

11 April 2022 (SDC), 20 April 2022(WDC)

Title: Safeguarding Adults and Children Policy, Procedures, and Information

Lead Officer: Marianne Rolfe

Portfolio Holders: Councillor Jo Barker, Councillor Judy Falp

Wards of the Districts directly affected: All

Summary

This report seeks approval from Stratford District Council (SDC) and Warwick District Council (WDC) Cabinets for joint Safeguarding Policy, Procedures, and Information documents.

Recommendation(s)

- (1) That Cabinets approve the joint Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Information documents as set out at Appendix 1.
 - (2) That Cabinets agree that approval for any future minor changes is delegated to Strategic Lead Safeguarding Officer in consultation with the Member Champions for Safeguarding.
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1 Background/Information

- 1.1 Both Councils currently have their own specific safeguarding policies and procedures.
- 1.2 The WDC safeguarding policy for adults and children was approved in October 2019 and has received minor revisions to contact information.
- 1.3 SDC has a safeguarding policy for adults and a separate one for children. The adults' policy was approved in July 2018 and the children's policy was due for review in 2020.
- 1.4 In October 2021 the first joint SDC and WDC Safeguarding Groups meeting was held to progress working together towards service integration. The joint Group agreed to align safeguarding policies and procedures to build on the good practice across both authorities.
- 1.5 As a result, the joint Safeguarding Policy, Procedures, and Information documents were developed.

2 Alternative Options available to Cabinet

- 2.1 As the purpose of this report is seek approval of joint safeguarding documents to progress service integration, there are no alternative options.

3 Consultation and Member's comments

- 3.1 SDC and WDC Safeguarding Groups, including the Member Champions, Warwickshire Safeguarding and both SDC and WCC Legal Services were consulted on the new documents and feedback was incorporated.

4 Implications of the proposal

4.1 Legal/Human Rights Implications

4.1.1 The proposal is in line with current legislation where applicable.

4.2 Financial

4.2.1 The proposal has no financial or budgetary implications for either Council.

4.3 Council Plan

4.3.1 Stratford District Council Plan

4.3.2 Putting residents and communities centre stage - Safeguarding is a high-profile area which requires that we respond to residents effectively and efficiently by placing them centre stage.

4.3.3 Working on regional, national, and international stages - Safeguarding involves working in partnership with Warwickshire Safeguarding Partnership, local district and borough councils, as well as other local and national agencies.

4.3.4 Enhancing the quality of Stratford-on-Avon as a place - Having the necessary safeguarding policy, procedures and protections in place improves the health and wellbeing of all residents as well as maintaining the high level of community safety and addresses perceptions of crime.

4.3.5 Warwick District Council Plan

4.3.6 People - Health, Homes, Communities – This proposal will make a direct contribution to supporting health and well-being in Warwick district by enhancing the existing governance arrangements and partnership working. Ensuring that adults and children are safeguarded contributes to better health.

4.3.7 People – Effective Staff – As safeguarding is everyone’s business, all staff are aware of safeguarding issues and know how to report a safeguarding concern.

4.3.8 Services – Green, Clean, Safe – WDC has a legal duty for safeguarding which improves community safety by ensuring that adults and children are safeguarded.

4.4 Environmental/Climate Change Implications

4.4.1 None

4.5 Analysis of the effects on Equality

4.5.1 None

4.6 Data Protection

4.6.1 None

4.7 Health and Wellbeing

4.7.1 The proposal ensures that safeguarding processes and measures are in place and delivered to support adults and children. This contributes to improving the health and wellbeing of the residents and communities.

5 Risk Assessment

5.1 If we fail to deliver safeguarding, children and adults would be at risk of harm.

6 Conclusion/Reasons for the Recommendation

- 6.1 It is recommended the joint Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Information documents are approved to progress service integration and alignment of safeguarding practice across both authorities.

Background papers:

The SDC Safeguarding Policy for Adults, SDC Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and WDC Safeguarding Adults and Children Policy are available on request.

Supporting documents:

None

Report Information Sheet

Please complete and submit to Democratic Services with draft report

Committee/Date	Cabinets: SDC 11 April 2022, WDC 20 April 2022	
Title of report	Safeguarding Adults and Children Policy, Procedures, and Information	
Consultations undertaken		
Consultee *required	Date	Details of consultation /comments received
Ward Member(s)		
Portfolio Holder WDC & SDC *	22/3/22	
Financial Services *	14/3/22	
Legal Services *	14/3/22	
Other Services		
Chief Executive(s)	14/3/22	
Head of Service(s)	14/3/22	
Section 151 Officer	14/3/22	
Monitoring Officer	14/3/22	
CMT (WDC)	14/3/22	
Leadership Co-ordination Group (WDC)		
Other organisations		
Final decision by this Committee or rec to another Ctte/Council?		Recommendation to: Cabinet Report also going to SDC Cabinet 11/4/22

Contrary to Policy/Budget framework		No
Does this report contain exempt info/Confidential? If so, which paragraph(s)?		No
Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Cabinet Forward Plan)?		Yes, Forward Plan item 1263, scheduled for Cabinets - SDC 11/4/22, WDC 20/4/22
Accessibility Checked?	17/2/22	yes