



<b>Report for:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>28 November 2017</b>
<b>Part:</b>	1
If Part II, reason:	

<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Safeguarding Policy and Procedures</b>
Contact:	Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Resident and Corporate Services  Author/Responsible Officer, Julie Still, Oliver Jackson/David Austin
Purpose of report:	For Cabinet to consider the revised Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk policy and procedures
Recommendations	That Cabinet approve the adoption of the revised Joint Safeguarding Policy and procedures.
Corporate Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A clean, safe and enjoyable environment</li><li>• Building strong and vibrant communities</li><li>• Delivering an efficient and modern council</li></ul>
Implications:	<u>Financial</u>  Within existing budgets.  <u>'Value For Money Implications'</u> <u>Value for Money</u> Early identification and intervention for all safeguarding issues by all relevant agencies will help to prevent intensive interventions at a later stage and therefore reduce the long term costs.
Risk Implications	Risk implications are considered in the report.
Community Impact Assessment	Community Impact Assessment reviewed/carried out November 2017

Health And Safety Implications	
Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments	<p><b>Monitoring Officer:</b></p> <p>No comments to add to the report.</p> <p><b>Deputy S.151 Officer</b></p> <p>There are no direct financial implications. Any costs will be contained within existing budget allocations.</p>
Consultees:	
Background papers:	<p>Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board's advice and Children Act 2004, s11 self-audit required standards.</p> <p>Dacorum Borough Council Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Procedures 2015.</p> <p>Dacorum Borough Council Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy 2011</p> <p>Operation Halo</p> <p>Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015</p> <p>The Care Act 2014</p> <p>Herts County Council Female Genital Mutilation protocol</p> <p>Herts County Council Forced marriage and honour based abuse protocol</p> <p>Modern Slavery Act 2015</p>
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	

## Background

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 with 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 additional responsibilities and areas of focus. The 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 to cover all aspects of safeguarding.
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, human trafficking, modern slavery and domestic abuse and child sexual exploitation.
  - b. The mainstreaming of Prevent
  - c. That safeguarding adults at risk now has a statutory status in line with safeguarding children.
  - d. 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 Council Officers and further Council Officers are attending train the trainer sessions.
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**