

<b>Risk Identifier</b>	CR-13
<b>Risk Title</b>	Safeguarding

**Risk Description**

Failure to have in place and implement a fit for purpose safeguarding policy, supported by clear procedures for referring concerns, with properly trained staff, contractors and any other person acting on behalf of the council will place vulnerable adults and children at risk of harm leading to intervention from ECC safeguarding adults board/children and Families Hub causing the council reputational loss. Failure of council officers to properly deal with concerns raised by residents and/or their advocates regarding domestic and other types of abuse will leave residents vulnerable to further abuse and may lead to reputational damage for the Council and unfavourable findings in Domestic Homicide Reviews.

**Risk Owner**

Simone Russell


**Directorate Responsible**

Housing, Health & Communities

Original Risk		
Likelihood	Impact	Score
3	4	12

Residual Risk		
Likelihood	Impact	Score
2	4	8

**Risk direction**

Decreasing 

**Cabinet Member**

Councillor Sutton

Key Dates	
Date Registered	22nd May 2024
Last update	22nd May 2024

**Background**

Safeguarding children and adults are an inter-agency responsibility involving the city/borough/district councils, Essex County Council, the Essex Safeguarding Children Board and the Essex Safeguarding Adults Board. UDC is accountable to the required to have in place clear leadership and lines of accountability, appropriate policies and procedures, safeguarding training and working in partnership with relevant agencies to protect children and vulnerable adults. The council is also more widely responsible for ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of residents, including where issues are raised by residents concerned for their own safety. This can include where concerns are raised of domestic abuse and other forms of violence.

**Service Area Affected**

All

**Triggers**

Safeguarding or other wellbeing concerns identified by UDC staff, elected member, contractor or any other person acting on behalf of the council.

**Risk Type**

Threat

**Risk Response Category**

Reduce

Risk Response	Risk Response Actionee	RAG Status	Progress Update	Next Scheduled Update
Approval of updated safeguarding policy by CMT and cabinet.	Simone Russell	Green		Complete

Review and implement a refreshed training program for all council staff, level of training determined by job roles.	Simone Russell	Amber	Training is in progress of being procured.	Dec-24
Ensure council safeguarding requirements are included in the specification of the new repairs maintenance contracts which will be mobilised April 2025.	Simone Russell	Green	Specification is in the process of being finalised.	Complete
Arrange briefings for all members.	Simone Russell	Amber	In development.	Dec-24
Publish a new guidebook for all staff and members.	Simone Russell	Green	Ensure this is uploaded onto intranet and all staff and Members advised	Nov-24
Provide clear procedures and training for all front line council staff in relation to properly recording and acting upon concerns of domestic and other forms of abuse.	Simone Russell	Amber	This matter is being addressed by the Community Partnerships Manager, under the guidance of the Strategic Director, Housing, Environment and Communities	Dec-24

Key for RAG status of risk response	
R	Control is not in place or working or progress has slipped
A	Control is not working efficiently and some challenges remain
G	Control is working or predominantly in hand or completed