

Report from: Director of Nursing, Midwifery, Quality & Risk
To: Trust Board, 2nd December 2004
Subject: Child Protection Annual Report, November 2003 - November 2004
Action: To note contents

Executive Summary

Child Protection is everyone's responsibility and as such the Child Protection profile within the Trust has been raised significantly in the time period covered by this report. The catalyst for the rise of Child Protection on West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust's agenda, as within all other agencies involved in safeguarding children, was the publication of the Victoria Climbié Inquiry Report in January 2003.

The most significant progress made to date includes:

- ◆ Distribution of the Hertfordshire Area Child Protection Procedures in all areas within the Trust that children attend.
- ◆ Over 450 staff across the Trust have received basic Child Protection Awareness training, with staff in targeted areas receiving more specific training related to their work areas.
- ◆ All paediatric referrals to social services in Hertfordshire are now made on a universal health referral form.
- ◆ A copy of the Hertfordshire Child Protection Register is kept in each both A&E Departments, with each child that attends the Emergency Departments checked against the register.
- ◆ Regular audit and review of assessment documentation for all children presenting at A&E or MIU to improve record keeping practice.

The Trust Board is invited to note the contents of the Child Protection Annual Report.

Gary Etheridge
Director of Nursing, Midwifery, Quality & Risk

December 2004