

SUBJECT: Corporate Safeguarding Policy

MEETING: Council

DATE: 1st December 2022

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

1. PURPOSE:

To inform members of the revisions to the Corporate Safeguarding Policy and seek endorsement of the revised policy.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council endorses the revised Corporate Safeguarding Policy.

3. KEY ISSUES:

The Corporate Safeguarding Policy sets out the framework through which the Council supports a preventative approach to safeguarding and protects children and adults who are at risk from harm, abuse or neglect. It is of relevance to all services operating within Monmouthshire, elected members, paid and unpaid workforce, residents of and visitors to Monmouthshire.

Revisions to the Corporate Safeguarding Policy require the endorsement of full Council to be enacted.

The Corporate Safeguarding Policy is routinely reviewed and revised of every 2 years. The revisions reflect any changes in the legal or policy framework; the local or national context; and developments within good practice guidelines.

The current review has led to the following main revisions to the policy:

- Changed the Safeguarding Board name to update to Gwent Safeguarding Board
- Updated roles and responsibilities
- Updated website links and page numbering
- Updated that independent settings are now required to undertake a SAFE
- Makes reference that training records are now being centrally held within Talent lab and Volunteers are being kept on a separate system called Kinetic
- Updated exploitation definitions in align with Gwent Safeguarding Board definition
- Changed any reference of Child Protection and Adult protection to “Safeguarding”

- Referenced we have signed up to Welsh Government Code of Practice for Ethical Employment
- Update on Licensing around enhanced DBS checks being carried out every 6 months for drivers rather than 2 years
- Updated the guidance in respect of Governing Bodies in schools
- Added the Modern-Day Slavery Statement
- Updated the referral process flowchart in align with Wales Safeguarding Procedures

4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL:

Not applicable to this report

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA:

The Policy supports the Annual Safeguarding Evaluation Report to Council, with the most recent report being presented to and endorse by Council on 27th October 2022.

6. REASONS:

Safeguarding vulnerable people is central to the Council and requires strong leadership and governance. The regular review and endorsement by Council of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy is an integral component of the governance framework.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no resource implications to this report.

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

This Corporate Safeguarding Policy supports the effective safeguarding in Monmouthshire County Council.

9. CONSULTEES:

Members of the Whole Authority Safeguarding Group
Chief Officer for Social Care, Safeguarding and Health

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Revised Corporate Safeguarding Policy

11. AUTHORS:

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12. CONTACT DETAILS:

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