

Summary Sheet

Council Report

Council – 8 March 2017

Report Title

Disclosure and Barring Service Checks on Councillors

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Shokat Lal, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author

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Ward(s) Affected

All

Summary

This report is submitted for information to confirm that all current councillors serving on Rotherham MBC have been subject to a check on offences and convictions by Disclosure and Barring Service.

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

List of Appendices Included

Nil

Background Papers

Internal Audit Report – Elected Members Procedures Audit 2015-2016 – April 2016

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

N/A

Council Approval Required

Yes

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Disclosure and Barring Service Checks on Councillors

1. Recommendations

1.1 That the report be noted.

2. Background

2.1 In response to the findings of the Casey Review of corporate governance within Rotherham MBC, the Commissioners identified that all councillors should be required to be subject to a Disclosure and Barring Services check as part of rebuilding trust and confidence in the leadership of the authority. This requirement was also enshrined within recommendations in an Internal Audit report on Elected Member Conduct.

2.2 The approach adopted in administering DBS checks was to require any councillor without an existing DBS certificate dated after May 2015 to undertake a standard check through the Disclosure and Barring Service. A number of specific post-holders were required to undertake an enhanced check, as detailed in the table below:

Role	Member	Reason
Leader of the Council	Councillor Read	Responsibility for Corporate Safeguarding
Deputy Leader	Councillor Watson	Portfolio Holder for Children's Services
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health	Councillor Roche	Portfolio Holder for Adult Services
Members of Corporate Parenting Panel	Councillors Clark, Cusworth, Elliot M. Elliott & Sansome	Panel Members' responsibility for and oversight of issues in respect of Looked After Children
Leader of the Opposition	Councillor Cowles	Shadowing Leader & Deputy Leader portfolio

3. Key Issues

3.1 At the time of writing this report, all councillors that were required to make an application for either a standard or enhanced DBS check have done so. With the exception of two applications which are still awaiting determination, all checks have been returned.

3.2 The outcome of DBS checks cannot be made public due to the confidential nature of the information.

4. Financial and Procurement Implications

4.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications associated with this report.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 There are no direct legal implications associated with this report.

6. Human Resources Implications

6.1 There are no direct human resources implications associated with this report.

7. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

7.1 There are no direct implications for children and young people and vulnerable adults associated with this report.

8. Equalities and Human Rights Implications

8.1 There are no direct equalities or human rights implications associated with this report.

9. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

9.1 There are no direct implications for partners or other directorates arising from this report.

10. Risks and Mitigation

10.1 There are no risks directly associated with this report.

11. Accountable Officer(s)

Shokat Lal – Assistant Chief Executive

James McLaughlin – Democratic Services Manager

Approvals Obtained from:-

Strategic Director of Finance and Customer Services:- Named officer

Assistant Director of Legal Services:- Named officer

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