Violence, Aggression and Abuse Management Policy

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ratified</th>
<th>Executive Committee &lt;14/01/15&gt;</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issued</td>
<td>November 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved By</td>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation</td>
<td>South Tyneside CCG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality Impact Assessment</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution</td>
<td>All Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date Amended following initial ratification</td>
<td>November 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation Date</td>
<td>January 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Review Date</td>
<td>January 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Governance Manager (Health &amp; Safety/Fire/Security)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference No</td>
<td>CCG CO20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
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Where this is an update to an existing policy:

Previous policy: Violence, Aggression and Abuse Management Policy V1

Previous policy reference number: CCG CO20

Issue date of previous policy:

Location of previous policy in policy archive: S:\Archive\Governance-Active\Policies\

Policy Validity Statement
This policy is due for review on the date shown above. After this date, policy and process documents may become invalid.

Policy uses should ensure that they are consulting the currently valid version of the documentation.
1. **Version Control**

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<th>Release Date</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Update comments</th>
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<tr>
<td>V1.0</td>
<td>28 February 2013</td>
<td>Liane Cotterill</td>
<td>Policy provided to Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) as part of policy suite</td>
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2. **Approval**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
<td>14th January 2015</td>
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3. **Review**

This document will be reviewed twelve months from its issue date and annually after its first review.
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2. Approval .................................................................................................................. 2

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Violence, Aggression and Abuse Management Policy

5. Introduction

The CCG aspires to the highest standards of corporate behaviour and clinical competence, to ensure that safe, fair and equitable procedures are applied to all organisational transactions, including relationships with patients their carers, public, staff, stakeholders and the use of public resources. In order to provide clear and consistent guidance, the CCG will develop documents to fulfil all statutory, organisational and best practice requirements and support the principles of equal opportunity for all.

The aim of this policy is to reduce the risks, so far as it reasonably practicable, for staff.

5.1 Status

This policy is a health and safety policy.

5.2 Purpose and scope

5.2.1 The aim of this policy document is to reduce the risks, so far as it is reasonably practicable, for staff.

5.2.2 This policy applies to all employees of the CCG and in particular deals with the issue of violence, aggression and abuse against a member of its staff by a member of the public (i.e. patient, member of the patient’s family, member of the public etc.). If a member of staff feels that they are experiencing any violence, aggression or abuse by another member of staff, they should refer to the CCG’s Dignity at Work Policy.

5.2.3 All employees have a common law duty of care to co-operate with their employer to comply with the CCG policy and follow their service, departmental and local procedures governing violence, aggression and abuse and abide by any risk assessment.

6. Definitions

The following terms are used in this document:

6.1.1 Violence

The CCG defines acts of violence as:

“Any incident where staff are abused, threatened or assaulted in circumstances related to their work involving an explicit or implicit challenge to their safety, wellbeing or health”.

This is a very broad definition of ‘violence’ however it is important to acknowledge that violence can be either physical or non-physical and the two must be distinguished and recorded as different from one another.

The Counter Fraud and Security Management Service define physical assault “the intentional or unintentional application of force to the person of another, without
lawful justification, resulting in physical injury or personal discomfort,” and non-
physical assault as “the use of inappropriate words or behaviour causing distress
and/or constituting harassment.”

6.1.2 Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment is a process of identifying what hazards exist in the workplace
and how likely it is that they will cause harm to employees and others. It is the first
step in deciding what prevention or control measures need to be taken to protect
staff from harm.

7. Management of Violence, Aggression and Abuse

7.1 Action to Be Taken When Physical Assault Has Taken Place on a Member of
Staff: (Counter Fraud and Security Management Service Guidance)

7.1.2 Police to be contacted immediately by the person assaulted, their line-manager or a
relevant colleague.

7.1.3 The nominated Director for the CCG is to be contacted as soon as practicable by
the person assaulted, their line manager or a colleague, and inform the CCG’s
Governance and Risk Lead.

