



Agenda item:

Summary

Report for:	Housing and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	6th September 2017
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Safeguarding Children and Adults At Risk Policy and Procedure.
Contact:	Councillor Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Resident and Corporate Services Author Julie Still /Oliver Jackson Responsible Officer Julie Still/David Austin Oliver Jackson/Elliott Brooks
Purpose of report:	To seek members views and input on the proposed safeguarding children and adults at risk policy and procedures.
Recommendations	That members note the report and record any views
Corporate objectives:	
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> *Within existing resources
'Value for money' implications	<u>Value for money</u> N/A
Risk implications	
Community Impact Assessment	

Health and safety Implications	
Consultees:	Herts Safeguarding Childrens’s Board Herts Safeguarding Adults Board Stevenage Borough Council
Background papers:	Hertfordshire Safeguarding Policy and Procedures for Children and Adults Hertfordshire County Council Forced Marriage and Honour Based abuse Policy Hertfordshire Female Genital Mutilation Protocol Pathway Care Act 2014
Historical background <i>(please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context).</i>	This single Safeguarding Policy and Procedure document replaces the 2 existing documents that cover safeguarding children and safeguarding vulnerable adults. There has been significant changes in legislation and practice that have been updated in this document.
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	HSCB – Herts Safeguarding Childrens Board HSAB – Herts Safeguarding Adults Board

Background

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1. Dacorum Borough Council is not a Children’s Services Authority and therefore does not lead on the Safeguarding of children and young people, it does however, have a statutory duty to work with Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) and Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children’s Board under section 11 of Children Act 2004. Similarly HCC has the lead responsibility for ensuring effective arrangements are in place for the safeguarding of adults at risk across the county. Under Section 42 of the Care Act 2014, Dacorum Borough Council have a statutory duty to work HCC to make enquiries where they reasonably suspect that an adult in their area with care and support needs is at risk of abuse or neglect and unable to protect himself/herself.

2. Up until now the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Procedures and the Safeguarding Adults Policy were separate documents.
3. As it was necessary to review both documents due to a range of additions and as there is now a statutory duty placed on housing providers under the Care Act 2014 it was felt appropriate to introduce a joint policy and procedures.
4. The key areas of change relate to the introduction of duty for Housing providers under the Care Act 2014 and changes in legislation, good practice and specific areas of concern such as Child Sexual Exploitation.
5. The revised documents are attached at appendix A and appendix B, the key areas of change are: -
 - a. The addition of procedures to deal with so called honour based abuse, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, Prevent, human trafficking, modern slavery and domestic abuse.
 - b. That safeguarding adults at risk now has a statutory status in line with safeguarding children.
 - c. That there is an increasing expectation for partners to be involved with the delivery of the support and early intervention for safeguarding children and adults at risk.
6. There are additional training requirements to support the new policy and procedures which relate to specific posts in addition to the general level 1 training.
7. In particular, the safeguarding adults at risk area requires consideration for assessing mental capacity at all stages and the Supported Housing Team Leader has appointed a champion within his team to act as a point of contact. This is a key factor especially in assessing matters of self neglect eg. hoarding which is a high priority due to the fire risk.
8. For safeguarding children, there is a multi agency group in the early stages of the implementation of HCC's Families First programme which is an early intervention programme that involves a wide range of partners delivering a wide range of services.
9. Prevent training is ongoing and now available online from the Home Office and also through the Council's online training. To date over 600 individuals have received face to face training from DBC officers.
10. In addition to the above training, staff and members have recently attended training based on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery.

Appendix A – Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

Appendix B – Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, Supporting Appendices