



Safeguarding Policy Statement

The Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) understands its responsibility to ensure that our patients, or their families, are safeguarded from suffering harm, or protected from the risk of suffering harm.

Our critical care team undertake regular Safeguarding for Adults and Children training, which is in line with the national guidance and their professional bodies' training programmes. This training starts at the onset of their clinical work with us and continues throughout their time with us.

GNAAS works closely with our partner agencies to ensure that all concerns are passed to the relevant local authority, allowing them to take appropriate action. To achieve this, GNAAS established a direct reporting channel with our two primary ambulance services, and additional neighbouring services. Any concern we have is passed directly to their safeguarding teams, which have the statutory responsibility of referring our concern to the relevant local authority.

Our Safeguarding lead, Stu Thompson, is available 24 hours a day to assist our clinicians with any questions or concerns; however, each clinical team member acts autonomously, raising concerns whenever they have them. A follow-up call to the relevant statutory service ensures our concerns have been referred and that our clinicians are continuing to meet the requirements of their training and professional registration, as well as our own policies, all with the aim of keeping people safe.

You can contact the safeguarding lead on 01325 487 263, extension 2179, during office hours; by email at stuart.thompson@gnaas.co.uk; or via our operations on-call number, 07880 030 602 (24hrs).

If you have any concerns regarding:

- someone in immediate danger of harm - phone 999 and ask for the police
- a GNAAS patient or their family - please contact clinical@gnaas.co.uk
- a concern you have regarding a child or a vulnerable adult - contact your local social services department at your local authority.

You may also find helpful information here:

Children

www.barnardos.org.uk

www.childline.org.uk

www.NSPCC.org.uk

Adults

www.elderabuse.org.uk

www.ageuk.org.uk

www.scie.org.uk

Learning Disabilities

www.respond.org.uk

www.voiceuk.org.uk

Domestic Violence

www.mensadviceline.org.uk

www.womensaid.org.uk

www.enough.me.uk