

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2020

PART I - DELEGATED

5. REVIEW OF SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS AT RISK POLICY (CED)

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report recommends changes to the Council's Safeguarding Children Young People and Adults at Risk Policy in order to bring it up to date and in line with the requirements of the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

2 Details

- 2.1 The Council last reviewed its Safeguarding Children Young People and Adults at Risk Policy in 2016. The Council has a duty under the Children Act and Care Act to work in partnership to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk.
- 2.2 Officers have reviewed the policy in line with guidance and requirements of the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board and a revised policy is attached in appendix A. Changes to the policy are highlighted in the appendix.
- 2.3 The key changes to the previous policy are:
- 2.3.1 To update references to legislation and statutory guidance to reflect the new 'Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2018' guidance, the Modern Slavery Act 2015, and Criminal Exploitation of Children and Vulnerable Adults: County Lines guidance.
- 2.3.2 Update references to the new Hertfordshire Children's Safeguarding Partnership, which has replaced the former Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board in line with new statutory guidance.
- 2.3.3 Updated references and definitions of Modern Slavery.
- 2.3.4 Updated details of our taxi licensing processes.
- 2.3.5 Introduced new definitions of County Lines and the Council's commitments to address criminal exploitation.

3 Options and Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 To ensure that the Council's Safeguarding Children Young People and Adults At Risk Policy remains up to date and in line with the requirements of Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

4 Policy/Budget Reference and Implications

- 4.1 The recommendations in this report are within the Council's budgets.
- 4.2 The recommendations in this report are not within the Council's agreed policy.

4.3 The purpose of this proposed policy is to update the existing Safeguarding Children Young People and Adults at Risk Policy.

4.4 The proposed policy will impact on the following objectives of the Strategic Plan 2019-22:

2.3.2 Support vulnerable people

4.5 The impact of the recommendations on this/these performance indicator(s) is:

To support the achievement of the objective in collaboration with the Children Safeguarding Partnership and Adults Safeguarding Board.

5 Financial, Equal Opportunities, Staffing, Environmental, Community Safety, Public Health, Customer Services Centre, and Communications & Website Implications

5.1 None specific.

6 Legal Implications

6.1 Under the Children Act 2004 and the Care Act 2014 the Council has a duty to safeguarding children and adults at risk.

7 Risk and Health & Safety Implications

7.1 The Council has agreed its risk management strategy which can be found on the website at <http://www.threerivers.gov.uk>. In addition, the risks of the proposals in the report have also been assessed against the Council's duties under Health and Safety legislation relating to employees, visitors and persons affected by our operations. The risk management implications of this report are detailed below.

7.2 The subject of this report is covered by the Community Partnerships service plan. Any risks resulting from this report will be included in the risk register and, if necessary, managed within this plan.

Nature of Risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response <i>(tolerate, treat, terminate, transfer)</i>	Risk Rating <i>(combination of likelihood and impact)</i>
The Council's Safeguarding Policy is not up to date.	The Council is not able to demonstrate its compliance with the requirements of the Children Safeguarding Partners and Adult Safeguarding Board and this is brought to public attention	Policy to be reviewed every 3 years. Procedures and guidance on safeguarding to be reviewed on an annual basis.	Treat	2

	through its audit inspection.			
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7.3 The above risks are scored using the matrix below. The Council has determined its aversion to risk and is prepared to tolerate risks where the combination of impact and likelihood scores 6 or less.

Likelihood Very Likely ----- Remote	Low 4	High 8	Very High 12	Very High 16
	Low 3	Medium 6	High 9	Very High 12
	Low 2	Low 4	Medium 6	High 8
	Low 1	Low 2	Low 3	Low 4
	Impact Low -----> Unacceptable			

Impact Score

4 (Catastrophic)

3 (Critical)

2 (Significant)

1 (Marginal)

Likelihood Score

4 (Very Likely (≥80%))

3 (Likely (21-79%))

2 (Unlikely (6-20%))

1 (Remote (≤5%))

7.4 In the officers' opinion none of the new risks above, were they to come about, would seriously prejudice the achievement of the Strategic Plan and are therefore operational risks. The effectiveness of the management of operational risks is reviewed by the Audit Committee annually.

8 Recommendation

8.1 That Policy and Resources Committee agree the revised Safeguarding Children Young People and Adults at Risk Policy

8.2 That officers review this policy by 2023.

Report prepared by: Andy Stovold, Head of Community Partnerships

Data Quality

Data sources: No data provided.

APPENDICES / ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 – Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults at Risk Policy