7.1.4 The nominated Director will:

i. contact, as soon as is reasonably practicable, the relevant Local Security
Management Specialist with specific information on the assault.

ii. arrange for full co-operation to be given to a police or the Local Security
Management Specialist and any subsequent action.

iii. ensure those details of the incident are recorded on the CCG’s risk
management recording system.

iv. arrange for an acknowledgement of the report to be sent to the injured party
and copied to the line manager to ensure that the necessary support
arrangements, such as counselling and or occupational health are offered.
The acknowledgement should state what action is being undertaken and the
injured party should be kept informed of the progress and outcome.

v. ensure that all possible preventive action is taken to minimise the risk of a
similar incident reoccurring.

vi. keep the line manager apprised of the on-going Local Security Management
Specialist’s situation.

7.1.5 The line manager will:

• contact the employee directly to offer support, e.g. ensure the employee is
aware of the counselling facilities available and the services of the Local
Security Management Specialist.

• offer support on an on-going basis as appropriate.
7.2 Counter Fraud and Security Management Service Action upon a physical incident occurring:

7.2.1 The CSU Governance Manager (H&S) in conjunction with the third party provider for Local Security Management Specialist will:

i. determine if the police are going to lead the investigation.

ii. if the police are handling the case, ensure that the case is regularly monitored as to progress, make sure the person assaulted and the CCG is kept updated, and ensure both are informed of any outcomes.

iii. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) should undertake any criminal prosecution if the police are handling the case.

iv. if the police are not handling the case, carry out initial investigations in conjunction with the Counter Fraud and Security Management Service’s Legal Protection Unit.

v. progress the investigation with all speed, including recording all details relating to the investigation on a locally held file (using the standards in the CFSMS OS Manual of Guidance).

vi. update the person affected by the physical assault and the nominated Director on a regular basis, as to progress and outcomes.

7.2.2 If the police are not handling the case or the Crown Prosecution Service are unwilling to undertake a criminal prosecution, then the Counter Fraud and Security Management Service’s Legal Protection Unit will, if appropriate, consider a private prosecution.

7.2.3 The NHS Protect Legal Protection Unit, if appropriate, will advise on the viability of civil proceedings consultation with the CCG and the person(s) subjected to assault.

The procedure(s) for implementing this policy document are as follows:

- Managers must develop local procedures for the management of violence, aggression and abuse and review accordingly.

- Managers to follow advice and guidance provided in Appendix A-F.

7.3 Action Following Acts of Violence

7.3.1 Members of staff carrying out the act of violence-

7.3.2 Where a member of staff is alleged to have carried out an act of violence, abuse or aggression this will be considered under the CCG’s Disciplinary or Dignity at Work policies and procedures.

7.3.3 Where the patient, member of the public or relative initiates the complaint then the CCG’s Complaints Procedure may also be invoked.
7.3.5 Patients, relatives or members of the public who carry out the act of violence-

7.3.6 Where a patient, relative or member of the public is alleged to have carried out an act of violence, abuse or aggression then the CCG reserves the right to respond to the alleged incident, as deemed necessary in light of the circumstances. The level of response will be dependent upon the seriousness of the incident. The potential responses or actions available to the CCG include:

- verbal warnings
- written warnings from the Chief Officer
- warning flag applied to patient notes
- police presence at consultations
- withdrawal of medical services
- criminal prosecution
- civil prosecution
8. **Duties and Responsibilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council of Practices</th>
<th>The Council of Practices has delegated responsibility to the governing body (GB) for setting the strategic context in which organisational process documents are developed, and for establishing a scheme of governance for the formal review and approval of such documents.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chief Officer</td>
<td>The Chief Officer has overall responsibility for the strategic direction and operational management, including ensuring that CCG process documents comply with all legal, statutory and good practice guidance requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominated Director</td>
<td>The nominated Director responsible for health and safety, will ensure that appropriate strategies and systems are in place to manage the CCG’s health and safety risks. The Nominated Director responsible for Health &amp; Safety will act as the lead person on security management work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Nominated Director responsible for Health &amp; Safety will, following physical assaults:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• As soon as is reasonably practicable the CFO will make contact with the Governance Manager Health and Safety who will liaise directly with the Local Security Management Specialist with specific information on the assault.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ensure that the actions described in Appendix A &amp; B are carried out.</td>
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<td>• Ensure any necessary documentation in relation to behavioural letters etc are carried out; these are available from the Governance Manager H&amp;S within the CSU.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Managers</td>
<td>All managers are responsible for:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Implementing this policy and developing local procedures for the management of violence, aggression and abuse and reviewing them accordingly</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ensuring that staff receive the necessary training, including conflict resolution training, relevant to the level of identified risk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Managing any incidents or staff concerns that are reported to them</td>
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<td>• Ensuring that violence and aggression hazards are adequately identified and relevant control measures put in place</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ensuring employees are involved or aware of risk assessments</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Maintaining an awareness of advice and the support available to reduce the risk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ensuring that employees are aware of available means of advice and support</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Taking all reasonable steps to reduce the risk of both physical and non-physical assault</td>
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<td>• Ensuring appropriate contact is maintained with the</td>
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employee following an incident
- Ensuring that the employee is aware of counselling services available, and refer the employee where appropriate
- Giving serious consideration to the concerns of employees
- Ensuring that all incidents of physical and non-physical assault are reported in line with the Counter Fraud and Security Management Service guidance, including notifying the Nominated Director. See Appendix 1.
- Ensuring that potential violent/aggressive patients are highlighted to staff, other Team Managers and where appropriate, other partner agencies

