



Policy, Finance and Development Committee	Tuesday, 16 June 2026	Matter for Decision
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Report Title: **Revised Safeguarding Policies (June 2026)**
Report Author(s): **Mark Smith (Community Safety & Youth Officer)**

Purpose of Report:	To provide Members with an overview of the two revised Safeguarding Policies for the Council, in respect of legislative changes, enabling Members to approve adoption of the policies by the Council.
Report Summary:	This report details the two revised Safeguarding Policies covering statutory duties for the Council concerning the safeguarding of children and young people, and of adults with care and support needs as drafted by the Council's Safeguarding Lead. These revised documents incorporate legislative changes at a national level and ensure the Borough's consistency in safeguarding approaches across Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.
Recommendation(s):	<p>A. That the revised Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures (as set out at Appendix 1) are approved by the Council; and</p> <p>B. That the revised Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures (as set out at Appendix 2) are approved by the Council.</p>
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	<p>Colleen Warren (Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer) (0116) 257 2759 colleen.warren@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Samuel Ball (Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer) (Solicitor) samuel.ball@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Mark Smith (Community Safety & Youth Officer) (0116) 257 2675 mark.smith@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p>
Strategic Objectives:	<p>Our Council (SO1)</p> <p>Our Communities (SO2)</p> <p>Our Partners (SO5)</p>
Vision and Values:	<p>Respect - We treat everyone with dignity and respect (V1)</p> <p>Excellence - We strive to work to a high standard and deliver high quality services (V2)</p> <p>Accountability - We do what we say and take responsibility for our actions (V3)</p> <p>Customer Focused - We do the best for our customers (V4)</p> <p>Teamwork - We achieve more by working together (V5)</p>
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	The Children Act 2004, The Children and Social Work Act 2017, The

	Care Act 2014 and Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 place duties on the Council to ensure its functions are discharged regarding the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and at risk adults as set out in the policy statement (Children) and introduction (Adults)
Financial:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Reputation Damage (CR4) Failure to Respond to a Significant Incident (CR7)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications directly arising from this report. Full EA Assessment (See Appendices)
Human Rights:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	The two policies have been revised as part of a wider, County-level process via the County Designated Safeguarding Officer Group to ensure consistency in safeguarding approaches across the Districts and Boroughs. Direction has been taken from the LLR Safeguarding Boards regarding policy, procedure, and best practice in the development of both policies.
Background Papers:	None.
Appendices:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures (June 2026) 2. Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures (June 2026) 3. Equality Impact Assessment Form (June 2026)

1. Safeguarding Policies

- 1.1 In accordance with the Council's statutory obligations as a signatory to the Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland Safeguarding Boards (Children and Adults) the Council is required to have a policy document in place, across all its services, for the safeguarding of Children, Young People, and Adults with Care and Support Needs.
- 1.2 Having conducted a review of the Council's current safeguarding policies, for both children and adults, the proposed policy documents at **Appendices 1** and **2** were drafted, incorporating all changes and additions to relevant legislation to date. This includes the Government's new *Working Together to Safeguard Children* guidance issued in March 2026 and the *Serious Violence Duty 2023*.
- 1.3 The drafting of these policies has taken place as part of a wider, County-level process lead through the County Designated Safeguarding Officer Group, and informed by policy, procedure, and best practice promoted by the Safeguarding Boards. This approach ensures consistency in addressing safeguarding concerns across Leicestershire's District and

Borough Councils and provides benchmarking opportunities for this Council.

- 1.4 The adoption of the proposed policies will enable greater organisational awareness of what constitutes a safeguarding concern, and clarify how officers, elected members, and volunteers should react when encountering, or having disclosed to them, a safeguarding concern.
- 1.5 The proposed policies will underpin all work undertaken by the Council and provide a strong legal position in the unlikely event of a serious, or significant, safeguarding related event occurring within the Borough if the Council can demonstrate that an appropriate policy is in place, and that the contents of the policy have been adhered to.
- 1.6 Failure for the Council to retain safeguarding policies consistent with current legislation could leave it unable to respond appropriately to a significant incident, involving either children or adults at risk, which will have a high probability of damaging the Council's reputation. There is a high risk that not retaining a suitable safeguarding policy the level or impact of risk those in need are exposed to will be worsened.
- 1.7 The proposed policies will be utilised as the basis for future safeguarding training for all officers and elected members at the Council, with the level of training undertaken tailored to suit the needs of the individual's role. All employees will be required to undertake basic safeguarding training via Learning Pool, the Council's e-Learning platform, where access is available. For employees without access to Learning Pool suitable face-to-face safeguarding training based upon the e-Learning will be provided.
- 1.8 Roles within the Council that are more public facing, such as Housing and Customer Services, will also be required to attend face-to-face training building upon the e-Learning foundation, equipping those officers with further safeguarding skills and an enhanced understanding effective safeguarding. This is colloquially referred to as 'Silver level' training, with the e-Learning foundation being 'Bronze level'.
- 1.9 'Gold level' training is made available to the Council's Designated Safeguarding Officers through a 2-day dedicated course, jointly delivered by specialist trainers to DSOs across Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland.
- 1.10 The proposed policies will be reviewed annually, or at such a time where there is a significant change in national safeguarding legislation, by the Community Safety & Youth Officer in their capacity as the Council's Safeguarding Lead.
- 1.11 The Community Safety & Youth Officer recommends that Members approve the adoption of both revised policies by the Council.