

Title	Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults update		
Report of the Head of	Community & Leisure		
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Report to	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date	23-05-18

Briefing Summary

An update was last taken to OSCOM in May 2016 which highlighted some significant changes to the safeguarding legislation which TVBC have incorporated into our policies and procedures. Since this time, there have been no further major updates or changes to our policies.

This briefing note will therefore provide Members with an update on the safeguarding work that has taken place in the past two years. This has included completing both external and internal audits of the safeguarding procedures adopted by TVBC to monitor our compliance with our legal obligations.

The Children Act 2004 and The Care Act 2014 places key responsibilities on district councils (as a statutory partner) with regard to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk.

The Counter-Terrorism & Security Act 2015 placed a duty on specified authorities in the exercise of their functions to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. It links to safeguarding for both children and adults. TVBC use the same referral process as for any other safeguarding concern.

The Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy is reviewed annually along with staff and Member training to ensure that Council remains compliant with the above duties. The next review will take place in September 2018

Main focus of the document

Section 11 Audit

1.1 The frequency of the Section 11 audit has changed from every two years to annually but with more of a focus on building on good practice. The Section 11 is a self assessment tool to indicate standards of compliance with regards our safeguarding duties and is monitored by the Hampshire Safeguarding Children

Board (HSCB) . This provides a beneficial check on current provision and also helps indicate areas of improvement.

1.2 The last Section 11 Audit was carried out in 2017. The HSCB concluded that overall TVBC is compliant with all statutory duties under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004. The feedback from the HSCB provided assurance that previous areas identified for improvement have been addressed and areas such as the safeguarding training and our work with vulnerable groups was commended. .

1.3 The areas that TVBC (along with all other Councils) have been asked to focus on is how we work with contracted out services such as Leisure providers to ensure their compliance. Another key area is safeguarding awareness training for licensed drivers as taxi drivers have in other areas been linked to historic cases of child sexual exploitation (please note this has not been highlighted as a concern in Test Valley) . We are currently developing a suitable safeguarding awareness package. These areas and our progress will be feed back into the 2018 audit due later in the year.

1.4 In addition a number of 'mini audits have been requested to assess our status with regards other safeguarding topics such as MET (Missing Exploited and Trafficked), Prevent and Safeguarding Children with Disabilities

1.5 The feedback from each of these audits has been that TVBC is considered satisfactory in the work that we are doing.

1.6 The Hampshire Safeguarding Adult Board (HSAB) will also require us to complete an audit of our safeguarding policies and procedures, the date and extent of this is not yet known.

1.7 The Hampshire Safeguarding Leads group have made a request to the HSCB and HSAB to merge the audits to save time and duplication, this request is under consideration but will not impact any audits planned for 2018/19.

1.8 In 2016 an internal audit of safeguarding was undertaken by the Principal Auditor looking at safeguarding across all services. The audit outcome placed us at 'substantial' meaning that basically our safeguarding system is sound although there were some weaknesses which placed some of the control objectives at risk. No high risk actions were identified. All of these actions have now been addressed and are listed below:

- Consistent use of safeguarding referral form across all services – Now in place
- Updating the safeguarding pages on Troutface & Members Portal – Actioned
- Ensuring safeguarding requirements were included on venue hire forms managed by TVBC, Contract Standing Orders and the Community grants scheme - Actioned
- Ensuring our DBS checks are commensurate with the requirements and

maintained up to date.- Actioned

- Data sharing protocols for Children and Adults Services – now in place.

2.0 Safeguarding Training

A well established programme of safeguarding training now takes place. All staff will receive safeguarding training at either induction level or more detailed if their role warrants this. TVBC co train the higher level course with Eastleigh BC and Winchester CC meaning we can deliver the sessions more frequently and share the workload.

2.1 This year we have rolled out an e-learning refresher course for all staff who have taken the safeguarding training and will form part of a rolling three year programme of HR managed refresher training.

2.2 67 TVBC employees have attended safeguarding training in 2016/17

97 employees have completed the safeguarding e-learning refresher course

Dates for further training in 2018 have been established to continue to provide timely safeguarding training for new staff.

2.3 Safeguarding training for Members will take place in 2019 following the local elections for any new Councillors and offered as a refresher training opportunity for existing Councillors.

Proposed Outcomes for consideration

It is proposed that OSCOM endorses the on-going work that is undertaken to ensure that the policies and procedures adopted by TVBC are compliant with our legal obligations.

Confidentiality *(Please delete whichever paragraph below does not apply and, if the report is to be exempt, complete the paragraph number of Schedule 12A and the public interest test reason.)*

It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.

It is considered that this report contains exempt information within the meaning of paragraph ... of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended. It is further considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs

the public interest in disclosing the information because	
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No of Annexes:	
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