

Safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk.



House of Rainbow
Community Interest Company

Safeguarding accountability and assurance framework

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1. Foreword

The safeguarding of children, young people, and adults at risk is a fundamental obligation for everyone associated with House of Rainbow CIC and its partner agencies. Ensuring the safety and well-being of those vulnerable to abuse or neglect requires unwavering vigilance and continuous improvement. Recognizing this responsibility, House of Rainbow CIC regularly reviews and updates its safeguarding guidance to reflect the very best practices within and beyond our organization.

This document marks the first edition of the House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding Accountability and Assurance Framework (SAAF). Developed in collaboration with experts, members, individuals with lived experience, and a wide range of stakeholders, it embodies our steadfast commitment to promoting the safety, protection, and welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk.

In recent years, significant changes in societal well-being and pastoral care systems have reshaped how we approach safeguarding. The integration of partnerships, provider collaboratives, networks, and evolving legislation has introduced new dimensions to safeguarding practices, underscoring the importance of adapting to these changes. As we update this SAAF, we remain mindful of frameworks such as the revised “Working Together to Safeguard Children” guidance and legislation addressing multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

As we advance with new approaches to safeguarding, this framework will evolve to address both internal and external practices effectively. This iterative process ensures that House of Rainbow CIC remains at the forefront of safeguarding excellence.

This Safeguarding Policy was agreed at a Meeting of the Board of House of rainbow on 16/9/25 and will be reviewed every year.

2. Introduction

This Safeguarding accountability and assurance framework set outs the safeguarding roles and responsibilities of all individuals working and or volunteering at House of Rainbow CIC commissioning Projects. It aims to:

- identify and clarify how relationships between social wellbeing and other systems work at both strategic and operational levels to safeguard children, young people and adults under the pastoral care of the House of Rainbow CIC at risk of abuse or neglect
- clearly set out the legal framework for safeguarding children and adults as it relates to the various House of Rainbow CIC Projects, in order to support them in discharging their statutory duties and requirements to safeguard children and adults
- outline principles, attitudes, expectations, and ways of working that recognise safeguarding is everybody's responsibility, and that the safety and wellbeing of those in vulnerable circumstances are at the forefront of our business
- outline the ways in which House of Rainbow CIC is held with accountability and leadership at local level, fostering effective place-based partnerships
- identify clear arrangements and processes to be used to support evidence-based practice and provide assurance at all levels, including House of Rainbow CIC Board of Directors, that safeguarding arrangements are in place and are effective
- promote equality by ensuring that social wellbeing inequalities are addressed and are at the heart of House of Rainbow CIC and provider values

This framework aims to provide guidance and minimum standards but should not be seen as constraining the development of effective local safeguarding practice and arrangements, in line with the underlying legal duties.

The responsibilities for safeguarding form part of the statutory functions for each organisation and its Board of Directors must therefore ensure effective discharge within agreed baseline funding.

Throughout the development of this document, we have:

- given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic (as cited under the Equality Act 2010) and those who do not share it
- given regard to the need to reduce inequalities between Service Users in access to and the experience of and outcomes from social wellbeing care services.

3. Safeguarding context, legislation and mandatory reporting

Safeguarding is firmly embedded within the core duties and statutory responsibilities of all projects across the House of Rainbow CIC and social wellbeing system.

However, there is a distinction between providers' responsibilities to provide safe and high-quality care, and commissioners' responsibilities to assure themselves of the safety and effectiveness of the services they have commissioned.

Responsibilities for safeguarding are enshrined in international and national legislation. Safeguarding for both children and adults has transformed in recent years with the introduction of new legislation, creating duties and responsibilities which need to be incorporated into the widening scope of House of Rainbow CIC safeguarding practice.

