

This Council:

1) Notes that the safeguarding of children and other vulnerable individuals within the community is of paramount importance to all who hold public office.

2) Is aware of recent criticisms of other surrounding authorities for a failure to exercise due diligence in carrying out their safeguarding functions in respect of children within their care.

3) Notes that, whilst Officers may primarily exercise the day to day functions of safeguarding on behalf of local authorities, that Elected Members equally have a responsibility to ensure that:

a) Those functions are indeed carried out diligently and effectively;

b) That vulnerable children and others potentially at risk in the community are protected by appropriate policies and procedures;

c) That Elected Members themselves set an appropriate leadership example in exercising their duties and responsibilities.

4) Recognises the importance of ensuring that everyone representing Gedling Borough Council, who may come into contact with such vulnerable children and other individuals in the course of their duties, are themselves above reproach.

5) Should seek to provide reassurance to our Gedling community by ensuring that all Elected Members are themselves made subject to a DBS check upon taking office.

6) Instructs the Monitoring Officer to consider and put in place a mechanism to ensure that appropriate DBS checks are carried out and recorded in a register against the name of all Elected Members.