Blackpool Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

National Guardian
Freedom To Speak Up

Raising and escalating concerns
Here at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals we are embedding (COAT) a Culture of Openness And Transparency and I will be working closely with our Freedom to Speak Up Champions to help and support colleagues who have any concerns about risks, malpractice or wrongdoing. These can be reported safely using the on-line form available on the intranet and app or speaking to me or any of our Freedom to Speak Up Champions listed on the intranet. If you are unsure, come and talk to us in confidence, remember you don’t need to have evidence to raise a concern.

I will be meeting regularly with the Board and I will keep in contact with colleagues throughout the investigation to offer help and support and I endeavour to respond to any concerns raised in a timely manner.

Your appointed Speak Up Guardian

My name is Terri Vaselli and I have been appointed The Trust’s Freedom to Speak Up Guardian here at Blackpool
Teaching Hospitals. I am here to support all colleagues by providing advice and support to anyone who may have a concern regarding malpractice, staff or patient safety, misconduct or any other matters causing a concern. All issues will be treated confidentially and I am happy to meet with colleagues across the Trust and Community. As my hours are flexible, it gives me the opportunity to meet with colleagues at a time and place to suit them.

Remember you don’t need evidence to raise a concern so please come and chat to me if you feel you need any help or advice.

Further information including a Raise a Concern’s Form, links to policies, videos, FTSU Champions, external contacts and the National Guardian’s Office can be found in the FTSUG Section on the intranet or app.
How to raise a concern

1. It’s always best to raise a concern at the time it is identified.

2. Where possible, raise the concern with your Supervisor or Manager.

3. If the above is not possible and you still have concerns, you could speak to any of the FTSU Champions detailed on the FTSU section on the intranet or the Freedom to Speak Up Guardian, Terri Vaselli by calling 01253 951185 or emailing terri.vaselli@bfwhospitals.nhs.uk or bfwh.ftsug@nhs.net

4. If you do not feel that the matter has been dealt with correctly, you can also contact Michael Hearty, Non-Executive Director, by emailing him at: michael.hearty@nhs.net

5. If you feel that your concern cannot be investigated within the Trust you can also phone the national Whistle-blowing Helpline on 0800 0724725 or contacting the Care Quality Commission; www.cqc.org.uk

You can also contact your Union Representative for advice and support.