



SOUTH  
KESTEVEN  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL



# Governance and Audit Committee


13 March 2024

Report of Councillor Rhea Rayside  
Cabinet Member for People and  
Communities

## Safeguarding Report: 2022/2023

### Report Author

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### Purpose of Report

In accordance with Article 10 (Regulatory Framework – xxiii) of the Constitution, this report presents to the Governance and Audit Committee the Annual Report on Safeguarding. The report provides an overview of the Council's involvement in the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults for 2022/2023.

### Recommendations

#### That the Committee:

1. It is recommended that the Governance and Audit Committee review the appended 2022/2023 Safeguarding Annual Report and note its contents.

## Decision Information

Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities?	High performing Council
Which wards are impacted?	All

### 1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

#### ***Finance and Procurement***

1.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Completed by: Richard Wyles, Chief Finance Officer

#### ***Legal and Governance***

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

Completed by: Mandy Braithwaite, Legal Executive

#### ***Diversity and Inclusion***

1.3 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.

Completed by: Carol Drury, Community Engagement Manager

## ***Safeguarding***

1.4 This report provides an update on Safeguarding in line with our Constitution.

Completed by: Sarah McQueen, Head of Housing Options

## **2. Background to the Report**

- 2.1 The 2022/2023 Safeguarding Annual Report (attached at Appendix A) is provided to Members in accordance with the Regulatory Framework for the Governance and Audit Committee.
- 2.2 The report provides a background to the Council's safeguarding responsibilities; training and development opportunities and the uptake by officers and elected Members. The report also outlines the safeguarding interventions undertaken in 2022/2023, 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 Lincolnshire Assessment and Assurance Framework (LAAF) required by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board under our collective responsibilities relating to the Care Act 2014 to safeguard vulnerable adults.
- 2.3 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.

## **3. Key Considerations**

- 3.1 The 2022/2023 Safeguarding Annual Report (attached at Appendix A) is provided to Members in accordance with the Regulatory Framework for the Governance and Audit Committee, the report is for information and review.

## **4. Other Options Considered**

- 4.1 The report is for information and review.

## **5. Reasons for the Recommendations**

- 5.1 The report is for information and review.