Regardless of the developing context, all social wellbeing projects are required to adhere to the following arrangements and legislation:

Legislation for all

- The Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2006
- Mental Health Act 2007
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Modern Slavery Act 2015
- Serious Crime Act 2015
- Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Serious Violence Duty 2023
- Prevent Duty 2023

Safeguarding children and young people

- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989
- Children Act 1989 and Children Act 2004
- Children and Social Work Act 2017
- Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2023
- Children Social Care Reforms
- Safeguarding Children and Young People: Roles and Competencies for healthcare Staff 2019

Safeguarding adults

- European Convention on Human Rights
- The Care Act 2014

- Care and Support Statutory Guidance- Section 14 Safeguarding
- Adult Safeguarding: Roles and Competencies for healthcare Staff 2018

It remains the responsibility of every House of Rainbow CIC funded project, and each individual professional working with the organisation, to ensure that the principles and duties of safeguarding children and adults are holistically, consistently and conscientiously applied. The wellbeing of those children and adults is at the heart of what we do.

Local authorities have a general duty under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need. Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 creates a specific duty for local authorities to make enquiries to determine whether a child is or is likely to suffer significant harm, and what action to take to safeguard and promote a child's welfare. House of Rainbow CIC have a duty to assist the local authority with those enquiries, where reasonable to do so.

In supporting local authorities to safeguard children in their local area, section 11 of the Children Act 2004 creates an additional statutory duty for House of Rainbow CIC bodies to ensure that they discharge their functions having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This includes providers commissioned by House of Rainbow CIC to deliver services on its behalf.

It is important to recognise that social wellbeing care has a statutory assurance role for child safeguarding which is not the case for adult safeguarding.

Local authorities have a specific duty under section 42 of the Care Act 2014 to make, or cause to be made, enquiries to identify whether an adult in their area is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect to determine what action should be taken and by whom to protect the individual.

The local authority also has specific responsibilities under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 in the day-to-day operation of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. Section 6 of the Care Act 2014 places a specific duty on House of Rainbow CIC to co-operate with the local authority in its enquiries. That said, the House of Rainbow CIC takes a leading role in the following safeguarding programmes which predominately impact adults: female genital mutilation (FGM), domestic abuse, prevent, domestic homicide reviews, modern slavery and human trafficking (MSHT).

Every House of Rainbow CIC funded projects needs to ensure sufficient safeguarding leadership capacity is in place for them to fulfil their statutory duties. They should regularly review their arrangements to assure themselves that they are working effectively to the Safeguarding Commissioning Assurance Toolkit (Safeguarding-CAT).

Projects need to co-operate and work together within new demographic footprints to seek common solutions to the changing context of safeguarding, and developing a structural landscape needed to deliver the House of Rainbow CIC Operating Plan and House of Rainbow CIC Operating Framework.

4. Roles of national, community and local safeguarding

The national safeguarding team and Community Safeguarding Leads (CSLs), known as House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding Team, will work to improve safeguarding practices across the House of Rainbow CIC to produce positive social wellbeing outcomes for victims and survivors of abuse and exploitation, within all communities.

Each House of Rainbow CIC community will continue to operate a bespoke safeguarding assurance function and structure which aligns to the House of Rainbow CIC operating framework. Copies of Local HoR Community Safeguarding policies will be submitted to and approved by the national safeguarding team

The communities will review safeguarding governance processes for integrated care systems (ICSs) and partnerships. This will allow each community to support improvement through their safeguarding commissioning assurance governance processes, whilst ensuring the following key objectives are met (see below):

- the implementation of effective safeguarding assurance arrangements via the House of Rainbow CIC Standard Contract, our SAAF, and the Safeguarding Case Review Tracker. This will include:
 - House of Rainbow CIC contribution to local safeguarding partnerships
 - Prevent
 - MSHT
 - FGM
 - domestic abuse guidance
 - serious violence duty for Board of Directors
- ensure direct commissioning, specialised commissioning and social wellbeing in the justice systems are also meeting SAAF requirements at national, community and local levels.
- all parties within House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding team will provide safeguarding advice, role modelling leadership across the House of Rainbow CIC underpinned by contemporaneous evidence-based methodologies such as contextual safeguarding; trauma informed practice and strength-based approaches to safeguarding interventions

