

	<b>REPORT TO CABINET TO BE HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2019</b>	
	<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>No</b>
	<b>Forward Plan Ref No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Corporate Priority All</b>	<b>Cabinet Portfolio Holder</b>	<b>Cllr. Tony Randerson</b>

**REPORT OF: DIRECTOR (LD) – 19/201**

**WARDS AFFECTED: ALL**

**SUBJECT: NEW ADULT, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE  
SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

**RECOMMENDATION (S):**

It is recommended that:

- a) the Council adopts the Adult, Children and Young People Safeguarding Policy (October 2019) as part of the Council's Policy Framework.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):**

It is a requirement under section 11 of the Children's Act 2004 for District Councils to make arrangements to ensure their functions safeguard and promote the welfare of children. District Councils also have a responsibility to work with partners to ensure that adults at risk receive protection and support. The Council also operates within the context of Joint Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures for North Yorkshire.

**HIGHLIGHTED RISKS:**

Failure to put in place appropriate arrangements for safeguarding children, young people and adults would be a breach of the Council's statutory requirements and would potentially put vulnerable children and adults at risk.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The new Safeguarding Policy is attached as Appendix One. The policy sets out the requirements of District Councils in meeting their statutory safeguarding responsibilities and provides guidance for staff and elected members about their duties and procedures for implementation.

## **2. CORPORATE AIMS/PRIORITIES AND THE COMMUNITY PLAN**

- 2.1 The Plan supports the People theme of the Corporate Plan.

## **3. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES**

- 3.1 The existing safeguarding Policy and procedures have been reviewed and updated and this new policy reflects the latest legislation, guidance and is in line with the Joint Multi-Agency Adults Policy and Procedures (North Yorkshire) which were implemented on 1 October 2019.
- 3.2 The Policy sets out the duties and requirements of the Council in respect of safeguarding. It identifies the key indicators of abuse and sets out clearly what staff and elected members should do in the event they suspect abuse may be occurring or the welfare of a child is at risk.
- 3.3 The Policy also deals with safeguarding of adults at risk and again sets out clearly action to be taken by staff if they have concerns about an adult.

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The Council participates in partnership arrangements in relation to children and young people and vulnerable adults.
- 4.2 This policy reflects procedures and referral processes that have been agreed with partners, specifically North Yorkshire County Council. The Policy takes account of relevant legislation, guidance and good practice.

## **5. ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 Safeguarding is an important area of work for the Council and District Councils have responsibilities to make appropriate arrangements to ensure its functions safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to ensure vulnerable adults at risk of abuse receive protection and support.
- 5.2 This Policy provides practical guidance for staff in identifying and dealing with suspected safeguarding issues. It also sets out clearly the responsibilities of both the Council, and individual staff and elected members in relation to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.
- 5.3 The Policy has been updated to provide additional and significantly updated information on:-

- making a referral
- issues around consent and “making safeguarding personal”
- exploitation and “county lines”
- mental capacity assessments for adults
- modern slavery
- domestic abuse

5.4 The policy and procedures are fully compliant with the new North Yorkshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures which have been implemented from 1 October 2019.

5.5 Three briefing sessions were held during September 2019 for Service Managers and key managers on the key changes relating to adults.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

### **6.1 Policy**

This plan has regard to national policy guidelines and recommendations of good practice. The Policy will assist the Council in meeting its statutory requirements and its partnership responsibilities in terms of the North Yorkshire Multi-Agency Policy and Procedures.

### **6.2 Legal**

The Policy takes account of the legal duties placed on District Council’s as set out in the Children’s Act 2004 and the Care Act 2014.

### **6.3 Financial**

There are no direct financial issues arising from consideration of this report. Individual actions, for example costs associated with undertaking DBS Checks do have financial implications for the Borough Council, however, it is anticipated that these can be accommodated within existing budget provision.

### **6.4 Equalities and Diversity**

The Policy is in place to protect children and adults. The Policy recognises that children and adults who are perceived as “different” for example due to disability, ethnic background or sexual orientation can be more vulnerable to abuse.

### **6.5 Staffing Implications**

This Policy has been prepared by the Council’s Designated Safeguarding Officer, who also provides training, advice and assistance in relation to safeguarding issues. However, it is essential that staff and elected members across the organisation are aware of their responsibilities and action to take if they have a concern. Service Managers have a key role to play in ensuring staff are aware of the policy and procedures, identifying training that may be required and in supporting staff who identify safeguarding concerns.

### **6.6 Planning Implications**

There are no planning implications arising from this report.

## **6.7 Crime and Disorder Implications**

Abuse of children and adults is a crime and the Policy sets out processes to minimise harm as a result of abuse.

## **6.8 Health and Safety Implications**

No identified implication.

## **6.9 Environmental Implications**

No identified implication.

## **7. ACTION PLAN**

7.1 Briefing sessions on the revised policy and procedures in relation to adults (in line with the new multi-agency procedures) have been held during September for Service Managers and Managers.

7.2 Training sessions on the new safeguarding procedures will be delivered throughout the year by the Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager commencing in October 2019. This is part of an ongoing programme of safeguarding training provided to staff, delivered by the Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager and external trainers. Training sessions delivered in the last year have already highlighted the key aspects of the multi-agency procedures including the principle of the person centred approach and consent. A safeguarding training plan has been developed, alongside the policy and procedures and this is attached as Appendix Two.

7.3 Compliance measures are already in place and will continue. This includes regular auditing of safeguarding policy and practice within the Council and the completion of annual safeguarding self assessments. An internal audit of safeguarding training is currently taking place (September 2019) and recommendations from this will be implemented as appropriate.



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### **Background Papers:**

None

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS REPORT OR WISH TO INSPECT ANY OF THE BACKGROUND PAPERS, PLEASE CONTACT Jo Ireland ON 01723 384315, e-mail [jo.ireland@scarborough.gov.uk](mailto:jo.ireland@scarborough.gov.uk)

## Risk Matrix

<b>Risk Ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Risk</b>	<b>Consequences</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>	<b>Current Risk Score</b>	<b>Target Score</b>	<b>Service Unit Manager/ Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Action Plan</b>
1	Oct 2019	Failure to support the development and implementation of the Policy.	Failure to meet statutory duties. Vulnerable children and adults potentially at risk.	Adopt the Policy and ensure it is implemented across the organisation.			Jl	