



Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
All

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:

OSMB
Cabinet

9th July 2009
13th July 2009

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS: SUMMARY OF ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Report of the Strategic Director Adults & Communities

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet's approval to implement the summary of roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding adults.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS (OR OPTIONS)

Cabinet is recommended:

- 2.1 To agree the summary of roles and responsibilities of safeguarding adults as outlined in Appendix A.
- 2.2 To agree that all Councillors should undertake mandatory awareness training on safeguarding vulnerable adults.
- 2.3 To establish a Safeguarding Adults Panel to mirror the arrangements in Children and Young People's Services. This panel will have cross party representation and provide a quality assurance function for safeguarding activities across the estate.

3. SUMMARY

- 3.1 Following the publication in 2005 of the 'Safeguarding Adults' A National Framework of Standards for good practice and outcomes in adult protection work by Association of Directors of Social Services (ADASS), the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Board reviewed each organisations roles and responsibilities with regards to safeguarding adults.
- 3.2 The ADASS document collects best practice and aspirations together into a set of good practice standards, which is intended to be used as an audit tool and guide by all those implementing adult protection work. The guidance sets out the key considerations for agencies to evaluate themselves against in order to ensure that their arrangements are

effective. The duty covers not only those functions / services provided directly but also those services that are contracted out to others.

- 3.3 There are 11 standards (appendix B) identified by ADASS. The standards sets out the framework within which the planning, implementation and monitoring of 'Safeguarding Adults' work should take place. The key structure in this framework is a multi-agency partnership that leads the development of the work at a local level: In Leicester this is the '**Safeguarding Adults' Partnership Board**. The membership includes Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council and Rutland County Council, UHL, PCT, Leicestershire Partnership (NHS) Trust, Police, independent sector, voluntary sector, Probation Service, Adult Education and Chair of Safeguarding Children's Board. This may change as Rutland is in the process of setting up a Safeguarding Board which covers children's, adults, domestic violence and community safety.
- 3.4 The impetus for a multi-agency approach is the recognition that a plethora of organisations are involved in providing services to adults and may be involved in enabling adults to access safety. In addition there are published inquiries into situations where abuse of adults has taken place and not been recognised or acted on in time to prevent harm. These enquiries identified that better information sharing and multi-agency working may have placed organisations in a better position to safeguard the adults concerned.
- 3.5 The arrangements which all agencies must have in place to safeguard vulnerable adults are:
- a) Senior management commitment to the importance of safeguarding and promoting vulnerable adult's welfare
 - b) Safeguarding policy – development and review of the policies and procedures periodically
 - c) A clear line of accountability within the organisation for work on safeguarding adults, with lead responsibility placed in social care
 - d) A clear information sharing agreement between all partners
 - e) Staff training on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of adults for all staff working with or in contact with vulnerable adults
 - f) Safe recruitment procedures
 - g) Effective inter-agency working to safeguard vulnerable adults
 - h) Effective commissioning and preventative strategies.
- 3.6 The challenge for all Council services is how the principle enshrined in the guidance that **safeguarding is everyone's responsibility**, informs the work of the whole Council. All council staff will receive training on safeguarding adults and it would be everyone's responsibility to recognise and report abuse.
- 3.7 **The duty on the Council within this context is to ensure that:**
- All divisions consider the impact on vulnerable adults of any service development.
 - All divisions that have contact with vulnerable adults do promote their welfare.

- All divisions are aware of the procedure to follow if concerns about safeguarding come to their attention.

4. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Financial Implications

Whilst there are no financial implications from this report, there needs to be some consideration of resource allocation in relation to the adult social care transformation agenda.

Rod Pearson, Head of Finance and Resource Management, Adults & Communities

4.2 Legal Implications

The Director of Adult Social Services is a politically restricted statutory chief officer post under Section 2 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (as amended). The local authority must ensure that the Director of Adult Social Services is made accountable for the delivery of local authority social services functions listed in Schedule 1 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 (as amended), other than those for which the Director of Children’s services is responsible, in respect of adults. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

(Kamal Adatia, Barrister, ext (29) 7044)

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph Within the Report	References
Equal Opportunities	Yes	Whole report	
Policy	Yes	Whole report	
Sustainable and Environmental	No		
Crime and Disorder	Yes	Whole report	
Human Rights Act	Yes	Whole report	
Elderly/People on Low Income	Yes	Whole report	

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

6.1 In March 2000 the Department of Health published its “No Secrets” guidance. “No Secrets” gives local social services authorities the lead responsibility for coordinating the local inter-agency framework for the protection of vulnerable adults; issued under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970.

6.3 “No Secrets” guidance issued under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4008486

7. CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 All internal services have been consulted on the Safeguarding adult's roles and responsibilities of Council.

8. REPORT AUTHOR

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Key Decision	No
Reason	N/A
Appeared in Forward Plan	N/A
Executive or Council Decision	Executive (Cabinet)