

Annual Report on Duty of Candour

Purpose

The overall purpose of the duty of candour is to ensure that organisations are open, honest and supportive when there is an unexpected or unintended incident resulting in harm or death as defined by the Act.

Overview of our Organisation

Pebbles Care Ltd, is the parent company of Radical Services Ltd, Partners in Care Ltd and BDT Ltd. We provide Residential Children's Care Homes across Scotland and Northern England. Currently there are 48 separate services, 21 of which are located in Scotland. Each home supports between 1 and 4 young people dependant on its size. Each home has a manager and a dedicated team of staff who support the young people into adulthood. The staff teams provide homely environments and consistent stable relationships for the young people.

All staff have a comprehensive induction and are offered regular learning and development opportunities.

Training

Pebbles Care Ltd have trained all senior Managers (Area Managers and above) in Duty of Candour requirements and offer reflective opportunities to learn from their own and others practice.

Incident Reporting

For the reporting period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024, there was one incident/accident which resulted in harm or death as defined in the Act.

Duty of Candour Procedure

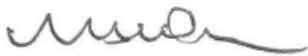
In relation to the incident referred to above an assessment was carried out to ensure compliance with the Duty of Candour Procedure. This included:

- Notifying relatives and partner agencies.
- An internal review was undertaken.
- An external review was undertaken in conjunction with our partners from other agencies.
- The reviews of both findings were shared.
- An opportunity was provided to relatives to ask any questions.
- Consideration was given for support and assistance to the staff involved.

What has changed as a result of the incident

Further to the review of the DoC event in the 2023/2024 reporting period the following changes have been implemented:

- Pebbles Care’s policy on the Transportation of Children and Young People has been reviewed to ensure that it is clear on guidance relating to the transportation of children and young people who are not directly under the care of Pebbles Care.
- We will ensure that other children and young people not directly in the care of Pebbles Care Ltd are not transported without the permission of the parent(s) or carer(s).
- There will be increased emphasis on the importance of advocating strongly for young people in our care to ensure their access to services provided by partner agencies, in order to meet their needs, are actively pursued and secured.



Mark Williams
Director of Operations, Pebbles Care Ltd.
31.03.2024