


Committee:	FULL COUNCIL
Date:	15 November 2021
Agenda Item	12

Personal safety for members and officers

In view of the recent tragic attack on Sir David Amess, it is important for the Council to review measures taken to protect the personal safety of members and officers. Some advice has been provided by the police, mainly to do with online safety. The Clerk has been researching into what is needed. She has requested that police attend Council meetings, particularly at the beginning of the meetings when the public are arriving. The inspector has stated that she does not believe that there is currently a need for that level of policing and that they do not have the staff available to do it.

Recommendations:

1. That the postal addresses and phone numbers of all councillors are removed from the council website
2. That a request is made to Kim Cole, Monitoring Officer at BDC, for councillor addresses be redacted from the Register of interests (removal is not guaranteed)
3. That a generic email address is created for each councillor
4. That councillors should avoid using Facebook or other social media in their official capacity
5. That members of the public attending meetings should be approached for their details on arrival
6. That doors to the council chamber be locked once all the public have arrived
7. That any member of staff working alone in the offices should lock themselves in
8. That officers and members be issued with personal security alarms @ £100 for all to have one
9. That the MP should in future conduct his surgeries in Queens Hall, where there are 2 exits, and that he should bring his own staff to ensure his personal security/carry out a weapons search of those attending



Sarah Greatorex
Town clerk