



## **COUNCIL CABINET**

### **16 January 2019**

# **ITEM 16**

Report sponsor: Andy Smith, Strategic Director  
of People Services  
Report author: Heather Greenan, Head of  
Performance and Intelligence

## **Corporate Safeguarding Policy**

### **Purpose**

- 1.1 Derby City Council is committed to safeguarding vulnerable children and young people and adults at risk. In 2015 Council Cabinet approved the Corporate Safeguarding Policy which sets out our commitments and roles in the delivery of our safeguarding responsibilities.
- 1.2 The Corporate Safeguarding Board, chaired by the Member Champion for Safeguarding, has recently updated the policy document to reflect structural changes and emphasise the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) responsibilities. The updated policy also introduces a safeguarding impact assessment to evaluate safeguarding implications. This report seeks Cabinet approval for these changes.
- 1.3 All councillors and colleagues are expected to understand their responsibilities for safeguarding and this policy represents one of the mandatory policies on the Council's e-learning suite.

### **Recommendation**

- 2.1 To approve the updated Corporate Safeguarding Policy, as set out in Appendix 1.

### **Reason**

- 3.1 Robust leadership is key to embedding safeguarding across the Council, from both officers and councillors. The latter also have a critical scrutiny role, and need to be robust in their challenge to officers to demonstrate children and vulnerable adults are safe in Derby. These key safeguarding roles and responsibilities are clearly defined in the report attached at Appendix 1.

### **Supporting information**

- 4.1 Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. All Council employees, elected members, partner organisations and contractors who come into contact with children and young people or adults in need of care or support, in the course of their work, have a duty of care to safeguard, prevent, and report neglect or abuse of children, young people and adults in need of care and support.

- 4.2 An internal Corporate Safeguarding Group was established in 2014, to develop and monitor implementation of the Council's Corporate Safeguarding Policy. The group consists of designated safeguarding lead officers drawn from key service areas and directorates across the Council. The group is chaired by the Member Safeguarding Champion, currently Cllr Williams.
- 4.3 The Corporate Safeguarding Policy has recently been updated to reflect the following changes:
- Structural changes to roles in People Services
  - Reinforcement of LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) responsibilities
  - Introduction of a safeguarding impact assessment template to identify safeguarding implications from potential changes, and help to mitigate their impact.
- 4.4 The updated policy is shown in Appendix 1. There is no statutory requirement to produce a Corporate Safeguarding Policy but it is good practice to do so. The equality impact assessment can be found in Appendix 2.

### **Public/stakeholder engagement**

- 5.1 The policy has been considered by the Corporate Safeguarding Board and by the trade unions through the Policy Working Group, with no issues arising.

### **Other options**

- 6.1 None considered.

### **Financial and value for money issues**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **Legal implications**

- 8.1 The corporate policy is not statutory by its nature but will support the Council to meet its statutory safeguarding responsibilities as defined through Section 11 of the Children's Act 2004 and Care Act 2014.

### **Other significant implications**

### **Equality Implications**

- 9.1 An Equality Impact Assessment of the Policy is attached to this report. Safeguarding touches all areas of life and many adults and children affected are protected by the Equality Act.
- 9.2 We will provide any disabled employees with alternative versions of this Policy on request as a reasonable adjustment.

This report has been approved by the following people:

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of sign-off</b>
<b>Legal</b>	Olu Idowu – Head of Legal Services	07/01/2019
<b>Finance</b>	Toni Nash – Head of Finance	21/12/2018
<b>Service Director(s)</b>		
<b>Report sponsor</b>	Andy Smith – Strategic Director	07/01/2019
<b>Other(s)</b>	Ann Webster – Lead on Equality and Diversity	21/12/2018