



Leicester
City Council

MINUTE EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Held: THURSDAY, 9 JULY 2009 at 5.30pm

P.R.E.S.E.N.T.

Councillor Grant– Chair

Councillor Gill (for Cllr Suleman)	Councillor Glover
Councillor Hall	Councillor Joshi
Councillor Naylor (for Cllr Newcombe)	Councillor Potter
Councillor Shah	

Also In Attendance

Councillor Patel	Cabinet Member for Finance, Community Cohesion and Human Resources.
Councillor Palmer	Cabinet Lead Member for Adults and Older People
Councillor Westley	Cabinet Lead Member for Housing

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35. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS: SUMMARY OF ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Strategic Director of Adults and Communities submitted a report that sought approval to implement the summary of roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding adults.

Ruth Lake, Divisional Director, Older Peoples Services introduced the report and stated that following the publication in 2005 of the national framework of standards for good practice and outcomes in adult protection work, the Multi Agency Safeguarding Adults Board reviewed the roles and responsibilities of all organisations with regard to safeguarding adults. Upon completion of the review, guidance was produced that set out the key considerations for agencies to evaluate themselves in order to ensure that their arrangements were effective.

MINUTE EXTRACT

Ruth explained that the report summarised the role and responsibilities of local authorities and stated that all Councillors should undertake mandatory awareness training on safeguarding vulnerable adults. Furthermore, it was explained that the report proposed that a Safeguarding Adults Panel be established to mirror the arrangements in Children and Young People's Services.

Councillor Palmer, Cabinet Lead Member for Adults and Older People was invited to address the board on this item. He regarded the safeguarding of adults to be of equal importance to safeguarding children. Councillor Palmer spoke of the importance of establishing a Safeguarding Adults Panel, and stated that it would consist of cross-party representation, and would be set up as soon as it had been approved by Cabinet. Councillor Palmer confirmed that training for members would take place in September.

Members of the Board welcomed the establishment of a Safeguarding Adults Panel, and that all Members would be invited to participate.

Following a point made around the requirement for all members to receive training, Councillor Palmer confirmed that there would be no sanction made against Members who did not receive the Safeguarding Adults training, it was vital that as many members as possible undertook it. He stated that Members were required to complete the training if they wished to sit on the panel.

In response to a question from a Member of the Board, it was clarified that the 'no secrets' guidance required all local authorities to take the lead role with regard to safeguarding vulnerable adults. Officers reported that further information on the 'no secrets' guidance was available on the council's internet site.

The Chair asked Councillor Palmer to provide a position statement on Beaumanor Lodge. In reply, Councillor Palmer stated that the recent inspection of the lodge on 15 June had rated it as a zero star facility. This had led to the suspension of placements. He reported that all families concerned had been constantly updated with the situation and explained that an action plan in response to the inspection had been constructed. As part of the process, all relevant NHS and Leicester Partnership partners had been engaged with, and the Council had been in frequent contact with the Care Quality Commission.

Following the inspection, Councillor Palmer stated that he had asked for a review of all safeguarding policies and the ways in which external services were monitored, as it was felt that a more universal monitoring approach was required.

Councillor Palmer answered a question around the inspection of other homes by stating that homes were inspected on a rolling basis and that the frequency of inspections related to the rating of a particular home. At the request of the Board, Councillor Palmer agreed to provide an update on the inspection of Elderly Persons' Homes to Councillor Potter, Adults and Housing Task Group

MINUTE EXTRACT

Leader, prior to Cabinet consideration.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the report be noted and the Cabinet recommendations in paragraph 2 of the report be endorsed.
- (2) That Councillor Palmer provides an update on the inspection of Elderly Persons' Homes to Councillor Potter, Adults and Housing Task Group Leader, prior to Cabinet consideration.