



**Policy, Finance and
Development
Committee**

**Tuesday, 27
November 2018**

**Matter for
Information and
Decision**

Report Title: **Proposed Child Safeguarding Policy**

Report Author(s): **Mark Smith (Community Safety & Youth Officer)**

Purpose of Report:	To seek Members' approval for the Council to adopt the proposed Child Safeguarding Policy.
Report Summary:	<p>Local Authorities have a statutory duty to record and report safeguarding concerns or incidents that are brought to their attention. This duty forms part of the Council's responsibility as a member of the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Boards (LRSB).</p> <p>The proposed policy highlights how Oadby & Wigston Borough Council will undertake its moral and legal obligation to fulfil a duty of care for children and young people across all of its services, and is intended to provide guidance for Officers, Elected Members, and Volunteers engaged with the Council who may encounter a safeguarding concern or incident through the course of their work.</p> <p>The policy is proposed following a review of the Council's existing safeguarding policies and procedures.</p>
Recommendation(s):	That the proposed Child Safeguarding Policy (attached at Appendix 1) be approved and adopted.
Responsible Strategic Director, Head of Service and Officer Contact(s):	<p>Anne Court (Chief Executive) (0116) 257 2602 anne.court1@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Avril Lennox (Head of Leisure & Wellbeing) (0116) 257 2673 Avril.Lennox@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Mark Smith (Community Safety & Youth Officer) (0116) 257 2675 Mark.Smith@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p>
Corporate Priorities:	<p>Effective Service Provision (CP2)</p> <p>Green & Safe Places (CP4)</p> <p>Wellbeing for All (CP5)</p>
Vision and Values:	<p>"A Strong Borough Together" (Vision)</p> <p>Accountability (V1)</p> <p>Respect (V2)</p> <p>Teamwork (V3)</p> <p>Customer Focus (V5)</p>
Report Implications:-	

Legal:	The policy ensures that the Council complies with its statutory duties.
Financial:	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Reputation Damage (CR4) Failure to Respond to a Significant Incident (CR7)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report. Initial EA Screening (See Appendices)
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from the report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from the report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	Leicestershire and Rutland Designated Safeguarding Officer Group
Background Papers:	None.
Appendices:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposed Child Safeguarding Policy (October 2018) 2. Initial EA Screening (October 2018)

1. Adoption of the Proposed Child Safeguarding Policy

- 1.1 In accordance with the Council's statutory obligations as a signatory to the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Boards, the Council is required to have a policy document in place for the safeguarding of children and young people across all of its services.
- 1.2 Having conducted a review of the Council's current policy for the safeguarding of children and young people, the proposed policy document (attached at **Appendix 1**) was drafted, incorporating all changes and additions to relevant legislation up to October 2018.
- 1.3 The adoption of the proposed policy will enable greater organisational awareness of what constitutes a safeguarding concern, and clarify how Officers, elected Members and volunteers should react when presented with a safeguarding matter.
- 1.4 The proposed policy will underpin all work undertaken by the Council, and provide a strong legal position in the unlikely event of a serious or significant safeguarding related event occurring within the Borough if the Council can demonstrate that an appropriate policy is in place, and that the contents of said policy have been adhered to.
- 1.5 The proposed policy will be utilised as the basis for a revised programme of safeguarding training to be delivered to all Officers and elected Members at the Council, with the level of training undertaken tailored to suit the needs of the individual's role. All employees will be required to undertake basic safeguarding training via the Council's e-Learning portal, whilst roles that are more public facing will then also be required to attend a formal, face-to-face training session building upon the e-Learning foundation.