

West Suffolk Children and Adult Safeguarding Policy

Report No:	CAB/WS/20/015	
Report to and date:	Portfolio Holder Decision	14 January 2020
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Robert Everitt Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities Tel: 01284 769000 Email: robert.everitt@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
Lead officer:	Jill Korwin Director Tel: 01284 757252 Email: jill.korwin@westsuffolk.gov.uk	

Decisions Plan: The decision made as a result of this report will usually be published within 48 hours. This decision is subject to call-in and is included on the Decisions Plan.

Wards impacted: All wards

Recommendation: **It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder for Families and Communities approves the updated West Suffolk Children and Adult Safeguarding Policy, as contained in Appendix 1 to Report No: CAB/WS/20/015.**

1. Background / Context

- 1.1 In March 2015, West Suffolk Councils adopted the Safeguarding Policy. This report sets out a review of the policy and changes that have been made in response to new duties and requirements being placed on local authorities, our partners and Safeguarding Boards. The policy will now be called the West Suffolk Children and Adult Safeguarding Policy.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 The West Suffolk Children and Adult Safeguarding Policy is in place to ensure that West Suffolk Council has an overarching approach to safeguarding across the organisation and that in discharging its function, the Council has due regard for the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of vulnerable people.
- 2.2 The policy has been refreshed in response to a number of new duties and legislation being placed on local authorities.
- 2.3 In 2018 the Government published statutory guidance [Working together to safeguard children. A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children](#). The document sets out the legislative requirements and expectations on how individual services within local authorities should safeguard and promote the welfare of children from all backgrounds, in all settings. The West Suffolk Children and Adult Safeguarding Policy follows the principles set out in the guidance. The guidance replaces Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015).
- 2.4 In accordance with the [Children and Social Care Work Act 2017](#), councils working together across Suffolk deliver the corporate parenting principles and the policy sets out the Council's responsibilities.

3. Alternative options

- 3.1 The alternative option is to continue with the Safeguarding Policy in its original form. However, not incorporating the new legislation in the West Suffolk policy means that we would not be consistent with the requirements of Central Government.

4. Consultation and engagement

- 4.1 The West Suffolk Children and Adult Safeguarding Policy has been written in consultation with partners across the Safeguarding Children Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board.

5. Risks

- 5.1 Not being compliant with Central Government's legislative requirements.



6. Implications arising from the proposal

6.1 None.

7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix 1 – West Suffolk Children and Adult Safeguarding Policy.

8. Background documents

8.1 Safeguarding Policy – Guidelines for Working with Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

