

SUBJECT:	Safeguarding Evaluative Report April –Oct 17
MEETING:	Children and Young People’s Select Committee
DATE:	13th November 2017
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	

1. PURPOSE:

This report evaluates the progress of Monmouthshire’s key Safeguarding Priorities using identified measures to highlight progress, identify risks and confirm the direction of travel for improvements and further development. It is based on Monmouthshire’s safeguarding aim that both adults and children will be supported, and protected, from harm and abuse. It will be set against the safeguarding priorities, which are set within the Corporate Safeguarding policy 2017, with measures reflecting the previous WASG Performance Review March 2017 and has clear links to the Authority’s Safeguarding Service Improvement Plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

Within the Report each area of Corporate Safeguarding has an Action Plan to build on work undertaken, and to develop oversight, and service provision in relation to the Corporate Safeguarding Policy

3. KEY ISSUES:

The Evaluation of Safeguarding is relating to information between April 17 –October 17. This period of time saw the restructure and review of Monmouthshire’s Corporate Safeguarding Policy and therefore the expectation is that Performance Data collation in certain Safeguarding areas will be developed as identified for future evaluation. Much of the business of Safeguarding is an ongoing process and how we measure the effectiveness of Monmouthshire’s Safeguarding Practice will develop as Service Provision across the council develops.

3.1 Good Governance:

It is recognised that good progress has taken place in regard to previous recommendations made in regard to the Councils Senior and Directorate level. Changes at Regional Board level and within National Policy will required a continued planned response.

3.2 Safe Workforce

Whilst recognising that Safe Recruitment processes are well embedded, a new corporate roll out of the SAFE audit’s across the Authority has been completed. This has highlighted the significant

Safeguarding Training programme to ensure the authority is compliant with the Revised Corporate Policy. (See action plan)

3.3 Preventative Approach

The new focus on the development of a Preventative agenda has led to increased partnership working with developing within Community Hubs and within the Community itself. Changes and Ambiguity under the SSWA have changed the responsibility and accountability within early support services, and this developing work will need to link carefully within the authorities Statutory responsibility.

3.4 Robust Protection

The Safeguarding Processes have been embedded within Child and Vulnerable Adult protection for a long time. Within Children's Services the ongoing agenda of change has created a good time in which to review current CP processes and procedures, and to ensure staff understand the requirements and expectations of their role and task. Further to this, where pressures both internally and externally are identified safe practice must be supported by a clear infrastructure of Risk Management Frameworks, clear procedures, models and tools. The creation and development of the joint Adult and Children's Safeguarding teams/Unit allows opportunities to consider how best to identify opportunities for "joined up" work and models of working together prior to the revised All Wales guidance for both Vulnerable Children and Adults.

3.5 Safe Services

Whilst there has been an established approach to contract monitoring in commissioned services for some time, this is no doubt where future understanding of how we scrutinise and Quality Assure commissioned service's will develop most. There are internal and regional developments beginning to build on a framework of monitoring and compliance. The new Volunteer's Policy currently going through Scrutiny will also need a clear plan of implementation.

4. REASONS:

This report is an overview to be scrutinised to consider the distance travelled against in the Authorities Safeguarding Journey. It will be set against the safeguarding priorities, which are set within the Corporate Safeguarding policy 2017, with measures reflecting the previous WASG Performance Review March 2017.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no resource implications to this report it simply provides information in regard to progress made in Monmouthshire's Safeguarding responsibilities.

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

The Future Generations Evaluation has been completed and no negative implications were identified –See attached

7. CONSULTEES:

Member of Whole Authority Safeguarding Group, Commissioning and Training Teams

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

9. AUTHOR:

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