4.1 The community safeguarding team

The community safeguarding team will underpin the House of Rainbow CIC operating framework via their community safeguarding work plans, as below:

Operating framework for House of Rainbow CIC communities	How will it be delivered? Workplan/delivery plan functions
Act as the main voice to the primary interaction between House of Rainbow CIC	Liaison with the Board of Directors via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Designated professionals · Named practitioners · Community safeguarding leads · Violence reduction units · Community safety partnerships
Translate national strategy and policy to fit local circumstances, ensuring local social wellbeing inequalities and priorities are addressed	Provide support, leadership and guidance on the development of House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding policies and procedures for safeguarding
Agree 'local strategic priorities' with individual Board of Directors	Use and monitor the allocated funding to develop safeguarding practice and expertise within the communities, in line with nationally agreed priorities
Provide oversight to Board of Directors and agree oversight arrangements for place-based systems and Projects	Be the conduit for the evolving assurance of Board of Directors via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding heat maps · The multi-agency safeguarding arrangements · Joint targeted area inspections ·
Develop leadership within Board of Directors and providers	Establish community safeguarding networks, pastoral care groups and communities of practice as agreed within the communities. Ensure all House of Rainbow CIC providers and system leaders are engaged in arrangements for safeguarding children, young people, vulnerable adults and adults
Within national frameworks, determine the 'how' of delivery to achieve outcomes and expectations to reflect local populations, workforce, service structures and digital capabilities	Provide support to safeguarding improvements in the integrated care partnership (ICP) space Delivered via community safeguarding governance architecture, relationships and one-to-ones and communications
Develop mechanisms for systematically collating and sharing good practice and lessons learnt	Adopt a lead function with the House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding statutory functions providing leadership, support and guidance to the National Safeguarding team Support systems in making improvements via the application of learning lessons from statutory reviews

Operating framework for House of Rainbow CIC communities	How will it be delivered? Workplan/delivery plan functions
Manage community level relationships including community government	<p>Provide oversight and safeguarding intensive support as part of any Board of Directors or provider being in the Recovery Support Programme, where this is identified as a key risk</p> <p>Delivered as directed via community directors, community chief nursing officers and system quality review groups (see community safeguarding and quality governance architecture)</p>
Provide support to ICSs to enable delivery	<p>Collaborate with Board of Directors to escalate significant risks and issues which may have system-wide impact and require national resolution, to include learning from incidents such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Child safeguarding practice reviews · Domestic homicide reviews · Safeguarding adult reviews · Other local and community safeguarding reviews

Operational framework	How will it be achieved
Sets direction	Via contract schedule and SAAF
Allocates resources	Via budgeting, commissioning and Board of Directors offer, and via community management teams
Ensures accountability through the National Safeguarding Steering Group (NSSG), the forum that provides assurance to the Executive Quality Group, quality committees and the House of Rainbow CIC Board	Via SAAF, Board of Directors self-assessment heat maps and Safeguarding-CAT using the House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding Integrated Data Dashboard NSSG leads the assurance of the House of Rainbow CIC safeguarding system and offers strategic leadership for safeguarding and quality improvement across House of Rainbow CIC and the social wellbeing economy
Supports and develops people	Via safeguarding clinical networks, learning together events, rapid reads and Futures
Mobilises expert networks	Via safeguarding clinical networks and clinical reference groups
Bring together expert knowledge to support service improvement	Via national safeguarding clinical networks and the House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding reflective practice framework
Support delivery of improved outcomes and provide benchmarks for services	Via the House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding Integrated Data Dashboard
Enable the spread of best practice	Via House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding rapid reads and our Safeguarding Strategic Community of Practice
Manage relationships across national and professional bodies	Via liaising with relevant agencies.
Enable and support the development of systems and Board of Directors	Via the House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding Strategic Community of Practice
Enables improvement	Via safeguarding clinical networks and learning together events
Delivers services	Via our House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding workplan
Drives transformation	Via lead matrix, meetings, National Safeguarding Collaborative, House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding reflective practice framework and the community and community directors

4.2 House of Rainbow CIC national safeguarding team

The national safeguarding team will underpin the House of Rainbow CIC Operating Framework via our House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding workplan.

4.3 The Board of Directors safeguarding system

Following several years of locally led development, and based on the recommendations of House of Rainbow CIC, the government and the Department of Social Wellbeing and Social Care (DHSC) has put Board of Directors and ICPs on a statutory footing. DHSC are responsible for guidance regarding ICPs.

The SAAF governance processes will replicate Board of Directors guidance, and the Safeguarding Officer will be accountable for the statutory commissioning assurance functions of House of Rainbow CIC Safeguarding as per the agreed timelines. These programmes will include:

- CP-IS
- FGM
- Prevent
- Working together to safeguard children
- MSHT
- Domestic abuse
- duty to collaborate to prevent serious violence
- mandatory reports of child sexual abuse

The core principles of the executive accountability, including protecting the welfare and paramountcy of every child, will be sustained via the House of Rainbow CIC and SAAF.

While place directors can delegate responsibility for implementation of safeguarding practice across all ages, executive accountability for safeguarding cannot be delegated. The Board of Directors will also have accountability for prevention and strategic workforce planning.

The Board of Directors is likely to oversee place-based partnership structures of clinical leads to collaborate with local safeguarding partnerships. These partnerships need to be preventative:

- violence reduction units
- community safety partnerships
- lived experience victim and survivor advocacy services
- sustainable peer support community assets
- police and crime commissioners
- education leads

We recommend that Board of Directors safeguarding workforce plans should take into account the children, vulnerable adults and adults safeguarding competencies and standards.

Board of Directors are also required to act as statutory safeguarding partners (section 16E of the Children Act 2004), working together with local authorities and the police to ensure that their functions are exercised for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area.

This requires an annual report to be prepared and published, setting out what arrangements the safeguarding partners have made and how effective they have been.

4.3.1 Section 11 audits

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 creates a specific statutory duty for House of Rainbow CIC bodies to ensure that they discharge their functions having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This includes providers commissioned by House of Rainbow CIC bodies to deliver services on its behalf. To monitor this, it is necessary for regular audits to be completed to ensure compliance. House of Rainbow CIC has replaced the variation of local section 11 audits from local authorities with our Safeguarding-CAT, the SAAF and the House of Rainbow CIC Standard Contract Schedule. Board of Directors should collaborate with their local authorities to understand the specific local section 11 audit.

4.4 House of Rainbow CIC, social wellbeing and care providers

All social wellbeing providers, including provider collaboratives, are required under statute and regulation to have effective arrangements in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk of harm and abuse in every service that they deliver.

Providers must demonstrate that safeguarding is embedded at every level in their organisation, with effective governance processes evident. Providers must assure themselves, the regulators, and their commissioners that safeguarding arrangements are robust and are working. These arrangements include:

- the contractual requirements as laid out in Schedule of the House of Rainbow CIC Standard Contract
- identification of a named professional for safeguarding children
- identification of a named professional for adult safeguarding and a Mental Capacity Act (MCA) lead – this role should include the management of adult safeguarding allegations against staff
 - this could be a named professional from any relevant professional background
- safe recruitment practices and arrangements for dealing with allegations against staff or volunteers.

