



# Safeguarding Policy

Becky Box, Policy, Performance and Personnel Manager



# Definition of Safeguarding

Safeguarding is protecting children, young people and adults experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect.



# Definition of 'a child'

The term children or young person is used to refer to anyone under 18 years of age.



# Definition of 'Adult at risk'

An adult at risk of abuse or harm is anyone over the age of 18 who:

- Has needs for care and support **and**
- Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse, or neglect **and**
- As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect



# Legislation – Child Protection

## **Section 11 of the Children Act 2004**

places a duty on local authorities to ensure their functions, and any services they contract out to others, are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of Children.



# Legislation – Adult Protection

## Care Act 2014

Places a responsibility on Norfolk County Council and it's partners to co-operate in preventing, reducing and delaying the development of need for care and support.



# Current Position

- Child Protection Policy revised spring 2016
- Updated to reflect changes in legislation and recommended practice
- Identified need to ensure the Council's duty to safeguard children appropriately reflected in contracts, leases and licences
- Noted proposed review of need for overarching safeguarding policy



# Research Undertaken

- Selection of other district Council policies – what have they done/when have they updated?
- Reviewed contents to identify common features/factors
- Selected best practice/wording from examples obtained
- Reviewed of legislation
- Compared to County Council policies
- Researched Norfolk specific requirements
- Benchmarked research against our existing policy
- Reviewed internal arrangements for working with third parties





# How has learning been applied?

Results of research used to consider:

- Approach to be adopted
- Communications
- Duplication
- Administration
- Signposting to information

Result is proposed combined  
Safeguarding Policy



# Policy Statement

The Borough Council believes that all children, young people **and adults** irrespective of their age, class, religion, culture, disability, gender, ethnicity or sexual preference have the right to be protected from harm.



# New Content

- Reference to the Care Act 2014
- Norfolk Adult Safeguarding Board
- Other relevant legislation, including:
  - PREVENT
  - Mental Capacity Act 2005
  - Modern Slavery Act 2015



# New Content

- Contractors
- Grants and Funding
- Leasing of Council property/land
- Licensing
- Safeguarding Risk Assessment



# Re-Formatting of Policy

- To streamline
- To improve the 'flow' of the document
- General update/refresh where required
- To move detailed information to appendices



# Updated Sections

- Legal framework
- Flow chart for making referrals
- Procedures for making referrals
- Work with third parties
- Training for staff



# Role of Elected Members

Everyone who works with or around children and adults experiencing or at risk of harm or neglect need to be aware of the laws that aim to protect them

- Awareness of Policy
- Familiar with indicators of abuse
- Know how to report concerns
- Follow good practice guidance



# Consultation Process

- Management Team
- Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board
- Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board
- Presentation to CPP
- Internal Safeguarding group representatives





# Questions

- Any areas of concern for Elected Members?
- Any issues that Elected Members particularly wish to see covered in the policy?
- Any further information required/training needs identified by Elected Members

