






***Brighton & Hove City Council***  
***Strategic Risk Assessment Report***  
***Director of Adult Social Services & Director of***  
***Children's Services***

ROM Issue: Safeguarding vulnerable members of our community	Responsible Officer: Director of Adult Social Services & Director of Children's Services
	Risk Code: SR6

**Identified** Safeguarding of Adults and Children require different responses, however the council is the lead agency with lead responsibility for both. Key issues are:  
 \* There are 1800 children in the city for whom the council has a clear legal responsibility and numbers of referrals continue to increase. As with Adults, the number of referrals is unpredictable.  
 This is further complicated by the Government announcement about changes to children with Special Educational Needs.  
 \* As welfare reforms are implemented there is a risk that more families will become vulnerable.  
 \* Services are seeing more complex cases in social care, especially in relation to mental health, substance misuse and older people with complex needs

**Potential Conseq**  
 \* Affect on council's ability to respond in a timely manner to the needs of the most vulnerable  
 \* Any change in the approach of risk management has the potential to impact on the council's resources and budget but, despite changes, provision of services to support safeguarding of adults and children remains in place

<b>Initial:</b> High		<b>Revised:</b> High		<b>Future:</b> Significant	
<b>Risk Identified Date:</b> 15/5/2012		<b>Date Modified:</b> 8/10/2012		<b>Date Modified:</b> 15/5/2012	

**Risk Category:**  
 - BHCC Strategic Risk  
 - Customer / Citizen

**Existing Controls:**  
 \* Range of programmes in place to reduce risk, eg Alcohol Programme Board and Drug Intervention Programmes reducing the risk to both adults and children in families affected by drug and alcohol dependency  
 \* Identifying need early and providing early help through re-focusing of service priorities and ensuring this work is fully integrated with the council's new Stronger Families, Stronger Communities Initiative  
 \* Working with partners and other across children and adults services to improve understanding of threshold referrals so that risks can be better held in the community  
 \* Measures to ensure appropriate levels of review for clients receiving individual budgets  
 \* Commissioners working with the Governance Board to ensure appropriate levels of training and support for staff delivering services with the council and council commissioned services  
 \* Continuing to develop Peer Review in both adults and children's services to ensure services are of a high quality  
 \* Looked After Children (LAC) a clear corporate priority overseen by the Corporate Parenting sub-committee of Policy and Resources Committee  
 \* Action plan for Adults Safeguarding, with tasks allocated across partners, is monitored by the Safeguarding Board (includes statutory partners) and is shared with SLT

**Effectiveness of Controls:** Adequate  
**Issue Type:** Threat  
**Risk Treatment:** Treat, Treat

**Solutions:** Work with Troubled Families Initiative  
 Monitoring level of services in safeguarding and assessment  
 New legal framework and draft bill expected for adult safeguarding will generate review  
 Through the Governance and Safeguarding Board, undertake a careful review of resources, particularly as the social care market diversifies and the needs of the population change  
 Continue to monitor effectiveness of approaches in place to safeguard both children and adults through existing boards and partnership arrangements