



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Governance and Audit Committee

29 September 2021

Report of: Councillor Annie Mason
Cabinet Member for People and
Safer Communities



Safeguarding Annual Report 2020-2021

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 2020/2021.

Report Author

Carol Drury, Senior Community Development Officer



01476 406 161



c.drury@southkesteven.gov.uk

Corporate Priority:	Decision type:	Wards:
Healthy and Strong Communities	Administrative	All Wards

Reviewed by:	Paul Stokes, Corporate Operations Lead	10 September 2021
Approved by:	Ken Lyon, Assistant Chief Executive	13 September 2021
Signed off by:	Councillor Annie Mason, Cabinet Member for People and Safer Communities	16 September 2021

Recommendation to the decision makers

- It is recommended that members of the Governance and Audit Committee review the appended 2020/21 Safeguarding Annual Report and note its contents.**

1 The Background to the Report

- 1.1 The 2020/21 Safeguarding Annual Report (attached at Appendix A) is provided to Members in accordance with the Regulatory Framework for the Governance and Audit Committee.
- 1.2 The report provides a background to the Council's safeguarding responsibilities; the impact of Covid19 on safeguarding practices, training and development opportunities and uptake of officers and elected Members. The report also outlines the safeguarding interventions undertaken in 2020/21, including short case studies to provide a background to some of the interactions between residents and officers. Also included is background to, and the outcome of, the Council's submission to the statutory Section 11 Children's Safeguarding Assessment required by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership under our collective responsibilities relating to the Children Act 2004.
- 1.3 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.

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 ensure Members have an overview of the Council's safeguarding responsibilities and are assured that the Authority has appropriate policy, procedure in place, staff are trained to identify safeguarding concerns and know how to respond and that action has been taken during 2020/21 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.

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 There are no legal and governance implications arising which are not already referred to in the body of the report or Appendix A.

Legal Implications reviewed by: Graham Watts, Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer

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 2020/21