

Title of meeting: Cabinet Member for Housing & Preventing Homelessness

Date of meeting: 23rd March 2023

Subject: Updated Safeguarding Policy for the Play, Youth and Community Services (PYC)

Report by: James Hill - Director for Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services

Author: Nicola Clannachan - Head of Housing Community Services

Wards affected: Paulsgrove, Cosham, Charles Dickens, St Thomas, St Jude, Central Southsea

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To seek approval for the implementation of the updated Safeguarding Policy for the Play and Youth and Community Services operated by Housing, Neighbourhood and Building (HNB) Services.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness approves the policy attached and marked as Appendix A.

3. Background

3.1 Housing Neighbourhoods and Building operate multiple settings across the city for the provision of service to children, young people and adults. We collectively refer to these settings as PYC (Play and Youth and Community).

3.2 The Play and Youth and Community services are committed to safeguarding children and adults who use these settings. This policy reflects the necessity of this responsibility and it is reviewed annually.

3.3 This policy brings up to date the working practices and requirements for staff reflecting service changes and looks to refresh the existing policy to ensure the policy reflects current practice and demonstrates our commitment to the safeguarding of our customers.

3.4 Play and Youth and Community services have been supported and advised by the Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership in the design of our policy and practices, the delivery of training to our staff and in our self-assessment process.

4. Reasons for recommendations

4.1 To formalise and update the working practices of the Play and Youth and Community services operated by HNB.

4.2 To ensure that all staff and volunteers understand their role in the safeguarding of children, young people and adults.

4.3 To provide information for all third parties working with our service

5. Integrated impact assessment

5.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed, Appendix B, and no adverse equality implications were identified.

6. Legal implications

6.1 The report accurately considers the statutory implications and requirements of the Children Act 1989 along with the Children Act 2004. In addition, the policy has considered the key areas of equality of access to facilities and services along with the necessary safeguarding applicable to volunteers and their recruitment and risk management.

7. Director of Finance's comments

7.1 There are no financial implications as a result of approving this policy or its implementation.

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Signed by: **James Hill**
Director for Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services

Appendices:

A - Safeguarding Policy

B – Integrated Impact Assessment

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

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The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/
rejected by on

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Signed by: