

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMMUNITIES and HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

14 November 2016

Report of the Chief Executive

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)

1 SAFEGUARDING TRAINING UPDATE

To provide an update on safeguarding training and endorse further enhanced training for appropriate staff.

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Members will be aware that the Council has a Safeguarding Policy and Reporting Procedure which aims to:

- Raise awareness of the duties and responsibilities for children, young people and adults at risk of harm
- Encourage good practice among staff, elected members, volunteers and contractors, to safeguard children and adults at risk who receive Council services
- Provide clear guidance on procedures to be adopted if it is suspected that an adult, young person or child may be at risk of harm

In order to fulfil these aims, a Safeguarding Task Group has been formed to address any safeguarding issues and work through the Safeguarding Action Plan.

1.2 Training

1.2.1 A key component within the Safeguarding Action Plan is to ensure that all staff are aware of our responsibilities with regard to safeguarding and are adequately trained to recognise and deal with any issues as they arise.

1.2.2 In addition to the Action Plan, the Council (as a key body covered by Section 11 of the Children Act) has a mandatory requirement to ensure staff have an understanding of their role and responsibilities, and those of other professionals and organisations in relation to safeguarding. This is essential for effective multi-agency collaboration. Agencies are encouraged, where appropriate, to enable

their staff to participate in training provided on an inter-agency basis as well as in single agency training provided by the agency itself.

- 1.2.3 It is recognised that training on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk, should be proportional and relevant to the roles and responsibilities of each staff member.
- 1.2.4 Currently, all staff receives basic online training on safeguarding, to include adults at risk, children and young people. This is monitored by Personnel to ensure staff complete the online courses. Any new staff recruited, will undertake the online training as part of their induction process.
- 1.2.5 Attached as **[Annex 1]** to this report is the Kent Safeguarding Children's Board (KSCB) "Safeguarding Training Tree". Nine members of staff have recently completed "Child Protection for Designated Staff" which is a half day course and will allow those trained to act as Designated Officer and Safeguarding Champions within their service. KSCB training is free of charge and it is suggested that these Designated Officers go on to complete the remaining core learning modules within the "Training Tree". There will also be additional key members of staff who would benefit from the "Child Protection Basic Awareness" course, which is being progressed and hopefully those staff will be trained by the end of the year.
- 1.2.6 In addition to the above, it is suggested that further training is sought for Designated Officers in relation to Adult Safeguarding. There is a nominal fee for this of between £25 - £50.
- 1.2.7 The Safeguarding Task Group will also be working to identify key contractors and those providing services for the Council, to ensure that they have safeguarding policies in place and appropriate training. Training for Council Members will also be progressed early in the New Year.

1.3 Legal Implications

- 1.3.1 Section 11 of the Children Act places a statutory duty on key organisations to ensure that in discharging their functions they have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.4.1 There will be a training fee of approximately £25-£50 per person, for ten members of staff to receive additional Adult Safeguarding training.

1.5 Risk Assessment

- 1.5.1 N/A

1.6 Equality Impact Assessment

1.6.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

1.7 Recommendations

1.7.1 That Members endorse additional training for key staff (those identified as Designated Officers), to complete all sections of the Core Learning within the KSCB “Safeguarding Training Tree”

1.7.2 That Members endorse additional training for key staff (those identified as Designated Officers), to complete further Adult Safeguarding training.

The Chief Executive confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

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Nil

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Chief Executive