

Annual Duty of Candour Report

FOR CARE VISIONS CHILDREN'S SERVICES



ANNUAL REPORT ON DUTY OF CANDOUR

Purpose

All health and social care services in Scotland have a duty of candour. This is a legal requirement which means that when things go wrong and mistakes happen, the people affected understand what has happened, receive an apology, and that organisations learn how to improve for the future.

An important part of this duty is that we provide an annual report about the duty of candour in our services. This short report describes how we have operated the duty of candour during the period of 01 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

Overview of our organisation

Care Visions Children's Services is made up of Care Visions Fostering and Care Visions Residential.

Care Visions Fostering had an average of 91 foster care families over the reporting period, looking after between one and three young people, from birth to 18 years of age. There is a young adult provision which allows young people to remain with their foster families after the age of 18 years in a continuing care arrangement. Each fostering family has a Supervising Social Worker who offers support to the family and ensures all fostering regulations are adhered to. Therapeutic Family Workers offer additional supports to carers and young people, including Theraplay support.

Care Visions Residential over the reporting period consisted of 29 residential children's homes, with between one and five young people living at each home. Each home has a manager and a dedicated team of staff who support the young people into adulthood. The staff teams provide homely environments and consistent stable relationships for the young people. All staff have a comprehensive induction and are offered regular learning and development opportunities.

Training

Care Visions Children's Services have trained all staff in Duty of Candour requirements and offer reflective opportunities to learn from their own and others' practice.

Incident Reporting

Care Visions have adapted their incident and accident reporting procedures to ensure any incidents or accidents are reported to senior management and assessed against the Duty of Candour guidance when being recorded and reported.

Governance

Our internal and external governance processes oversee the reporting throughout the year, with a quarterly report being submitted to the Professional Standards Committee.

Duty of Candour Incidents

Duty of candour incidents are defined as those where incidents have happened which are unintended or unexpected, and do not directly relate to the natural course of someone's illness or underlying condition. In the last year, there has been one incident to which the duty of candour applied.

Type of Unexpected or Unintended Incident	Number of Times this Happened
Someone has Died	0
Someone has permanently less bodily, sensory, motor, physiologic or intellectual functions	0
Someone's treatment has increased because of harm	0
The structure of someone's body changes because of harm	0
Someone's life expectancy becomes shorter because of harm	0
Someone's sensory, motor, or intellectual functions is impaired for 28 days or more	0
Someone experienced pain or psychological harm for 28 days or more	0
A person needed health treatment in order to prevent them dying	1
A person needing health treatment in order to prevent other injuries	0

At the time of the event, we followed the correct procedure ensuring the appropriate people, including the parents, were notified. Following the event, we initiated a full and detailed review of the incident and what went wrong to try and learn for the future and adapt our policies and procedures as required. We also apologised to the family members and offered to meet with them to discuss this.

What has Changed as a Result of This?

We have made a change to our policies, procedures, and training for staff as a result of the duty of candour and reviewed the way we collect, record and store medication as a result of this. All staff have received updated training in our medication policies and procedures which is being rolled out across the organisation.



Sharon Boniface
Chief Executive Officer, Care Visions Children's Services
31 March 2023