SOUTHERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST

PROCEDURE FOR SENDING STAFF UNIFORMS TO LAUNDRY AND GUIDANCES FOR LAUNDERING OF UNIFORMS AT HOME
INTRODUCTION

It is best practice that staff uniforms are sent to the Area laundry situated at Craigavon Area Hospital to be laundered in accordance with HSG(95)18 guidelines (that is thermally disinfected at wash temperature of 65 degrees for 10 minutes or 71 degrees for 3 minutes) in hygienically controlled conditions.

PROCEDURE

SHSCT staff who wish to avail of the Area Laundry service should follow the outlined procedure for the collection of soiled uniforms and the distribution of clean uniforms as follows:-

• CRAIGAVON AREA HOSPITAL

Soiled uniforms are collected twice weekly Wednesday and Sunday by the Transport department from the Nurses changing room on lower ground floor of the main hospital and returned to Nurses changing room within 3 working days. Soiled Uniforms left at ward level for collection will take longer to return.

• DAISY HILL HOSPITAL

Soiled uniforms collected twice weekly by transport department and returned to linen room within 3 working days for distribution.

• LURGAN HOSPITAL

Soiled uniforms collected twice weekly by transport and returned to central delivery point within 3 working days for distribution.

• SOUTH TYRONE HOSPITAL

Soiled uniforms collected twice weekly by transport and returned to linen room for distribution on either Tuesday or Friday.

• ARMAGH GROUP OF HOSPITALS TO INCLUDE (St Luke’s, Mullinure, Longstone and Community Hospital)

Soiled uniforms collected twice weekly and returned to St Luke’s Laundry for distribution. Community Hospital will be delivered directly.

Staff must ensure soiled uniforms are put in a clear plastic bag securely tied and placed in designated receptacle for collection by transport. A laundry book with staff name, hospital and locker number where applicable must accompany uniforms to ensure correct return to sender.
GUIDANCE NOTE FOR THE WASHING OF UNIFORMS AT HOME

In the event that staff are not able to avail of the Area Laundry Service, it is the responsibility of staff to process their own uniforms separately from personal clothing at a wash temperature of a minimum of 60 degrees or above using Household Washing Powder that will ensure the removal of all protein material.

Uniforms should be tumble dried were possible separately pressed, fit for purpose and project a professional image.

To minimise infection risks, staff should ensure when taking home uniforms for laundering that they are secured in a plastic bag.

In the event that uniform are classed as “Infected” the normal procedure for infected linen applies, that is uniform must be placed in a water soluble bag inside a red plastic bag and sent to the Area Laundry for processing.