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| **TITLE***Name / description of the issue being assessed* | Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy |
| **DATE** *Date the DIA is completed* | Published in January 2018Reviewed in October 2020 |
| **LEAD OFFICER***Name, title and dept of person responsible for carrying out the DIA*. | Katherine Bishop – Policy and Partnerships Manager |
| 1. **Summary description of the proposed change**
* *What is the change to policy / service / new project that is being proposed?*
* *How does it compare with the current situation?*
 |
| Under the Care Act 2014 the Local Authority has a duty to ensure that adults at risk are able to live their lives in safety, free from abuse and neglect. The Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy has been updated to ensure that it reflects the current Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults policy process. There have been no significant policy changes.  |
| 1. **Summary of evidence used to support this assessment**
* *Eg: Feedback from consultation, performance information, service user records etc.*
* *Eg: Comparison of service user profile with Medway Community Profile*
 |
| Number of lead tenants in Homes for Independent Living Schemes = 280. According to records 24 (8.4%) of these lead tenants have a disability. |
| What is the likely impact of the proposed change?*Is it likely to :** *Adversely impact on one or more of the protected characteristic groups?*
* *Advance equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected characteristic groups?*
* *Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don’t?*
 |
| **Protected characteristic groups** | **Adverse impact** | **Advance equality** | **Foster good relations** |
| **Age**  |  | ***✓*** |  |
| **Disabilty** |  | ***✓*** |  |
| **Gender reassignment**  |  |  |  |
| **Marriage/civil partnership** |  |  |  |
| **Pregnancy/maternity** |  |  |  |
| **Race** |  |  |  |
| Religion/belief |  |  |  |
| **Sex** |  |  |  |
| **Sexual orientation** |  |  |  |
| **Other (eg low income groups)** |  | ***✓*** |  |
| 1. **Summary of the likely impacts**
* *Who will be affected?*
* *How will they be affected?*
 |
| It has not been identified that this policy will have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics. The Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy applies to all residents within the Homes for Independent Living Schemes and is implemented to ensure vulnerable residents are protected and given any additional support they require. |
| 1. **What actions can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impacts, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations?**
* *Are there alternative providers?*
* *What alternative ways can the Council provide the service?*
* *Can demand for services be managed differently?*
 |
| The policy itself has already included mitigating actions to address any additional requirements may have. In order to protect adults in Homes for Independent Living Schemes who have Learning Difficulties/Disabilities and Adults with Cognitive or Communication Difficulties/Disabilities the following steps will be taken: • Particular care will be taken to ensure that the adult’s communication needs are addressed. Ensure appropriate interpreters or sign language translators are available. Speech and language specialist assessment may be indicated where the adult’s communication and comprehension of language is not clear. • The adult will be enabled to make informed choice about their participation in the safeguarding process and an independent advocate should be appointed if they are likely to struggle to understand the process and if they have no suitable representative. • Interviews will be planned to take into account the adult’s method of communication and individual need. •The development of a safeguarding plan will give due regard to any therapeutic services or additional support that is needed by the adult. An Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) identified within the Mental Capacity Act 2005 must be instructed for people lacking capacity who have no one else who it would be appropriate to consult whenever: •An NHS body is proposing to provide serious medical treatment•CAN NHS body or Medway Council is proposing to arrange accommodation (or a change of accommodation) in hospital or a care home and the person will stay in hospital longer than 28 days or in the care home longer than 8 weeks. |
| Action plan* *Actions to mitigate adverse impact, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations and/or obtain new evidence*
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| **Action** | **Lead** | **Deadline or review date** |
| Monitor complaints to identify any with regards to the Vulnerable Adults Policy | HFIL Team Leader | Ongoing |
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| Recommendation*The recommendation by the lead officer should be stated below. This may be:** *to proceed with the change, implementing the Action Plan if appropriate*
* *consider alternatives*
* *gather further evidence*

*If the recommendation is to proceed with the change and there are no actions that can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impact, it is important to state why.* |
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| Authorisation *The authorising officer is consenting that:** *the recommendation can be implemented*
* *sufficient evidence has been obtained and appropriate mitigation is planned*
* *the Action Plan will be incorporated into the relevant Service Plan and monitored*
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| **Authorising Officer** | **Mark Breathwick** |
| **Date**  | **October 2022** |