

## **Think Family Principles**

### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Care Bill requires care agencies to take into account the needs of the family when assessing an adult. The Care Bill shall be enacted into legislation from April 2015.
- 1.2 The adoption of “Think Family” principles shall ensure compliance with the new legislation.
- 1.3 The Board is requested to support the adoption of Think Family principles across all relevant agencies and endorse the widening of practice audit arrangements to include Think Family principles.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To support the active adoption and sign up to the Think Family principles for all agencies working across Health and Social Care in Derby, at a senior level.
- 2.2 To support the widening of existing auditing arrangements to cover the audit of Think Family principles for Health and Social Care agencies.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 It is the view of both Safeguarding Boards that Think Family Principles need to be embedded at a Strategic Level across all public agencies working across Health and Social Care. The Health and Well Being Board is a focal point for these agencies.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 Section 12 of the Care Bill which will come into force in April 2015 states that the needs of the family have to be taken into account when assessing an adult or carer.
- 4.2 The Think Family approach means securing better outcomes for children, young people and families with additional needs by co-ordinating the support they receive from children’s young people’s, adults and family services

4.3 The Think Family approach has taken on greater focus across all agencies in Derby City and Derbyshire over a number of years particularly following the launch of the Think Family toolkit in 2009 which itself came out of the Governments Children Plan. In 2012 a conference was organised in Derbyshire around the Think Family approach out of which came a commitment to embed this approach across all of health and social care.

4.4 The Independent Chairs of Derby City Adults and Children's Safeguarding Board have met to take this commitment forward and it has been agreed that this is best done by all agencies agreeing to a set of strategic principles which would ensure that Think Family is embedded throughout organisations both in their direct work with children, adults and families and in the way they commission work from other agencies.

## OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Both Safeguarding Boards have looked to embed Think Family principles in Practice guidance and training. It was however felt that Think Family needed to be embedded at a Strategic Level across all agencies and that in order to facilitate this it needed the support of the Health and Well Being Board

**This report has been approved by the following officers:**

<b>Legal officer</b> <b>Financial officer</b> <b>Human Resources officer</b> <b>Service Director(s)</b>  <b>Other(s)</b>	Cath Roff, Strategic Director Adults, Health & Housing Andrew Bunyan, Strategic Director Children & Young People
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<b>For more information contact:</b> <b>Background papers:</b> <b>List of appendices:</b>	Griff Jones and Mark Sobey <b>Letter from Independent Chairs and Think Family Principles</b>
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<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial and Value for Money**

- 1.1 The Principles build on good practice for all agencies working in Health and Social Care, it is not envisaged that they will in themselves lead to additional costs to agencies.

**Legal**

- 2.1 Children Act 1989  
Children Plan 2007  
NHS and Community Care Act 1990  
Care Bill

**Personnel**

- 3.1 Agencies to look to provide training on Think Family

**Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 None

**Health and Safety**

- 5.1 The principles if adopted by all agencies will better protect Children and Adults at Risk

**Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.1 None

**Asset Management**

- 7.1 None

**Risk Management**

- 8.1 None

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 9.1 None

