

Part A

Report to: Council

Date of meeting: 9 July 2019

Report author: Democratic Services Manager

Title: Safeguarding training

1.0 Summary

1.1 This report is to ask Council to agree to make Safeguarding training for Members compulsory every two years.

2.0 Risks

2.1

Nature of risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response (treat, tolerate, terminate or transfer)	Risk Rating (combination of severity and likelihood)
Members are not aware of safeguarding issues and duties when carrying out their role in the community	Issues of concern may not get reported.	Members to receive regular training	Treat	4

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 Council to agree that safeguarding training should be compulsory for all members every two years.

Further information:

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Report approved by: Carol Chen Group Head Democracy and Governance

4.0 Detailed proposal

4.1 The following is taken from the report to the Member Development Group on 19 March 2018 by the Head of Culture and Events.

The Children Act 2004 and the Care Act 2014 set out a legal framework for how local authorities should work to protect children and young people and adults at risk from abuse or neglect. The council has a legal duty to cooperate with the lead authority, in this case it is Hertfordshire County Council.

4.2 The council carries out this duty in various ways, there is a lead officer for Safeguarding and the safeguarding policy and procedures in place for staff are regularly reviewed. There is also regular and compulsory training for staff.

4.3 All districts comply with their obligations with the lead authority by completing audits of their safeguarding systems, training procedures, policy and processes. The districts meet regularly with the lead authority's safeguarding boards – Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) and Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) – as a district Safeguarding Group to co-operate and support each other.

4.4 The agenda has broadened and local authorities are working with a variety of agencies on issues such as Child Sexual Exploitation, Female Genital Mutilation, Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking, Honour Based Abuse, Prevent and Domestic Abuse.

4.5 The Member Development Group received the report in March 2018 and agreed that training should be compulsory every two years. As at the time there was a review of the Safeguarding function within the council taking place it was decided to wait until that had been concluded before bringing the proposal to Council. Following the review the safeguarding responsibility has now moved to the Community Protection service.

4.6 Whilst some members will receive training from agencies which they work with, the council training will cover the council's own policies and procedures and provide members with the knowledge of what to do if they need to report an issue or log a concern.

4.7 Further information on the council's safeguarding policy can be found on the [website](#).

4.8 Training may be delivered by members attending training sessions or by completing e-learning modules.

5.0 Implications

5.1 Financial

5.1.1 Any costs arising for providing the training will be met through the existing members training budget.

5.2 Legal Issues (Monitoring Officer)

5.2.1 The Group Head of Democracy and Governance comments that the council has a legal duty to promote safeguarding of children and adults at risk.

5.3 Equalities, Human Rights and Data Protection

5.3.1 There are no equalities implications, the training provided will help members to assist all residents who may be at risk.

5.3.2 Having had regard to the council's obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018, it is considered that officers are not required to undertake a Data Processing Impact Assessment (DPIA) for this report.

5.4 Staffing

5.4.1 The Council has appointed a Safeguarding Manager.

5.5 Accommodation

5.5.1 None

5.6 Community Safety/Crime and Disorder

5.6.1 The training will assist members in raising any issues or concerns through the council.

5.7 Sustainability

5.7.1 None

Appendices

- None

Background papers

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report. If you wish to inspect or take copies of the background papers, please contact the officer named on the front page of the report.

Report to Member Development Group 19 March 2018 by Head of Culture and Events