Agenda Item No: 6

Report To: Cabinet

11th May 2017 **Date of Meeting:**

Report Title: O&S Recommendations to Cabinet in respect of

Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk

Report Author &

Will Train

Job Title:

Corporate Scrutiny and Overview Officer

At its meeting of 28th March the Overview and Scrutiny **Summary:**

Committee received a report on progress made in improving

the Council's safeguarding activities, procedures and policies. The Committee were pleased with the progress made and note that the Council's safeguarding is now regarded as "sound" by the Audit Partnership, but felt that there would be value in Borough Councillors undertaking safeguarding training, and e-learning being made available

to Parish Councillors.

Key Decision: NO

Significantly Affected Wards: All - none specifically

Recommendations: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends to

the Cabinet:-

I. That safeguarding training form part of the induction training package for new Councillors;

That level 2 safeguarding training sessions are II. made available for Borough Councillors;

III. That consideration be given to making safeguarding training available to Parish

Councillors.

Management Team

Comment:

Management Team felt that the Member Training Panel should explore the best methods of delivering training to

Members.

Policy Overview: N/A

Financial Implications: The Council has the ability to deliver level 2 safeguarding sessions in house; however putting the recommendations into effect may necessitate drawing on the Member Training

Budget.

Legal Implications N/A **Equalities Impact Assessment**

Not Required

Other Material Implications:

N/A

Exempt from Publication:

NO

Background Papers:

Safeguarding Children and Adults as risk – report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 28th March 2017

Contact: will.train@ashford.gov.uk - Tel: (01233) 330394

Report Title: O&S Recommendation to Cabinet in respect of Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk

Introduction and Background

1. At its meeting of 28th March the Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report on progress made in improving the Council's safeguarding activities, procedures and policies. The Committee were pleased with the progress made and noted that the Council's safeguarding is now regarded as "sound" by the Audit Partnership, but felt that there would be value in Borough Councillors undertaking safeguarding training and e-learning being made available to Parish Councillors.

Safeguarding

- 2. As part of agreeing the Council's revised safeguarding policy, Cabinet requested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive a report on the Council's safeguarding activities, procedures and policies.
- 3. The Committee were pleased to note that the revisions made to the Council's procedures had been rolled out to staff and that the latest bi-annual audit had been completed with the Council achieving 100% compliance, and a judgement of "sound" from the Audit Partnership.
- 4. In discussion the Chairman raised the question as to whether Members should also receive training on safeguarding and if it could form part of their induction. The Committee agreed that it was important for Members to be trained since they were interacting with residents in their respective Wards and were sometimes the first point of call before Officers.
- 5. The Health, Parking and Community Safety Manager provided details on the requirements for a Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) check and explained that it was not possible to issue a blanket check for all Members.

Management Team Comment

6. The Committee's recommendations have been discussed by Management Team, who felt that the Member Training Panel should explore the best methods of delivering training to Members.

Conclusion

- 7. The O&S Committee commends the progress made on safeguarding to the Cabinet and recommends the following:
 - I. That safeguarding training form part of the induction training package for new Councillors;
 - II. That level 2 safeguarding training sessions are made available for Borough Councillors;

III. That consideration be given to making safeguarding training available to Parish Councillors.

Contact and Email

8. Will Train, Corporate Scrutiny and Overview Officer will.train@ashford.gov.uk 01233 330394