| All Staff | All staff, including temporary and agency staff, are responsible for:
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compliance with relevant process documents. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action being taken</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Co-operating with the development and implementation of policies and procedures and as part of their normal duties and responsibilities</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identifying the need for a change in policy or procedure as a result of becoming aware of changes in practice, changes to statutory requirements, revised professional or clinical standards and local/national directives, and advising their line manager accordingly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identifying training needs in respect of policies and procedures and bringing them to the attention of their line manager</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Attending training / awareness sessions when provided</td>
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9. **Implementation**

9.1 This policy will be available to all Staff.

9.2 All managers are responsible for ensuring that relevant staff within the CCG have read and understood this document and are competent to carry out their duties in accordance with the procedures described.

10. **Training Implications**

10.1 The training required to comply with this policy are:

   All Managers must ensure that all staff attend necessary events e.g.

   - Conflict Resolution Training every three years.
11. **Documentation**

11.1 **Other related policy documents**

- Complaints Policy
- Incident Reporting and Management Policy
- Serious Incidents (SIs) Management Policy
- SOP Lone Worker
- Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Grievance Policy

11.2 **Legislation and statutory requirements**


12. **Monitoring, Review and Archiving**

12.1 **Monitoring**

12.1.1 The governing body will agree a method for monitoring the dissemination and implementation of this policy. Monitoring information will be recorded in the policy database.

12.2 **Review**

12.2.1 The governing body will ensure that this policy document is reviewed in accordance with the timescale specified at the time of approval. No policy or procedure will remain operational for a period exceeding three years without a review taking place.

12.2.2 Staff who become aware of any change which may affect a policy should advise their line manager as soon as possible. The governing body will then consider the need to review the policy or procedure outside of the agreed timescale for revision.

12.2.3 For ease of reference for reviewers or approval bodies, changes should be noted in the ‘document history’ table on the front page of this document.
12.2.4 NB: If the review consists of a change to an appendix or procedure document, approval may be given by the sponsor director and a revised document may be issued. Review to the main body of the policy must always follow the original approval process.

12.3 Archiving

12.3.1 The governing body will ensure that archived copies of superseded policy documents are retained in accordance with Records Management: NHS Code of Practice 2009.

13. Equality Analysis

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<th>Title of Policy:</th>
<th>CCG CO20 Violence, Aggression and Abuse Management Policy</th>
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<td>Short description of Policy (e.g. aims and objectives):</td>
<td>The aim of this policy document is to reduce the risks, so far as it is reasonably practicable, for staff. This policy applies to all employees of the CCG and in particular deals with the issue of violence, aggression and abuse against a member of its staff by a member of the public (i.e. patient, member of the patient's family, member of the public etc.). If a member of staff feels that they are experiencing any violence, aggression or abuse by another member of staff, they should refer to the CCG’s Dignity at Work Policy. All employees have a common law duty of care to co-operate with their employer to comply with the CCG’s policy and follow its service, departmental and local procedures governing violence, aggression and abuse and abide by any risk assessment.</td>
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Directorate Lead: 

