

## Health & Safety Policy

### Statement of Commitment

The health, safety and security of everyone who may be affected by the Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's activities including staff, patients, visitors and carers is of paramount importance to us all.

The Chief Executive and Board are committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment providing and maintaining safe plant and equipment and ensuring safe manual handling practices as well as safe use of hazardous substances so far as is reasonably practicable.

The Trust will strive for continual improvement in all aspects of risk management and aim to prevent accidents and cases of work-related ill health whilst recognising its requirements to comply with all relevant health & safety legislation as a minimum requirement. In pursuing these aims, Trust employees must take all reasonable steps to ensure the highest standards of health, safety and welfare for staff, patients, visitors and any other persons that may be affected by the Trust's activities.

The Trust will provide adequate control of the health and safety risks arising from our work activities and will provide the necessary information, instruction, training and supervision for our staff in order to ensure they are competent to conduct their tasks. The Trust recognises that good risk management awareness and use of risk assessment practice at all levels is a critical success factor for our organisation

Policies will be reviewed regularly in line with changes in legislation, approved codes of practice or official guidance as recommended by recognised national bodies as advised by the Health and Safety Department.

The Trust encourages staff at all levels of the organisation to give consideration to and take a responsible approach to the assessment and management of all risks when planning and organising work activities or changes to the workplace. In order to promote active participation and consultation at all levels within the organisation, the Trust encourages staff to take on health and safety responsibilities particularly as accredited Safety Representatives.

Full co-operation on the part of staff is vital to the success of this Policy and in achieving the safety aims of the Trust. The Trust expects all staff to fully comply with all matters of health and safety and in return offers full commitment to the well-being of employees. Each employee shall recognise their personal responsibility for observing all Trust policies and procedures. Non-compliance could be subject to disciplinary rules and procedures.

Chairman, Bruce Laurie



Chief Executive, Nerissa Vaughan

