

Scottish Adoption and Fostering (SAF) Duty of Candour – Nil Report

All health and social care services in Scotland have an organisational duty of candour. This is a legal requirement which means that when certain types of incidents happen, the people affected understand what has happened, receive an apology, and the organisation learns how to improve for the future. An important part of this duty is that we provide an annual report about the organisational duty of candour in our services. This report describes how SAF has operated the organisational duty of candour during the time between 01 April [2025] and 31 March [2026]. If you have any questions or would like more information about SAF, please feel free to contact us at: [email info@scottishadoptionandfostering.org].

How many incidents happened to which the organisational duty of candour applies?

In the last year, there have been no incidents to which the organisational duty of candour applied.

Information About Our Policies and Procedures

Staff training on the organisational duty of candour was delivered by the CEO at the All Staff Meeting held on Thursday 18 June 2026. The training included how to recognise when the duty of candour applies and what action to take.

All staff must report any incident, near miss, safeguarding concern, or adverse event promptly to their own line manager or in their absence to the CEO. They must also complete the agency incident reporting process as laid out in the health and safety handbook.

Support is available to staff and to the affected party including external support as required.

What we have learned

Staff valued the opportunity to discuss their responsibilities in respect of the duty of candour. We have added duty of candour briefing to the induction pack for new staff. We know that serious mistakes can be distressing for staff as well as people who receive care and treatment and their families. We therefore have occupational welfare support in place for our staff if they have been affected by an organisational duty of candour incident. Where a relevant person (i.e., children, families) is affected by the incident that activated the organisational duty of candour, we provide them with options for accessing wellbeing support services.

We hope you find this report useful.

Sue Brunton

CEO, 7 July 2026