

# COUNCIL CABINET 15 July 2015

ITEM 8

Report of the Cabinet Member for Integrated Health and Care

## Safeguarding Adults: New Policy and Procedures

#### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 On the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, the Care Act 2014 was implemented which for the first time put Safeguarding Adults onto a statutory footing.
- 1.2 The Council is identified as the Lead Agency for Safeguarding Adults and as such will be responsible for setting up local Safeguarding Adults Boards which in turn will be responsible for developing and implementing shared inter-agency policies and procedures
- 1.3 The Council should approve the inter-agency policies and procedures within their own organisation and ensure that all staff and members are aware of their responsibilities to comply with them, in order that Safeguarding Adults is a priority area of work for all.
- 1.4 The overall aim is to ensure that roles and responsibilities are exercised appropriately within respective services. This shall ensure the authority will maintain an organisational culture and ethos that prioritises the importance of safeguarding, promoting the safety of Adults with care and support needs.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To approve the new multi-agency Derby Safeguarding Board Policy and Procedures as Derby City Council Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures
- 2.2 To approve that all elected members and senior officers receive a copy of the new Policy and Procedures.
- 2.3 To approve that all elected members should continue to undertake mandatory awareness training on safeguarding adults, provided by senior officers from the Adults Health and Housing Directorate and Derby Safeguarding Adults Board

#### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 To ensure that the Council meets its statutory requirements as the lead agency for Safeguarding Adults, it needs to adopt the Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures and to then ensure that all staff and members are aware of their roles and responsibilities.



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Report of the Acting Director for Adults, Health and Housing

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The aims of adult safeguarding following the implementation of the Care Act are to:
  - stop abuse or neglect wherever possible
  - · prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to adults with care and
  - support needs;
  - safeguard adults in a way that supports them in making choices and having control about how they want to live;
  - promote an approach that concentrates on improving life for the adults concerned;
  - raise public awareness so that communities as a whole, alongside professionals, play their part in preventing, identifying and responding to abuse and neglect;
  - provide information and support in accessible ways to help people understand the
  - different types of abuse, how to stay safe and what to do to raise a concern about the
  - safety or well-being of an adult; and
  - address what has caused the abuse or neglect
- 4.2 The Council as the lead agency must co-operate with key partners who are identified as
  - NHS England
  - Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group
  - Derbyshire Police
  - National Probation Service
  - Local NHS Trusts and Foundation Trusts
- 4.3 The Council has the responsibility for making enquiries or tasking others to do so where concerns are expressed about an Adult with care and support needs who has or is likely to suffer abuse or neglect and who is unable to keep themself safe.

- 4.4 The objectives of an enquiry into abuse or neglect are to:
  - establish facts:
  - ascertain the adult's views and wishes;
  - assess the needs of the adult for protection, support and redress and how they might be met
  - protect from the abuse and neglect, in accordance with the wishes of the adult;
  - make decisions as to what follow-up action should be taken with regard to the person or organisation responsible for the abuse or neglect; and
  - enable the adult to achieve resolution and recovery.

In so doing we are now focusing on the safety of the Adult and enabling them to achieve their identified outcomes, rather than in the past where the emphasis was on services taking actions to protect on behalf of the Adult

- 4.5 Council members need to have a good understanding of the range of abuse and neglect issues that can affect adults and of the importance of balancing safeguarding with empowerment. Council members need to understand prevention, proportionate interventions, and the dangers of risk adverse practice and the importance of upholding human rights.
- 4.6 The Safeguarding Adults and Professional Standards Team and the Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Board run annual briefing events for all Council members to increase awareness and to provide information on Council members roles and responsibilities. These events normally take place in September or October.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None

#### This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Anita Barnett
Financial officer	Toni Nash
Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer	Liz Moore
Service Director(s)	Brian Frisby, Service Director, Prevention, Personalisation and Professional Standards
Other(s)	

For more information contact: Background papers:	Griff Jones 01332 642958 griff.jones@derby.gov.uk None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Derby Safeguarding Adults Board Policy and Procedures

### **IMPLICATIONS**

## **Financial and Value for Money**

1.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report; however it might lead to an increase in referrals and associated costs.

## Legal

2.1 The policy and procedures will ensure compliance with the Care Act 2014

#### Personnel

3.1 None

### IT

4.1 None

## **Equalities Impact**

5.1 Yes

## **Health and Safety**

6.1 None

## **Environmental Sustainability**

7.1 None

## **Property and Asset Management**

8.1 None

## **Risk Management**

9.1 None

## Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 To fulfil statutory duties relating to safeguarding adults in need of care and support following the implementation of the Care Act on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015