Is this a new or existing policy? New

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<th>Does this policy have a positive, neutral or negative impact on any of the equality groups? Please state which for each group.</th>
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<td>Marriage And Civil</td>
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<td>Positive</td>
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<td>Race</td>
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<td>Religion Or Belief</td>
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<td>Sex</td>
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<td>Sexual Orientation</td>
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<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Date completed</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lee Crowe</td>
<td>Governance Manager (H&amp;S)</td>
<td>North Of England Commissioning Support</td>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; November 2014</td>
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<tr>
<th>Directors Name</th>
<th>Directors Signature</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
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APPENDIX 1

Action to be taken when physical assault has taken place on a member of staff

NHS Protect Guidance

1 Police to be contacted immediately by the person assaulted, manager or relevant colleague.

2 The nominated Director for the CCG is to be contacted as soon as practicable by the person assaulted, their line manager or a colleague, and inform the CCG’s Risk Lead.

3 The nominated Director will:
   - contact, as soon as is reasonably practicable the relevant Local Security Management Specialist with specific information on the assault.
   - arrange for full co-operation to be given to a police or the Local Security Management Specialist and any subsequent action.
   - ensure those details of the incident are recorded on the CCG’s risk management recording system.
   - arrange for an acknowledgement of the report to be sent to the injured party and copied to the line manager to ensure that the necessary support arrangements, such as counselling and or occupational health are offered. The acknowledgement should state what action is being undertaken and the injured party should be kept informed of the progress and outcome.
   - ensure that all possible preventive action is taken to minimise the risk of a similar incident reoccurring.
   - keep the line manager apprised of the on-going Local Security Management Specialist’s situation.

4 The line manager will:
   - contact the employee directly to offer support, e.g. ensure the employee is aware of the counselling facilities available and the services of the Local Security Management Specialist.
   - offer support on an on-going basis as appropriate.

Security Management Service Action upon a physical incident occurring provided by CSU:

The Local Security Management Specialist will:
   - determine if the police are going to lead the investigation.
• if the police are handling the case, ensure that the case is regularly monitored as to progress, make sure the person assaulted and the CCG is kept updated, and ensure both are informed of any outcomes.

• The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) should undertake any criminal prosecution if the police are handling the case.

• if the police are not handling the case, carry out initial investigations in conjunction with the Counter Fraud and Security Management Service’s Legal Protection Unit.

• progress the investigation with all speed, including recording all details relating to the investigation on a locally held file (using the standards in the CFSMS OS Manual of Guidance).

• update the person affected by the physical assault and the nominated Director/Director of Security Management of the CCG on a regular basis, as to progress and outcomes.

If the police are not handling the case or the Crown Prosecution Service are unwilling to undertake a criminal prosecution, then the Counter Fraud and Security Management Service’s Legal Protection Unit will, if appropriate, consider a private prosecution.

NHS Legal Protection Unit, if appropriate, will consider civil proceedings consultation with the CCG and the person(s) subjected to the assault.
APPENDIX 2

ACTION TO BE TAKEN WHEN A NON-PHYSICAL ASSAULT HAS TAKEN PLACE

- where appropriate the police should be contacted, as soon as is practicable, by the person subject to the non-physical assault, their manager or relevant colleague.

- the seriousness of the incident should be taken into account in deciding whether the police should be involved, but where the incident is believed to fall into a racially or religious aggravated matter, then the incident should always be reported to the police.

- the police should be given information about the assailant’s clinical condition (if known), if this could be seen as a contributory factor leading to the non-physical assault taking place, however, the presence of a clinical condition should not necessarily preclude appropriate action being taken. This should be a matter for the police and/or the CCG.

- the nominated Director for the CCG must be contacted, as soon as practicable, by the person suffering the abuse, their manager or relevant colleague.

The nominated Director the CCG will:

- liaise, co-operate with and monitor cases of non-physical assault that have been referred to and are being handled by the police.

- where the matter has been reported to the police and the police have decided not to pursue the matter, consider whether the CCG should consider/initiate private prosecution and/or civil proceedings via the NHS Protection Unit or the CCG’s Legal Service, where appropriate.

- ensure that details of the incident are recorded on the CCG’s appropriate incident reporting system to comply with Health and Safety legislation.

- ensure that and acknowledgement of the report is sent to the injured party and ensure that any necessary support arrangements, such as counselling or occupational health are offered. The acknowledgement should state that the matter will be dealt with, that appropriate action will be taken and that the particular member of staff will be appraised of progress and outcome.

