

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
CABINET – 6 FEBRUARY 2018

Recommendations from the Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17 January 2018:-

36. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AT RISK AND SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICIES

Report of the Executive Director (Housing and Communities) seeking the endorsement of two new proposed draft safeguarding policies.

Following the re-integration of the Housing Service back into the Council in February 2017 a new Council-wide Safeguarding Steering Group had been created with the aim of reviewing current arrangements for managing safeguarding and developing a new standardised approach across the Council.

The Safeguarding Steering Group had developed two revised policies which would replace the previously published policies for the Community Housing Trust and the Council. The proposed new policies were fully compliant with legislative requirements.

The proposed new safeguarding policies provided a framework for ensuring that the Council's commitment towards protecting vulnerable individuals was reflected in its interactions with customers and employees.

The policies explained how the Council would approach safeguarding issues and what measures would be taken where concerns had been identified. The policies each provided definitions of the various types of abuse and made reference to other linked strategies and policies which had previously been adopted by the Council.

It was confirmed that the Equality Impact Assessment had been completed and no negative impacts had been identified on groups under the equalities legislation.

In response to Members' questions it was noted that a briefing would be arranged for Members.

The need for Members to be DSB (Disclosure and Barring Service) checked would be picked up in Council human resources policies.

Matters reported would be responded to immediately.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorse the new safeguarding policies and recommend their approval to the Cabinet.