

	<p style="text-align: center;">Cabinet 17 June 2019</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Report from the Assistant Chief Executive</p>
<p>Contextual Safeguarding: Overview and Scrutiny Task Group</p>	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Non-key
Open or Part/Fully Exempt:	Open
No. of Appendices:	One: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Task Group Report
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer:	James Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, Strategy and Partnerships james.diamond@brent.gov.uk Tel. 020 8937 1068

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present Cabinet with the recommendations from the members' overview and scrutiny task group which was set up to review contextual safeguarding.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 Cabinet to note the five recommendations and the task group's final report.

3.0 Background and Detail

- 3.1 The Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee can commission evidence-based reviews, which are led by non-executive members, of a policy area or function of the local authority. As part of the work programme discussion, members of the committee discussed a variety of areas which they would like a task group to review in greater detail, including contextual safeguarding.
- 3.2 Contextual safeguarding is a commitment in the Borough Plan 2019-2023, and safeguarding was felt to be a highly relevant area for a scrutiny review in terms of corporate priorities as well as meeting concerns of the borough's residents. For the above reasons, the committee proposed that its 2018/19 work programme would include a task group to review contextual safeguarding and

how this new approach could be introduced more widely across the council. The committee formally set up the members' task group on 8 October 2018, and agreed that Councillor Hylton would chair the task group, and the other members would be Councillor Patterson and Councillor Donnelly-Jackson.

- 3.3 Members of the task group were asked by the committee to develop up to five recommendations for the Cabinet. On 30 January, the task group presented an interim report to the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee which included early feedback about their findings. At the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 27 March 2019, the report was presented by Councillor Hylton, and it was agreed that the task group's five recommendations should be presented to Cabinet. Each of the recommendations as well as the results of the evidence-gathering by the task group, are set out in detail in the report.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 If a recommendation was to be accepted and implemented then the financial implications would need to be considered by the Cabinet. However, none of the task group's recommendations in the final report have significant financial or Budget implications.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There were no discussions of individual cases as part of the task group's work. Information did not include family court proceedings papers which require authorisation from the court before disclosure under the Family Procedure Rules 12.73(1) (b).

6.0 Equality Implications

- 6.1 There are no immediate equalities implications arising from this report for the local authority. However, if the proposed recommendations are accepted and implemented then they would help to reduce wider social inequalities in the borough, particularly for groups overrepresented in safeguarding concerns.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

- 7.1 Ward members who were task group members were involved in this report.

REPORT SIGN-OFF

PETER GADSDON
Assistant Chief Executive