

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**ADULT SERVICES CABINET MEMBER**

**SAFEGUARDING ADULTS ANNUAL REPORT  
2008/09**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To present the North Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report for 2008/09.
- 1.2 There was a 65% increase in reported abuse to vulnerable adults since the last report.
- 1.3 The report explains how the council, through partner organisations and its own services, is making life safer for adults with disabilities or frailty in North Lincolnshire.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 All councils have a delegated duty to work in partnership to establish systems and services to protect vulnerable people from abuse. 'Vulnerable Adults' are people from the age of 18 years who are more prone to abuse due to disability or frailty and includes those who qualify for help from Social Services. The council discharges its duty through the Safeguarding Adults Board. The Board consists of senior representatives from all partner organisations and is chaired by the Director of Adult Social Services. It produces an annual report, which is scrutinised by Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Panel. This is the board's second annual report.

**3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 Over the last year the Board has made great strides and the report sets out the progress.
- 3.2 There was a planned increase in public awareness resulting in a far greater prominence in North Lincolnshire. For example, there has been increased publicity and training for staff resulting in a 65% rise in referrals.

- 3.3 The multi-agency procedures for handling abuse cases were overhauled to make them easier to use.
- 3.4 Stronger links have been established with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, sharing ideas and experiences. North Lincolnshire has seen real growth in inter-generational initiatives between the youngest and oldest members of society.
- 3.5 North Lincolnshire Council took a major step forward in publicly declaring a zero-tolerance of adult abuse and adopting a ground-breaking corporate carer scheme. This sees councillors and officers taking on a similar role to their existing corporate parents duties to children in care. While the council will pioneer the scheme, we expect it to set a precedent for other organisations who give services to vulnerable adults.
- 3.6 A recent Board workshop set priorities for the next three years. The immediate priority is to agree and publish a strategy and action plan that will deliver them.
- 3.7 The Cabinet Member has the option of accepting or rejecting the report.

#### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 The indications are that referral reporting rates will continue to increase year on year. In order to respond to these increases more partnership involvement will be necessary and the report targets for the next year will be needed. Therefore the option to accept the report is recommended.

#### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

- 5.1 Any financial, staffing or property implications will be reported separately to Cabinet Members.

#### **6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

- 6.1 The council's Safeguarding role provides greater security to vulnerable adults in North Lincolnshire.

## 7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION**

7.1 All partner organisations have been consulted in the production of the Annual Report and are agreed on its content.

## 8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That Cabinet Member approves the North Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual report for 2008/2009.

SERVICE DIRECTOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

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**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

None