

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
PEOPLE IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

7 SEPTEMBER 2016

Report of the Chair of People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee

SAFEGUARDING SUB GROUP: UPDATE ON PROGRESS

1. Purpose of the report

To update the Committee on the progress of the safeguarding sub group's work.

2. Information

The People Improvement and Scrutiny Committee agreed to have a working group on safeguarding and for this to be a standing item. Following the conclusion of the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Review in May 2016, which was undertaken by the safeguarding sub-group, it was agreed that it would revert to a monitoring role and undertake specific work when required.

The sub-group has had a meeting with officers from Children's Services and Adult Care. This provided Members with briefings on the latest safeguarding performance for children and adults.

Members were also briefed on the Wood Review and the impact on the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Board. The Board will look to have more working groups for specific strategic pieces of work with the focus on three key organisations of Local Authority, Police and Health.

Additionally, Members were briefed on the recent developments with home education and illegal schools. So far, 100 schools have been identified nationally. However, it is believed none of these identified schools are in Derbyshire (that is not to say that children living in Derbyshire may attend an illegal school over the border).

Members noted the need to ensure those who are home educated can have access to the local authority if needed, and that the authority can engage with

them. It was agreed that the working group should undertake more work in this area, building on the evidence collected in the CSE Review.

Adult Safeguarding briefings also focused on domestic violence (DV) of vulnerable adults and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS). Members noted that there are robust processes in place with regard to referrals for DV. Members also noted that there is a Law Commission which is reviewing the Mental Capacity Act, which may have some impact on the way DOLS are carried out. However, this will not be published until 2017, and legislation may not become statute until at least 2018.

3. Considerations (to be specified individually where appropriate)

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

4. Recommendation

That the Committee notes the work being carried out by the safeguarding sub-group.

Councillor Diane Charles

Chair of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People