

Meet the Central Safeguarding Team

Philip Winterbottom – Head of Safeguarding and Protection



After starting as a Healthcare Assistant in acute admissions in 2003 then qualifying as a Mental Health Nurse in 2007 from the University of Surrey, Phil worked as a nurse and manager for many years in various mental health and social care settings including acute, eating disorders, addictions and managing supported living services including forensic step-down. In the last few years Phil has held safeguarding roles from service level, to regional, through to UK-wide.

Phil is the Chair of the Independent Health Providers Safeguarding Forum (IHPSF), Vice-Chair of the NHS England Safeguarding Adults National Network (SANN) and sits on the Steering Committee for the Royal College of Nursing Nurses in Management and Leadership Forum. Phil also teaches to MSc students as an Honorary Fellow of the university where he completed a MSc in Child Protection and Safeguarding Adults.

Phil works closely with colleagues across the country, commissioners and NHS England in various networks, including representing the independent sector in different national Clinical Reference Groups and Expert Reference Groups alongside NHSE, the DHSC, CQC and Royal Colleges.

Phil said: *"I'm honoured to be leading such a motivated and caring team, we are privileged to care for and support our service users and safeguarding is one of the golden threads of safety that should run through the whole organisation. Safeguarding, when it's done well, isn't just everyone's business, it's everyday business. We're here to help everyone make that happen."*

Meet the Central Safeguarding Team

Summer Drakes – Named Nurse for Safeguarding Adults, Children (including Looked after Children) and Transition



Summer trained as a Registered Mental Health Nurse, and during her student years experienced working within rehabilitation, medium and high secure services, upon qualifying Summer worked within the NHS for 2 years within acute and PICU services. Summer then spent 4 years working within the independent sector as a Clinical Lead and Deputy Ward Manager over the following service lines; Eating Disorder, Addictions, CAMHS (acute and HDU) and PICU. During this time, Summer also held the position of Hospital Safeguarding Lead for the 72 bedded site and supported other Leads regionally.

Summer then worked as a Community Psychiatric Nurse (CPN) in the community, before being employed in specialist safeguarding positions within mental health services for 4 years, where she spent time working within the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), Channel Panel for Prevent concerns and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

Describing why safeguarding is important to her, Summer says, *"I am and will continue to be in awe of how resilient the individuals we care for are, and the lengths they have gone to in order to protect their mind, body and loved ones from harm. My focus is on ensuring the voice of the individual, be that an adult or child, is ever present in everything we do"*

Meet the Central Safeguarding Team

Jenny Harkness- Named Professional for Safeguarding Adults and Children



Jenny began her career in social care as a support worker with Children with Learning Disabilities and went on to Qualify as a Social Worker 22 years ago. Jenny has a wide range of experience working with Adults and Children, both in the community and in Hospital settings. She has worked with various Local Authorities across the UK, from the New Forest up to York and she worked for a Charity supporting Adults who have Learning Disabilities.

Jenny has worked for Cygnnet for three years and said *"Throughout my career, Safeguarding has been my key area of interest. I feel privileged to hold my current position with an organisation that is transparent, committed to learning and determined to strive for the best outcomes for everyone we support"*

Meet the Central Safeguarding Team

Bernadette Robinson – Named Professional for Safeguarding Adults and MCA (Social Care)



Bernadette has over 20 years experience of working in Adult Social Care, having qualified as a Social Worker in 2002. After five years she became a Team Manager, managing teams of practitioners working with adults with a range of care and support needs.

She has recently spent two years in a Safeguarding Support Manager role within social housing, providing Safeguarding practice guidance and advice across the organization and developing training, policy and procedure. This included care homes and supported living services as well as general needs housing.

"I have worked in and around Safeguarding for many years, supporting practitioners to negotiate some very complex situations. This has been particularly the case where people are not able to make choices and decisions for themselves. I am passionate about supporting people to live safely, whilst being empowered to have as much choice and control over their lives as they possibly can".

Meet the Central Safeguarding Team

Laura Cleasby – Named Nurse for Safeguarding (Cygnnet Hospital Bury)



Laura is an extended member of the Central Safeguarding Team and has over 15 years' experience of working in healthcare settings working with adults and children across residential, community and acute settings. Laura has a BSc (hons) in Midwifery and MSc in Community Public Health Nursing. Her previous roles include Care Support Worker, Maternity Support Worker, Midwife, Health Visitor, Specialist Safeguarding Nurse and Named Nurse for Safeguarding. She has specialised in safeguarding for a number of years and has experience working with community and acute safeguarding matters; both operationally and strategically and experience of working within the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub). Laura has worked for the NHS since 2009 and has recently joined Cygnnet as the Named Nurse for Safeguarding at Cygnnet Hospital Bury.

Laura is passionate about safeguarding and is keen to share her knowledge, skills and experience to empower Cygnnet staff to support service users who may be unable to protect and safeguard themselves.

Meet the Central Safeguarding Team

Sue Spree – Central Safeguarding Team Administrator



Sue is the Central Safeguarding Team Administrator, she supports the team with a wide number of activities and is the first point of contact through the safeguarding inbox. Sue has worked for Buckinghamshire Council as an Executive Assistant for service directors at the Council. Sue has also worked for a number of blue chip companies within facilities management, providing her with a good understanding of dealing with peoples different priorities, effective communication & developing working relationships.

Ways you can contact the Safeguarding Team

Please contact the Central Safeguarding Team via the teams email:
Centralsafeguardingteam@cygnethealth.co.uk.

Visit the Cygnet Safeguarding Intranet page:
<https://www.cygnethealth.co.uk/about/safeguarding/>

Please note, the Central Safeguarding Team working hours align with our safeguarding partners across the sector and are:

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm.