

Recommendation to Cabinet

7 November 2023

From the People and Health Overview Committee on 17 October 2023

Adopting Care Experience as a Protected Characteristic

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr B Quayle, Children, Education, Skills and Early Help

Local Councillor(s): All

Executive Director: T Leavy, Executive Director of People - Children

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Report Status: Public

Recommendation:

That Cabinet:

1. Supports the development of an agreed definition of care experienced for the purpose of making this a protected characteristic.
2. Agrees that 'care experience' will be treated as if it were a Protected Characteristic under the Equalities Act 2010 so that decisions on future services and policies made and adopted by Dorset Council are assessed and consider the impact on people with care experience.

3. Approves the amendment of Dorset Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2021-2024 to reflect 'care experience' being treated as if it were a protected characteristic and the development of specific actions to reduce the disadvantage and discrimination that care experienced people face.

Appendices

Report to the People and Health Overview Committee – 17 October 2023 – Adopting Care Experience as a Protected Characteristic.

An extract of minutes from the People and Health Overview Committee held on 17 October 2023. These are accessible through the link in the background papers below.

Background Papers

[People and Health Overview Committee – 17 October 2023](#)