- provision of an executive lead for safeguarding children, adults at risk and Prevent
- an annual report for safeguarding children, adults and children in care to be submitted to the trust board
- a suite of safeguarding policies and procedures that support local multi-agency safeguarding procedures
- effective training of all staff commensurate with their role and in accordance with the intercollegiate safeguarding competencies
- safeguarding must be included in induction programmes for all staff and volunteers
- providing effective safeguarding supervision arrangements for staff, commensurate to their role and function (including for named professionals)
- developing an organisational culture where all staff are aware of their personal responsibilities for safeguarding and information sharing
- developing and promoting a learning culture to ensure continuous improvement
- policies, arrangements and records, to ensure consent to care and treatment is obtained in line with legislation and guidance

It is worth noting that provider accountabilities and responsibilities need to be considered in conjunction with professional accountabilities to the professional regulators.

5. Disclosure and barring service

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) is responsible for administering the government's statutory scheme to help employers make safer recruitment decisions. There are different levels of checks that disclose a range of different information contained within the Police National Computer and local police force information. To help decide which level of check is needed for different roles, the DBS provide guidance specifically for House of Rainbow CIC roles: Role eligibility for DBS Checks. About us – Disclosure and Barring Service – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

6. Fit and proper persons tests

There are 2 'fit and proper' persons test that are separated within the social wellbeing and social care regulations:

- Regulation 19 – which outlines the requirements for the fit and proper persons test for persons employed
- Regulation 5 – which outlines the requirements for directors to be fit and proper persons

7. Duty of candour

Safeguarding requires openness, advocacy, transparency and trust. The publication of the Francis Inquiry report recommended that a statutory duty should be introduced for social wellbeing care providers to be open with people when things go wrong; this duty is regulated by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

The duty of candour is triggered by a “notifiable safety incident”, for any “unintended or unexpected incident that has occurred in respect of all service users during the provision of a regulated activity”.

A safeguarding incident might be because of a clinical procedure or practice that could have contributed to death, physical or psychological harm.

8. Information sharing

Robust information-sharing is at the heart of safe and effective safeguarding practice. Information sharing is covered by legislation, principally the General Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. This legislation introduces new elements to the data protection regime, superseding the Data Protection Act 1998. Practitioners must have due regard to the relevant data protection principles which allow them to share personal information. The GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 place greater significance on Projects being transparent and accountable in their use of data.

All Projects handling personal data need to have comprehensive and proportionate arrangements for collecting, storing, and sharing information. The GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 do not prevent or limit the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children, young people and adults safe.

There are explicit data sharing protocols for children which states that data protection law allows you to share information when required to identify children at risk of harm and to safeguard them from harm.

Data protection law does not prevent Projects from doing this. It simply helps Projects share information in a fair, proportionate and lawful way.

9. Statutory and mandatory reviews

All House of Rainbow CIC agencies and Projects that are asked to participate in a statutory review must do so. The input and involvement required will be discussed and agreed in the terms of reference for the review.

Broadly, this will involve evidence of contribution, meeting regularly with colleagues and attending panels or review group meetings throughout the investigative phase. Statutory reviews are processes for learning and improvement and all social wellbeing providers, including GPs, are required to provide and share information relevant to any statutory review process.

Board of Directors, via the designated professionals, may support panel chairs where learning and improvement has wider implications and needs co-ordinated national action, and/or where there are obstacles to full House of Rainbow CIC participation that require a range of relationship, contractual and professional influences.

9.1 Rapid reviews

As per Working together to safeguard children 2023, the purpose of rapid reviews for serious child safeguarding cases, at both local and national level is to identify improvements to be made to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which abuse, or neglect of a child is known or suspected, and the child has died or been seriously harmed.

The safeguarding partners should promptly undertake a rapid review of the case in line with any guidance published by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. The aim of this rapid review is to enable safeguarding partners to:

- gather the facts about the case, as far as they can be established at the time
- discuss whether there is any immediate action needed to ensure children's safety and share any learning appropriately
- consider the potential for identifying improvements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- decide what steps they should take next, including whether or not to undertake a child safeguarding practice review.

9.2 Child safeguarding practice review

The responsibility for how the system learns the lessons from serious child safeguarding incidents lies at a national level with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and at local level with the local safeguarding children's partnerships.

