. https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/accessible-info-standard-overview-2017-18.pdf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If any of the above have not been implemented, please state the reason:		
Not applicable		

Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening		
Name	Job title	Date
Quality and Safety Committee	Approval	November 2020

Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) has been given.

Health & Safety Leadership Checklist

This list is designed to check your status as a *leader* on health and safety.

- How do you demonstrate the Governing Body's commitment to health and safety?
- What do you do to ensure appropriate Governing Body level review of health and safety?
- What have you done to ensure your organisation, at all levels including the Governing Body, receives competent health and safety advice?
- How are you ensuring all staff – including the Governing Body – are sufficiently trained and competent in their health and safety responsibilities?
- How confident are you that your workforce, particularly safety representatives, are consulted properly on health and safety matters, and that their concerns are reaching the appropriate level including, as necessary, the Governing Body?
- What systems are in place to ensure your organisation's risks are assessed, and that sensible control measures are established and maintained?
- How well do you know what is happening on the ground, and what audits or assessments are undertaken to inform you about what your organisation and contractors actually do?
- What information does the Governing Body receive regularly about health and safety, e.g. performance data and reports on injuries and work related ill-health?
- What targets have you set to improve health and safety and do you benchmark your performance against others in your sector or beyond?
- Where changes in working arrangements have significant implications for health and safety, how are these brought to the attention of the Governing Body?

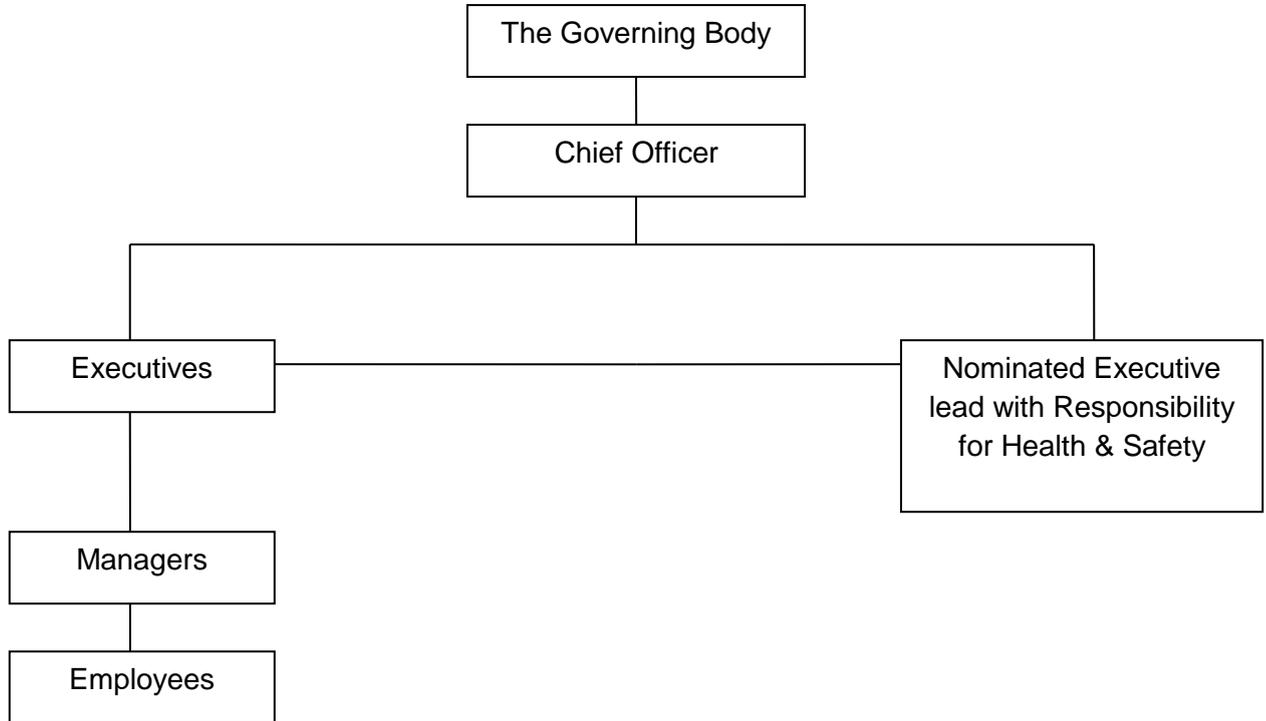
(Taken from the Institute of Directors and Health & Safety Commission's publication "Leading Health and Safety at Work – Leadership Actions for Directors and Board Members")

Checklist for Managers

- Are all relevant health and safety policies and procedures accessible to your staff?
- Are your staff aware of their health and safety legal obligations?
- Have your staff undertaken Core Mandatory health and safety training?
- Are health and safety responsibilities included in Job Descriptions?
- Are specific health and safety roles recognised e.g. Fire Wardens, Risk Assessors?
- Do your staff have any problems discharging their health and safety responsibilities? If so, please note on 1:1/appraisal document.
- Is health and safety an agenda item at team meetings?
- Do you have suitable and sufficient risk assessments, relevant to the risks from your environments/activities?
- Are staff involved in the risk assessment process, and/or included in their circulation/communication?
- Are risk assessments reviewed regularly, (when any changes happen or annually)?
- Do your staff know how to report accidents/incidents?
- Are your staff aware of their emergency procedures, and is it adequately covered as part of their local induction?

This list is not exhaustive, and can be added to by managers, and can be used as a questionnaire at team meetings to inform all relevant persons.

Outline of Organisation for Health and Safety



This structure defines the lines of accountability within the CCG.