- ensure the person subject to the non-physical assault is informed of the outcome of any action taken.
APPENDIX 3

ADVICE/GUIDANCE FOR MANAGERS

This guide will not provide an answer to every situation, and your own experience will be a crucial factor along with following the Policy in deciding appropriate action. It will, however, hopefully increase awareness of the problem and provide practical advice.

Why Must I Take Action?

Legislation
- The Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974 requires employers to take reasonable steps to ensure the health, safety and welfare of their employees while at work
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 specifically requires the assessment of risks to employees

Efficiency

The effects of violence can have serious operational costs and include:
- Sickness absence
- Impaired performance
- De-motivation of other employees
- Negative effect on other customers/clients

Responsibility
- As a manager, you are the employer’s representative and thereby charged with the execution of the employer’s responsibilities within your area of control.

What Action Should I Take?

In considering what action to take never accept violence as “part of the job”.

Assess the Risk
- Ensure a risk assessment has been carried out (include in General Risk Assessment)
- Consider the individual employee:
  - Perpetrators been reported to appropriate authorities i.e. police
  - Customer handling skills
  - Previous training/experience
  - Relationships with customers/clients
  - Previous incidents
- Monitor and analyse reported incidents

Reduce the Risk

In reducing the risk several factors need to be considered.
Employees

- Ensure that employees have been on the conflict management training and have access to a copy of this policy and the employee guidance at Appendix D.
- Consider training needs in the light of the level of risk faced.
- Be willing always to offer support and advice and sources of advice (Health and Safety Team, Local Security Management Specialist, Police) and ensure that you communicate this to employees.
- Never dismiss or ignore signs of apprehension.
- Ensure that employees are aware that they are advised to leave dangerous situations even when their task is not completed.
- Encourage staff to adopt a “Customer First” approach, but never put themselves at risk.
- Assist employees in developing action plans (not necessarily a written document but an understanding of what to do in particular situations).
- Ensure that employees are aware of their responsibilities in supporting colleagues.
- Watch out for signs of bullying/intimidation.

Working Methods

- Arrange appointment times to minimize risk:
  – morning meetings where alcohol abuse is a potential problem
  – avoid overlong delays by providing sufficient interval between appointments
- Minimize staff isolation in dangerous situations:
  – limit visits to those, which are unavoidable
  – arrange for employees to work in pairs in potentially dangerous situations
- Ensure staff use the lone worker system in operation at the CCG and abide by any risk assessments and local procedures.

Location

- Arrange interview areas to provide an easy escape route and ready support/back-up
- Eliminate potential weapons wherever possible (any loose/moveable object is a potential weapon)
- Ensure that any reception/waiting areas are designed to minimize frustration e.g.:
  – comfortable seating
  – soothing colours
  – magazines etc.
  – children’s amusements (quiet toys)
  – signs to explain/apologize for delays
- Ensure adequate lighting in and around buildings
- Restrict public access to necessary areas
- Provide door answering safeguards (e.g. viewers, chains, C.C.T.V.) where appropriate
- Utilise sources of advice e on environmental issues e.g. Local Security Management Specialist
- Consider alternative locations for the provision of care where necessary
What Should I Do If An Incident Occurs?

Immediately
- Ensure appropriate medical attention is given if required.
- In all cases the victim should be treated with sensitivity and offered support by managers and colleagues. Where particular anguish/trauma has been suffered, they should be advised of the availability of counselling from their General Practitioner or Occupational Health.
- Ensure that the victim is not blamed for contributing to the incident (self-blame is particularly common amongst victims of violence). Where you consider that the victim’s actions may have contributed, this should be dealt with as a training and development issue and not through criticism.
- Call for professional medical help, if necessary.
- Follow the procedure laid down on the policy and where necessary contact the police if an assault has taken place.

Follow Up
- At the earliest opportunity, ensure that a violence at work report form is completed (keep a copy or other record of the incident to assist in the identification of high risk situations).
- Ensure and check that the incident is investigated appropriately.
- In more serious cases, discuss with the individual whether he/she feels able to return to particular work situations and consider what, if any, support, advice or training might be beneficial.
- In cases of harassment at work (sexual, racial or other), Advisors are available to provide counselling for the victim. Refer to the Dignity at Work Policy for further information.

