

The Role of the Designated Clinical Officer for SEND

North Lincolnshire Clinical
Commissioning Group (CCG)

Tara Harness

BSc (Hons) Specialist Practitioner – Community
Children’s Nursing, RN(C), RGN, ENB 998/405

Children’s Continuing Care Nurse Assessor/Interim
Designated Clinical Officer for SEND

Organisational Chart

Director of Quality and Assurance
Catherine Wylie



Senior Commissioning Manager for Children's
and Maternity Services
Helena Dent

Curriculum Vitae of DCO

1993 – Qualified as a Registered General Nurse

1993-96 – Worked within a variety of medical and surgical areas predominantly with adult patients

1997 – Qualified as a Registered Children’s Nurse, working within children’s services at Scunthorpe General Hospital

1999 – Completed Specialist qualifications for Intensive and Special Care of the Newborn/Teaching and Assessing in Clinical Practice

2003 – Completed BSc (Hons) Degree for Community Specialist Practitioner – Community Children;s Nursing Pathway

2003-11 – Worked as Children’s/Neonatal Community Nurse

2011 – Children’s Continuing Care Nurse Assessor

2014 – Commenced role of DCO for SEND

SUMMARY OF ROLE

- Responsible for the CCG contribution to the process of developing and agreeing Education, Health and Care Plans, ensuring the effective discharging of its responsibilities for children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND) in accordance with the Code of Practice (June 2014) which provides statutory guidance on duties, policies and procedures relating to Part 3 of the Children and Families Act (2014)
- Provides professional and clinical leadership and is a source of expertise on matter relating to SEN for the CCG, LA, Healthcare Providers and other local agencies and organisations. This includes the implementation of Personal Health Budgets for CYP with continuing healthcare needs

CORE Functions

- Help to scope and define the role of the CCG in the delivery of services to children and young people with SEND
- Help to develop a clear implementation plan for SEND
- Identify and engage with key stakeholders in the SEND system
- Support workforce development and awareness of the SEND reforms

CORE FUNCTIONS – Part 2

- Act as the point of contact for enquiries relating to the Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan process
- Collate evidence from health professionals to support the component of determination of needs for EHC Plans
- Agree the health component of EHC plans on behalf of the CCG
- Co-ordinate information between key stakeholders

CORE FUNCTIONS – Part 3

- Contribute to the strategic integrated commissioning of SEN and Disability services for children and young people aged 0-25 years
- Provide relevant and timely specialist advice and guidance on SEND and EHC plans
- Act as a point of contact for health professionals, LA's, schools and colleges seeking health advice regarding children and young people who have or may have SEN or disability

CORE FUNCTIONS – Part 4

- Liaise with the Adult Continuing Healthcare Team within the CCG to ensure that transition arrangements are in place for young people moving into adulthood/adult services and during other periods of transition
- Provide relevant and timely specialist advice and guidance and undertake assessment where required on the continuing care needs of children and young people
- **Monitor the compliance of providers of NHS services in their responsibilities to inform the LA if they suspect a child or young person may have SEN or a disability (Section 23 of the Children and Families Act 2014)**

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

- DCO/Health input to the weekly SEND Advisory Panel (SENDAP)
- Clinical advice and signposting for partners in education, LA, and social care in respect of individual case management
- Provide a system which ensures that any reports of early recognition that a child has or may have a SEN is not only passed onto the LA, but allows the support process from appropriate partners including the voluntary sector) to commence
- Ensure Healthcare staff are aware of the process



*North Lincolnshire
Clinical Commissioning Group*

CONTACT DETAILS

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