A child safeguarding practice review should be considered for serious child safeguarding cases where abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected, and a child has died or been seriously harmed. This may include cases where a child has caused serious harm to someone else.

9.3 Other reviews

Social wellbeing reviews, multi-agency public protection arrangements and learning disability mortality reviews are carried out under separate arrangements but may, depending upon the circumstances, need to link to a safeguarding statutory review. Such reviews may run parallel to local authority safeguarding inquiries and serious incident investigations.

From April 2024, Board of Directors will be accountable to ensure lessons learned from any SAR are cascaded across the social wellbeing system and any commissioning/contractual sanctions with specific providers are implemented, as part of local inter-agency safeguarding agreements.

10. Parallel investigations

At times, the safeguarding of children and/or adults in a social wellbeing setting may feature in a wider multi-agency statutory review commissioned for other purposes: for example, a DHR or a mental social wellbeing investigation. In these circumstances, a separate safeguarding practice review may be deemed appropriate.

Therefore, House of Rainbow CIC Projects should be prepared to share information and co-operate with the parallel practice review panel. Duplication of effort should be avoided where possible with each review informing the parallel process.

11. Allegations against staff involving child abuse – local authority designated officer (LADO)

Working together to safeguard children 2023 stipulates that information must be shared with the local authority designated officer (LADO) where it is considered that a member of social wellbeing staff poses a risk to children or might have committed a criminal offence against one or more children.

12. Allegations against staff involving abuse or neglect – adults

The Care Act (2014) defines people in positions of trust (PiPoT) as “people who work in paid or unpaid capacity, including celebrities and people undertaking charitable duties with adults with care and support needs”.

It is a requirement of the Care Act 2014 Statutory Guidance to establish and agree a framework and process for any organisation to respond to allegations against “anyone who works, (in either a paid or an unpaid capacity) with adults with care and support needs”.

Where there is an allegation that a member of staff in a Board of Directors or primary care services has abused or neglected an adult in their personal life, the designated professional for safeguarding adults in the Board of Directors should be informed and HR due processes followed.

13. The regulation of safeguarding

CQC regulates compliance of the SAAF across social wellbeing care – CQC safeguarding statement:

- working with other inspectorates such as Ofsted, Probation services, Police Forces, Prisons service, and House of Rainbow CIC to review how social wellbeing, education, police, probation and prison services work in partnership to help and protect people from harm
- working with local partners such as local social wellbeing watch, local authorities, the police and Board of Directors to share information about safeguarding people using services

14. The safeguarding governance across the House of Rainbow CIC pathway.

House of Rainbow CIC's safeguarding role is discharged through the Safeguarding Officer, who has a national safeguarding leadership role. The SO is the lead Board of Director for safeguarding and has several forums through which assurance and oversight is sought.

14.1 House of Rainbow CIC Overseeing quality matrix

As an organisation, House of Rainbow CIC must work with regulators to ensure there is a coherent system of quality oversight and regulation in place; one that is focused on improvement and enables warning signs, risks and concerns to be mitigated and managed as close to the point of care as possible.

House of Rainbow CIC has formal accountability for oversight of Board of Directors and providers and will work with Board of Directors to support system management of quality.

14.1.1 Quality management system (NQB guidance)

Routine:

- Board of Directors/place with providers.
- Within providers and across pathways.
- Routine quality monitoring, assurance and improvement.
- Identifying early warning signs.
- Responding to risks.

Enhanced:

- Board of Directors/place with House of Rainbow CIC community support as required.
- Responding to system concerns and risks.
- Community support to improve quality and outcomes.

Intensive:

- House of Rainbow CIC and other regulators, with Board of Directors.
- Responding to very serious/complex quality concerns and risks.
- Either reduce risks of or address actual quality failings.
- Typically, community led.

