

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – TECHNOLOGY AND CORPORATE PROGRAMMES**ONE STAFFORDSHIRE DATA SHARING PROTOCOL****EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Audit and Governance on the reasoning and benefits behind the One Staffordshire Data Sharing Protocol, with a subsequent recommendation of endorsement for Tamworth Borough Council to become a signed up party.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Audit and Governance endorse the organisation to sign up to the One Staffordshire Data Sharing Protocol.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report sets out the benefits to Tamworth Borough Council in signing the One Staffordshire Data Sharing Protocol. The protocol will enable more effective sharing of information across partners and agencies in order to shape and determine our service delivery, thus ensuring a positive impact on our communities.

The full detail of the protocol can be accessed at **Appendix A – One Staffordshire Data Sharing Protocol**.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are minimal resource implications to signing up to this protocol, and these will be officer costs for training and awareness, which can be met within existing budgetary provision.

LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND

There are no legal or risk implications

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no Sustainability Implications

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Over the last twelve months a working group, made up of representatives from various public bodies, has been reviewing information sharing protocols currently in place within Staffordshire with the intention of producing 'One Staffordshire Information Sharing Protocol' which accurately reflects the current information sharing climate, legislative requirements and best practice.

The 'One Staffordshire Information Sharing Protocol' deals with the emerging issues surrounding information sharing between agencies in light of the changing nature in which organisations are delivering services for the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the community.

Promoting and achieving wellbeing is only likely to be successful where organisations work together to ensure that communities are kept safe; participate in healthy lifestyle choices; are looked after; are provided with the opportunity to succeed; and are part of a thriving economy.

The aim of the 'One Staffordshire Information Sharing Protocol' is to have one protocol available to organisations when engaging in information sharing. Many of our current sharing practices cut across a number of different service areas and this protocol aims to provide a robust framework for the legal, secure and confidential sharing of personal information between organisations and enable them to meet both their statutory obligations and the needs and expectations of the people they serve.

All organisations which were signed up to former protocols have been invited to sign the 'One Staffordshire Information Sharing Protocol' which can be viewed at Appendix A.

The protocol requires all partners who are signatory to it to ensure that their organisation has the appropriate infrastructure to respond to requests for information made under the protocol, including training and making their staff fully aware of their responsibilities. The nominated signatory must have the authority to sign on behalf of the organisation.

REPORT AUTHOR

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

APPENDICES

Appendix A – One Staffordshire Data Sharing Protocol