When an employee suffers actual physical injury, he/she might be entitled to compensation through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. The employee can apply for such compensation by writing to the C.I.C.B. at:

Blytheswood House
200, West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 4SW
APPENDIX 4

ADVICE/GUIDANCE FOR EMPLOYEES

Although this information cannot provide a precise answer to every situation, it should help to create a greater awareness of the problem as well as offering some practical advice.

Before the encounter

Assess the risk
Look for factors which might indicate a high level of risk and require specific action. Some “high risk” indicators are listed below:

The Client (the potential assailant)
- background unknown/authenticity unsure
- history of violence (the most important factor)
- history of alcohol/drug abuse
- previous threats (always take these seriously)
- perceived victimisation (feelings of having been let down during previous dealings)
- unrealistic expectations (likely to be severely disappointed by what you have to say)
- change/uncertainty
- high level of stress (e.g. the loss of a close family member, home, job etc.)

You (the potential victim)
- close ongoing relationship with the customer/client
- seen as the source of his/her frustration
- apprehension (this can increase the level of tension. Understanding the risk and taking steps to protect yourself can greatly reduce it)
- visits away from the work base
- male/female (both are vulnerable – women can be seen as easier targets - men more legitimate ones)
- Do not ignore your own signs of apprehension (instinct, intuition)

Absence of these signs does NOT guarantee your safety

Take Action
Take basic precautions and where the level of risk appears to be high, take specific preventative measures as identified in the risk assessment and use the lone worker system.

Basic precautions
- be sure that the customer/client is genuine before agreeing a visit
- when carrying out visits always leave a record of:
  - Where you’re going - details – address etc
  - Who you’re going to see
  - Why you’re going (purpose of the visit)
  - When you expect to return
• If you don’t intend to return to base, arrange to contact someone and use and update regularly the lone worker system.
• consider your escape route
• consider the level of risk and decide whether specific action is necessary

Specific preventative measures
• discuss concerns with your manager
• request support/backup where necessary
• maintain contact on visits (by the lone worker system and phone)
• if risks are unacceptable, see the customer/client at work where support is more easily provided
• if meetings are likely to carry unacceptable risks, restrict/ control contact
• arrange morning meetings where there is a history of alcohol abuse.
• if a meeting takes place at work, ensure no loose objects can be used as weapons
• arrange seating to allow escape in cases of emergency

During the encounter

Assess the risk
Look for signs of high risk and watch out for danger signals.

High Risk Indicators
• any unexpected person
• effect of alcohol/drugs
• potential weapons (loose movable objects are potential weapons)
• frustration caused by circumstances immediately before the encounter e.g.
  - long delays
  - noisy/crowded waiting areas
  - re-direction from one place to another
• isolation - no colleagues nearby

Danger Signals (in the potential assailant)
These signals can be equally relevant whether given in a quiet, calm tone or shouted in an angry manner –

Appearance:
• tearful
• sweating
• restless
• staring - eyeball to eyeball confrontation
• pale skin
• obvious facial muscle tension

Posture:
• bodily nearness
• towering/threatening stance
• clenched hands
• folded arms

Speech:
• changed in tone, volume or pitch
• use of insults, threats or sarcasm, in particular, use of de-personalising language
  (sexist/racist abuse and foul language)
Repetition of the same word or phrase

**Victim Support & Counselling**

Support should be offered by your direct line manager. This can include signposting to counselling services and/or practical support such as help in seeking medical attention, contacting family or friends, providing an opportunity to discuss the incident and offering support during the investigation.

In cases where you have suffered particular anguish or trauma, your line manager may advise you to seek counselling from your General Practitioner, the Occupational Health service or an external counselling service.
Appendix 5

REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING INCIDENTS

All incidents, covered by the definition of violence, whether physical or non-physical, must be recorded the CCG’s electronic reporting mechanism.

They must also be reported to the Police, where appropriate.

The legal requirement for reporting incidents falls under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR).

**Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995.**

There is a legal requirement under RIDDOR 1995 to report certain specified work-related incidents, either to the enforcing authority for the workplace or to a central HSE reporting centre.

The Social Security Regulations require that all incidents at work are recorded, regardless of their severity.