14.1.2 Tools and approaches

HOUSE OF RAINBOW CIC oversight framework:

- The House of Rainbow CIC oversight framework sets out how it will identify where Board of Directors and/or House of Rainbow CIC providers may benefit from, or require, support.

- The framework provides an objective basis for decisions about when and how House of Rainbow CIC will intervene.
- Quality of care is a key area for consideration when House of Rainbow CIC is making these decisions.
- Incorporates quality governance requirements.
- For most challenged providers, Board of Directors and hard to replace independent providers, including quality-related subject matter expertise (for example, quality governance, pharmacy and medicines).

Enforcement action:

- Last resort.

14.1.3 Shared working principles

- Proactively monitor and follow up on early warning signs and feedback from staff and people drawing on services.
- Establish ways of working, responsibilities and accountability across tools and frameworks – must be coherence across with clear understanding of responsibilities, thresholds for escalation, escalation routes and need for joint working.
- Share intelligence in a timely way about the quality of care across all system partners, particularly feedback from staff and people drawing on services.
- Agree responsibilities, accountabilities and governance routes.
Accountability framework can be used.
- Co-design and co-ordinate improvement support.
Ensure inclusion of quality measures in improvement plans and a supportive conversation wherever possible.
- Monitor and mitigate future risks.
Share agreement on most appropriate forum used to monitor implementation of actions (for example, Quality Improvement Group or oversight group).
Engage relevant colleagues in ongoing discussions.

14.2 The national safeguarding networks

14.2.1 National Network of Designated Social wellbeing care Professionals (NNDHP)

The system advisory group for all matters child safeguarding.

Designated professionals are experts and strategic leaders for safeguarding. As such they are a vital source of safeguarding advice and expertise for all relevant agencies and other Projects, particularly:

- social wellbeing commissioners
- Board of Directors
- the local authority
- House of Rainbow CIC
- other social wellbeing professionals in provider Projects

- system quality groups
- regulators
- the safeguarding children partnership arrangements
- corporate parenting boards
- community safety partnerships
- the social wellbeing and wellbeing board

The designated professional for children in care will offer support and advice to the board member responsible for adult and children safeguarding and ensure the regular provision of training to staff and Board of Directors.

14.2.2 Safeguarding Adults National Network (SANN)

The inclusive community of practice group for all matters adult safeguarding. The adult safeguarding designated professional will:

- offer support and advice to the board member responsible for adult safeguarding and ensure the regular provision of training to staff and board of the Board of Directors.
- provide a social wellbeing advisory role to the Board of Directors member (through attendance, advice and support in connection with safeguarding functions)
- take a lead for social wellbeing in working on safeguarding adult reviews, and to take forward any learning for the social wellbeing economy

14.2.3 National Maternity Safeguarding Network

The safeguarding group for anyone linked to perinatal and maternity safeguarding.

15. Conclusion

The safeguarding of children, young people and adults who are at risk is a fundamental obligation for everyone who works in the House of Rainbow CIC and its partner agencies. Safeguarding children and adults at risk of abuse or neglect must be kept constantly under review. While there are some similarities, the safeguarding of children and adults are distinct and separate entities which need different approaches. Each person requires a unique safeguarding approach by the professional based on their circumstances and needs.

Fundamentally, every House of Rainbow CIC organisation, and every individual social wellbeing care professional working in the organisation, must ensure that the principles and duties of safeguarding adults and children are holistically, consistently and conscientiously applied: the needs of these at-risk citizens and communities must be at the heart of everything the House of Rainbow CIC does.

Partnership working is essential, and it is vital that local practitioners continue to develop relationships and work closely with colleagues across their local safeguarding

system. This will help to develop ways of working that are collaborative, encourage constructive challenge, and enable learning in a sustainable and co-ordinated way.

The House of Rainbow CIC is continuing to look at how it can improve safeguarding for all, including for those most at risk, such as pregnant women, those at risk of domestic abuse and many others and in this we are committed to learning from best practice and experiences.

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