EYES ON THE BABY

MULTI-AGENCY SUDI PREVENTION IN NORTHUMBERLAND





Northumberland Eyes on the Baby Project Information for Team Leaders

Welcome to the Eyes on the Baby (EotB)Training, Implementation & Evaluation Programme.

Current reporting shows that, in Northumberland, 5 babies per year lose their lives to sudden unexpected death in infancy (SUDI). This Multi-agency SUDI Prevention Project aims to eliminate the unexpected deaths of babies (under 1 year of age) in Northumberland. This project is funded by Northumberland County Council, Northumberland Family Hubs, and Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

Multi-agency working means that service providers will work together to ensure staff across Northumberland contribute towards SUDI prevention in vulnerable families within their own scope of practice. All staff in roles that bring them into contact with vulnerable families who may have infants will have the knowledge to identify SUDI risks and to direct service users to the correct support services, with any safeguarding concerns addressed though the appropriate channels. This project is designed to complement existing health service pathways; by having more staff with "eyes on the baby" there are more opportunities to support service users and their families.

Building on research recommendations, this programme involves training, implementation and, crucially, evaluation at specific time-points. As a team leader your role will primarily be focused on staff engagement throughout the whole process, communicating any concerns regarding the training programme and/or its implementation, and disseminating key information received from the Northumberland EotB training team based at the Durham Infancy & Sleep Centre (DISC).

It is imperative that staff undertaking the training contribute to the evaluation assessments and complete the whole programme, not just the online learning. At a direct level, evaluation will be used to improve our training platform and resources, however the experiential feedback from participants throughout the programme is vital. The evaluation will inform us of the impact of the project individually, at a local level and across the region. This is our opportunity to inform and shape the future of SUDI prevention practices.

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In turn we provide all the online training modules based on current up to date research, access to resources including referral pathways, reference cards, a dedicated eyes on the baby website, newsletters and the option of training groups with a facilitator.

It is important to note that at no point should staff discuss any specific service user details with staff at DISC nor should any safeguarding issues be raised with DISC staff – Any illustrative or difficult cases shared with DISC staff for their feedback or information should be anonymised.

Everyone who registers for this training will be agreeing to have their name, place of work and their work e-mail stored on a secure database at the DISC. This will be for the purpose of providing training links, evaluation surveys, sending newsletters, replying to any specific individual queries and so that they can be provided with a certificate upon completion of the course. The personal details outlined will be retained until the end of the study, March 2024, after which the information will be anonymised.

Thank you for your time and support in delivering this important project across your service area.

Contact information:

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This project is led by:

Professor Ball Director, Durham Infancy & Sleep Centre, Durham University.

Ms Carla Anderson Public Health Midwife, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

Mr Jon Lawler Public Health Consultant – Northumberland County Council.

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