

Health and Adult Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee



Report subject	BCP Council Corporate Safeguarding Strategy
Meeting date	2 September 2019
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	Ensuring that the Council's Safeguarding responsibilities are fulfilled and delivered is the responsibility of all officers and Councillors. The BCP Council Corporate Safeguarding Strategy sets out how the Council will deliver its safeguarding duties; the accountabilities of individual officers and Councillors; the training and development standards across the Council and how the Council will monitor the delivery of the framework.
Recommendations	<p>It is RECOMMENDED that:</p> <p>Overview & Scrutiny Committee have opportunity to consider and comment upon the Safeguarding Strategy ahead of Cabinet on 30 September 2019</p>
Reason for recommendations	This is a key strategy. As BCP Council has both a statutory and moral duty to make appropriate arrangements to safeguard the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of harm.

Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Vikki Slade, Leader
Corporate Director	Jan Thurgood, Corporate Director, Adult Social Care Judith Ramsden, Corporate Director, Children's Social Care
Contributors	Sarah Webb, Service Manager – Statutory Services, ASC David Vitty, Service Director – ASC Phil Hornsby, Service Director – Adults Commissioning Kelly Ansell – Service Director – Housing Tanya Coulter – Service Director – Legal & Democratic Sam Johnson – Policy & Performance Manager Anthi Minhinick – Community Safety Partnership Manager Tracy Kybert – Housing Manager (Integrated Health & Social Care)
Wards	All
Classification	For Recommendation

Background

Safeguarding is about supporting and protecting people in their relationships with other people. It can range from taking responsibility for not causing harm through our interactions, to being mindful of people's emotional wellbeing & welfare, through to reporting concerns about a child, young person or vulnerable adult being at risk of harm or abuse.

Safeguarding is not just about meeting our statutory duties, it is about keeping each other and ourselves safe, it is about speaking out and taking appropriate action to prevent any kind of harm or abuse from happening.

Through this Strategy, BCP Council seeks commitment from its staff and representatives to promote the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of harm, to ensure that it's residents have local, timely and high-quality services that support them to stay safe. It seeks to reinforce that this is not just the responsibility of those who work directly with these groups of people.

This Strategy emphasises that BCP Council believes this responsibility should be the 'golden thread' which runs through all our work with our communities and staff.

Summary of financial implications

1. The Council provides training in safeguarding across a range of levels to suit the many roles across the Council and it is not expected that the training requirements in the Strategy will lead to additional costs.
2. DBS Checks for Councillors may lead to additional costs. The amounts are yet to be determined and will be based upon the numbers and types of DBS Checks undertaken.

Summary of legal implications

The Council has statutory responsibilities to Safeguard children, young people and adults at risk of harm. This Strategy seeks to support the Council in carrying out these statutory duties.

Summary of human resources implications

The Strategy sets out the Council's commitments to safe recruitment of officers, volunteers and sessional employees and expectations in relation to staff training, development and support in relation to safeguarding.

Summary of environmental impact

None anticipated

Summary of public health implications

The purpose of the Strategy is to protect the wellbeing of residents and protect those most vulnerable from harm.

Summary of equality implications

In exercising its safeguarding duties, the Council needs to take full account of its duties under Equalities Legislation to ensure that it understands the needs to people with protected characteristics in relation to safeguarding and to ensure that it can meet the needs of all residents in relation to safeguarding.

Summary of risk assessment

The Strategy seeks to raise awareness and therefore reduce risk of harm occurring. This in turn reduces risks to the Council or to residents if the Council does not fulfil its statutory safeguarding duties.

Background papers

None

Appendices

Appendix 1 – BCP Council Safeguarding Strategy