

Agenda Item 14 July Meeting – DBS checks (Disclosure and Barring Service)

The attached guidance (14.1) gives the circumstances when DBS checks are required. It is not, however, specific on whether these are required at Parish level.

Some local councils require their councillors to undertake DBS checks as a matter of course and it is a requirement at Borough/District level and above.

However, those councils which do require them are not able to keep data on whether councillors have certification owing to GDPR!

At *parish* level a standard DBS check would be sufficient even if regular contact with children or vulnerable people were required. Normally these are the only circumstances in Parish Council work where these are required. Enhanced checks are unlikely ever to be required.

As there is no specific requirement and no checks or enforcement there seems little point in the council requiring these checks. (Note standard check is £26)

Proposal: That council should allow councillors to use their discretion about DBS registration.

Phil Burgess

Clerk to East Dean and Friston