

Ward: ALL

Portfolio:

Report Author(s):
Nicola Fensham

Meeting Date: 23rd May 2016

SUBJECT: Safeguarding Policy

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| | Seen by: | Name | Date |
| Report Sign off | Legal | Lesley Dolan | 04/05/16 |
| | Finance | | |
| | Procurement | | |
| | Corporate Manager | Tracy Aarons | 03/05/16 |
| | Portfolio Holder | Nigel Woolcome-Adams | 03/05/16 |
| | Ward Member(s) | | |
| | Summary: | <p>This policy has been updated in order to comply with the additional responsibilities to the role of safeguarding relating to child sexual exploitation and radicalisation of individuals.</p> <p>The opportunity has also been taken to review the contact details and update these where necessary and also to generally tidy and update the numbering of the appendices so that users can more easily apply the policy.</p> <p>There is no material change to the policy document other than the addition of two paragraphs containing information on Child Sexual Exploitation and Prevent.</p> | |
| Recommendation: | That Cabinet adopt the updated policy | | |
| Direct and/or indirect impact on service delivery to our customers and communities: | The updated policy ensures that the council addresses and embraces its responsibility to safeguard children and vulnerable adults. The amendments keep the policy up to date with current changes in legislation. The policy itself has no direct impact on service delivery but it is expected that there will be activities developed by teams to meet the new legislation over time. | | |
| Legal Implications: | The updated policy does not introduce any additional legal duties on the Council as regards safeguarding, other than those that currently exist in law, rather it clarifies obligations in key areas | | |

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| | such as child sexual exploitation. The PREVENT duties are also already in place and this policy amendment identifies how the Council will act to address these duties. |
| Financial Implications: | There are no new financial issues arising from the updated policy |
| Value for Money: | There are no additional cost implications created by this update. |
| Equalities Implications: | There are no new equality impact implications. The policy aims to ensure that we protect the vulnerable members of our community. |
| Risk Assessment and Adverse Impact on Corporate Actions: | If the council fails to have an up to date policy in place to address safe guarding then it places itself at risk of failing to meet its duties and failing to protect the community. |
| Scrutiny Recommendation (if any) | Not applicable. This paper as not been to Scrutiny as it is only covering amendment to the substantive policy. |

INTRODUCTION

This policy has been updated in order to comply with the additional responsibilities to the role of safeguarding relating to child sexual exploitation and radicalisation of individuals.

The opportunity has also taken to review the contact details and update these where necessary and also to generally tidy and update the numbering of the appendices so that users can more easily apply the policy.

There is no material change to the policy document other than the addition of two paragraphs containing information on Child Sexual Exploitation and Prevent.

BACKGROUND

The existing policy was adopted by cabinet on 10th February 2014. Changes to legislation since then have required that we include additional subjects to that policy.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not to update the existing policy – The Council needs to ensure that it addresses the changes in the legislation and meets it duties as regards safeguarding. If it fails to update the policy it places itself a risk on failing to meet its statutory duties.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet adopt the updated safeguarding policy

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The existing policy provides a thorough and transparent approach to Safeguarding at Mendip and as such does not need to be rewritten. By updating with the additional information its adoption will help in ensuring that the Council meets its legal obligations.

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**List of background Papers:
Safeguarding Policy and Appendices**