

Report of the Chief Executive

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS POLICY1. Purpose of report

To seek approval for a revised Safeguarding Adults Policy.

2. Detail

The Care Act 2014 requires that an upper tier local authority must co-operate with each of its relevant partners, and each relevant partner must co-operate with the upper tier local authority in relation to relevant functions, one of which is specifically stated as protecting adults with care and support needs who are currently experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect. It is this part of the legislation which places the requirement on a district council to act in cases of suspected neglect or abuse.

People who may need safeguarding are defined under section 42 of the Care Act 2014 as adults (persons aged 18 or over) who:

- have care and support needs;
- are experiencing, or are at risk of abuse or neglect; and
- because of their care and support needs cannot protect themselves against actual or potential abuse or neglect

As such, Broxtowe Borough Council is responsible for ensuring that employees are competent and confident in carrying out their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of adults. This includes ensuring employees are aware of how to recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns, including signs of possible abuse or neglect.

In 2016/17, eight safeguarding adults referrals were made by the Council and in 2017/18, five referrals were made. The e-learning for safeguarding adults is a compulsory module for all staff. Each year the Chief Executive chairs two meetings attended by senior officers of each department where adult and children safeguarding is discussed, including presentation of relevant data.

The Safeguarding Adults Policy is included at appendix 1 and sets out how Broxtowe Borough Council will meet its obligations. An equality impact assessment is included at appendix 2. It is a revised and updated version of the Safeguarding Adults Policy agreed by Environment and Community Safety Committee on 26 May 2016. The main changes are around the reporting structures.

Recommendation

Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the revised Safeguarding Adults Policy be approved.

Background papers

Nil