



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Governance and Audit Committee

19 November 2020

Report of: Councillor Annie Mason
Cabinet Member for Communities



Safeguarding Annual Report 2019-20

In accordance with Article 11 of the Constitution, this report presents to the Governance and Audit Committee the Annual Report on Safeguarding which provides an overview of the Council's involvement in the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults for 2019/20

Report Author

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Corporate Priority:	Decision type:	Wards:
Administrative	Administrative	All Wards

Reviewed by:	Paul Stokes, Corporate Operations Lead	20 October 2020
Approved by:	Ken Lyon, Assistant Chief Executive	26 August 2019
Signed off by:	Councillor Annie Mason, Cabinet Member for Communities	26 August 2019

Recommendation to the decision makers

1. It is recommended that members of the Governance and Audit Committee:
 - i. Review the appended 2019/20 Safeguarding Annual Report and note its contents.
 - ii. Receive an update report in six months setting out the progress on the internal review, with a view to understanding how safeguarding practices are being embedded in the Council

1 The Background to the Report

- 1.1 The 2019/20 Safeguarding Annual Report (attached at Appendix A) is provided to Members in accordance with the Regulatory Framework for the Governance and Audit Committee and provides a background to the Council's safeguarding responsibilities, its contribution to local partnerships, national initiatives and its involvement in reviews and statutory assessment programmes.
- 1.2 As a District Council we have a general duty of care and statutory requirements in relation to the safeguarding of both children and adults. In general, our responsibilities are to report incidents or concerns to the responsible authority (Lincolnshire County Council) and to work with other agencies to ensure the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. The Safeguarding Annual Report reflects these duties and highlights how safeguarding is a Council-wide responsibility.
- 1.3 During the time period covered in the appended Annual Report the Lead Safeguarding Officer for South Kesteven District Council was the Assistant Director, Housing. This officer has since left the Authority and the lead safeguarding role is now within the remit of the Assistant Chief Executive.

2 Consultation and Feedback Received, Including Overview and Scrutiny

- 2.1 N/A

3 Available Options Considered

- 3.1 No other options. This report is provided to Members for information.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 N/A

5 Reasons for the Recommendation (s)

- 5.1 To assure Members of appropriate policy, procedure and action taken relating to the safeguarding of vulnerable individuals within the District.

6 Next Steps – Communication and Implementation of the Decision

- 6.1 Policy and procedures will be regularly reviewed to ensure they meet with national and local requirements. Training for officers and Elected Members will continue to be available both in house and through the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board. Any recommendations to come from the Section 11 Assessment Audit for safeguarding children will be implemented.

7 Financial Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications reviewed by: Richard Wyles, Director of Finance

8 Legal and Governance Implications

- 8.1 Good safeguarding practices are essential to good governance of public services. This Committee should retain oversight of the internal review and seek regular reports on safeguarding measures and their impacts across directorates.

Legal Implications reviewed by: Shahin Ismail, Director of Law and Governance

9 Equality and Safeguarding Implications

9.1 Equality impact has been analysed as part of the development and implementation of the Safeguarding policy and its associated procedures. Issues of equality and the fair treatment of all individuals regardless of their diversity are addressed throughout these documents.

10 Risk and Mitigation

10.1 No risk relating to this report have been identified.

11 Community Safety Implications

11.1 There are no direct community safety implications resulting from this report. There is however the potential for such implications within any individual safeguarding case identified in the delivery of our duties. Any identified implication would be addressed on a case by case basis.

12 How will the recommendations support South Kesteven District Council's declaration of a climate emergency?

12.1 Not applicable.

13 Other Implications (where significant)

13.1 None identified.

14 Background Papers

14.1 None.

15 Appendices

15.1 Appendix A: Safeguarding Annual Report 2019/20

15.2 Appendix B: Lincolnshire Assessment and Assurance Framework 2019 – Completion Summary

Report Timeline:	Date of Publication on Forward Plan (if required)	N/A
	Previously Considered by:	N/A
	Final Decision date	Members to note the report