**Accident/Incident Reporting**

RIDDOR requires the specified responsible person, usually employers, to report certain defined work-related accidents or incidents to the enforcing authority. In summary, the accidents or incidents that are required to be reported include:

- all fatalities
- accidents resulting in any of the specified "major injuries"
- certain defined work-related diseases
- accidents resulting in employees being off work for more than three days
- certain dangerous occurrences such as building collapses, gas explosions, etc.

The accidents have to be reported by the quickest means, ie telephone, fax or e-mail and followed up on the approved reporting form (F2508) within 10 days.

**How to make a report:**

Reports can be made in a variety of ways:

- by telephone to 0845 300 9923 Monday — Friday 8.30am-5.00pm
- by fax to 0845 300 9924
- by e-mail to riddor@natbrit.com
- by internet at www.riddor.gov.uk
- by post to:

  Incident Contact Centre
  Caerphilly Business Park
  Caerphilly, CF83 3GG.
**Reporting Death or Major Injury**

In the event of an accident arising out of a work activity which results in:
- the death or major injury to an employee or self-employed person on work premises;
- the death of a member of the public; or
- a member of the public being taken to hospital

then a report must be made to the appropriate enforcing authority by the quickest practicable means, usually by telephone or e-mail to the ICC.

Where the nature and severity of an injury is not immediately apparent, the report required shall be submitted as soon as the nature of the condition is confirmed.

Deaths to be reported include those where an employee dies within one year as a result of an accident at work, whether or not this was reported at the time of the original accident.

Major injuries are defined by reference to schedule 1 of the regulations to include:
- fractures other than fingers, thumbs and toes
- amputation (including surgical amputation following and accident)
- dislocation of shoulder, hip, knee or spine
- eye injury resulting in temporary or permanent loss of sight, by chemical or hot metal burn, or penetrating injury
- unconsciousness caused by electric shock, exposure to a hazardous substance, biological agent, or asphyxia
- any acute condition or illness resulting in loss of consciousness or requiring resuscitation or admission to hospital for more than 24 hours
- illness requiring medical treatment related to exposure to a hazardous substance.

**Reporting Lost Time Injuries (over 3 day absence)**

In the event of an accident arising out of a work activity which results in the incapacity of an employee (or self-employed person working on the premises) for more than three consecutive days, then a report must be made, by one of the methods described above, within ten days.

Three consecutive days does NOT include the day of the accident, but includes:
- any day on which the person was unable to fulfil his/her normal work duties
- week-ends and days not normally worked when the injured person was incapacitated.

This includes any act of non-consensual physical violence done to a person at work.

For full information on RIDDOR 1995 consult the guidance notes and regulations.

Web link: RIDDOR 95 Explained
Appendix 6

Flow Chart for Action In The Event Of An Incident Concerning Violence/Aggression

1. Incident happens or you witness incident
2. Does the incident require IMMEDIATE Police response? i.e. is there a risk to your safety or that of others?
   - Yes
     1. Call the Police 999. Where Police attend obtain: Officer(s) name and contact numbers and crime/incident number
     2. Appropriate support should be offered to the victim/ witnesses
   - No
     1. Inform On-Call Manager or Line Manager.
     2. Notify Risk Manager
     3. Inform Senior Governance Manager Health and Safety to review incident and discuss with LSMS
     4. LSMS notified and advice sought
     5. LSMS will link with the Police to track incident and assist in investigation if required
3. Record the incident on the CCG's electronic reporting mechanism and include all relevant facts and Police details
4. Senior Governance Manager Health and Safety to review incident and discuss with LSMS
5. Security Management Director (SMD) to be informed of accident
6. Decision made by CCG whether to issue a written warning. Refer to appendix for process to be followed
7. Investigation conducted – recommendations made – any remedial action completed and lessons learnt will be shared.
8. If written warning is issued, the CCG will record this on the relevant database.
9. Relevant staff i.e. Reception staff to be informed of the potential risk following receipt of the letter of the perpetrator contacting by telephone or presenting in person.
10. If perpetrator becomes hostile or threatening call police 999 and request immediate assistance.
11. Relevant staff to be informed of the potential risk following receipt of the letter of the perpetrator contacting by telephone or presenting in person.
12. If contact made – Perpetrator to be informed that they will only be seen by arranged appointment.
13. Appointment to be arranged with the relevant Director and Operational Manager, in a suitable room.