Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting: 25 July 2022

Title of Report: Disclosure and Barring Service Checks for

Councillors

Lead Member: Councillor Mark Shayer (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for

Finance and Economy)

Lead Strategic Director: Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive)

Author: Ross Jago

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Your Reference: AG/DBS/2022

Key Decision: No

Confidentiality: Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The attached policy (Appendix A) follows discussion of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks which took place at the meeting of the 11 October 2021.

The policy meets the statutory requirements for DBS checks and provides that some, but not all, councillors receive a DBS check.

Recommendations and Reasons

The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to approve the policy.

Reason: The policy provides clarity as to which councillor roles have DBS checks as a requirement.

Alternative options considered and rejected

- Not creating a policy: The Council is not under a statutory obligation to agree a policy in relation to DBS checks for councillors. This option was rejected as clarity of what checks are required has been requested by Councillors.
- Requiring DBS checks for all Councillors: There is no requirement in the law to provide DBS checks for all councillors and the Council is unable to compel all Councillors to undergo such checks.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The policy reflects the Democratic and Responsible values of the Corporate Plan and our priority to keep children, young people and adults protected.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

None - Costs in relation to checks will be met through existing budgets.

Financial Risks

None - Costs in relation to checks will be met through existing budgets.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

None.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.							
		I	2	3	4	5	6	7	
A	Policy Concerning Disclosure And Barring Service Checks For Councillors								

Background papers:

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.								
	I	2	3	4	5	6	7		

^{*}Add rows as required to box below

Sign off:

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			4.7.22				

Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Giles Perritt, Assistant Chief Executive

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 15/07/2022