



Health and Safety Policy General Statement

Part 1

The North East Ambulance Service recognises that complying with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 is a legal requirement.

Our policy is to exceed the minimum requirements of the law where possible, and to do this we will provide sufficient resources to meet this commitment. North East Ambulance Service will also ensure that systems are in place, which will allow us to maintain, monitor and where necessary, improve safety performance.

North East Ambulance Service regard the promotion of effective Health and Safety measures as a mutual objective for management and staff at all levels. North East Ambulance Service considers this is a management responsibility of equal importance to any other business activity.

The Chief Executive of the North East Ambulance Service, the Board Members and Trust Managers give full backing to this policy, and will give their full support to any person implementing it. All Trust Management Team members are responsible for overall Health and Safety within their area, and in their absence, they must ensure adequate delegation of the day to day responsibilities.

It is North East Ambulance Service policy to ensure the Health, Safety and Welfare of all staff, patients, visitors and stakeholders. Hazards will be identified and continually assessed to control the risks through implementation of North East Ambulance Service Health and Safety Policies, Safe Systems of Work and the Provision of Adequate Information, Instruction, Training and Supervision.

Successful implementation of this policy requires the whole-hearted commitment of everyone in the North East Ambulance Service and the acceptance by each individual member of staff of their responsibility to:-

- Take reasonable care for the Health and Safety of themselves and of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions at work.
- Co-operate with North East Ambulance Service or other appropriate persons as far as necessary to enable North East Ambulance Service or those persons to comply with their legal duties.
- Neither intentionally nor recklessly interfere with, or misuse anything, provided in the interests of Health, Safety and Welfare.

A copy of this general statement will be displayed on the staff notice boards. Appropriate training will be arranged to ensure that all members of staff are aware of their responsibilities as outlined in part 2 (Organisation and Responsibilities) and part 3 (Health and Safety Manual) of this policy document.

This policy document is held by the Risk Management Department and the Trust Health and Safety Representatives for all to see on request.

The Health and Safety Policy Documents will be modified and revised from time to time and may be supplemented where appropriate by local codes of practice or guidance notes. This will be particularly applicable as a result of the Management of Health and Safety at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2006. Any such changes will be brought to the immediate attention of all relevant members of staff. This could be by written instructions, department meetings or individual consultation. These changes will be monitored to ensure effective implementation using department checklists and safety audits.

Date:- 31/01/10

Chief Executive

Chairman

Signed.....

Signed.....