

**ESSEX POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY**

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service

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| Meeting | **Performance and Resources Board** | Agenda Item | 10 |
| Meeting Date | 30 July 2018 | Report Number |  |
| Report Author: | Director of Prevention, Protection & Response | | |
| Presented By | Director of Prevention, Protection & Response | | |
| Subject | **Safeguarding Update – June 2018/Assessment objectives** | | |
| Type of Report: | Information | | |

# Recommendations

Members of the board are asked to note the following contents of the report for information and provide feedback on the suggested objectives for the audit of our Safeguarding arrangements.

# BACKGROUND

Safeguarding updates are submitted to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) on a monthly basis.

# Options and Analysis

**Adult Safeguarding referrals June 2018**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Crews North West | 0 |
| Crews North East | 2 |
| Crews South West | 5 |
| Crews South East | 6 |
| HFS Technicians | 3 |
| Community Builders | 11 |
| Police (Rural Collaboration) | 1 |
| Internal referrals | 1 |
| **TOTAL** | **29** |

**Children’s Safeguarding referrals June 2018**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Education Officers | 2 |
| Community Builder | 2 |
| **TOTAL** | **4** |

**Community Builder Engagements June 2018**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| North East | 4 |
| North West | 2 |
| South East | 7 |
| South West | 2 |
| **TOTAL** | **15** |

**Comparison Trends for the previous 12 months**

**Total number of outstanding/open referrals**

The current number of outstanding referrals being case managed increases daily with currently 160 open cases. We are not receiving updates from Essex Social Care and therefore are, at present, unable to advise those referring cases of outcomes. The Deputy PFCC has liaised directly with Essex County Council and it is hoped that this matter will soon be resolved, and the number of open cases significantly reduced.

**Any trends/ areas attracting most referrals**

The majority of referrals are regarding concerns for older people and their welfare, including hoarding.

**UPDATE ON RESOURCES**

**Community & Rural Builders**:

We have received 18 applications for the Community Builder role which are currently being reviewed and an offer of interview will be going our shortly to those short listed.

The two Rural Builders involved in the collaboration project are continuing to work well and having recently received back clearance for their checks are now able to work more in depth with the Policing teams. They have both recently passed the Home security exam.

At the request of the PFCC an audit will be instigated into the Service approach to Safeguarding. The following objectives are suggested for this audit; -

* Is the Service’s Safeguarding policy polices compliant with all relevant legislation?
* Are the reporting and governance arrangements currently in place for Safeguarding appropriate and effective?
* Are the Services safer recruitment process effective and being complied with?
* Is the staff training and development for safeguarding appropriate and proportionate?
* Are the Service’s current Safeguarding working practices for sharing information GDPR compliant?
* Are the Service’s recording and documenting (i.e. casefiles) processes effective and GDPR compliant?
* Are the Service’s current Safeguarding compliant processes effective?
* Are staff aware of Safeguarding procedures and how to report?

**Significant Information:**

# Benefits and Risk Implications

Resolving the amount of outstanding cases will significant help in reducing the significant workload on the team. Head of Community Safety will continue to monitor workloads.

Currently, work that was underway in respect of checking annotations for hoarding and vulnerable adults has been placed on hold.

# Financial Implications

None associated with this paper.

# Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no equality and diversity implications associated with this paper.

# Workforce Engagement

Head of Human Resources is writing to the Fire Brigades Union clarifing the Services position on DBS checks. A copy of the letter will be provided to Essex County Council.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications associated with this paper.