

## REPORT

**SUBJECT: Update on Safeguarding arrangements – Kerbcraft scheme**

**MEETING: Strong Communities Select Committee**

**DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: Countywide**

### 1. PURPOSE

Prior to submission to Cabinet, to provide Strong Communities select committee members with an update on the action plan approved by Council on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (appendix 2 of the report titled ' Wales Audit Office report on safeguarding within the kerbcraft scheme in Monmouthshire County Council').

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That members note the progress made against various actions within the action plan reported to Council on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (appendix 1 attached).
- 2.2 That the new policy and procedure/checklist for the provision of kerbcraft training (appendices 2,3 and 4) be scrutinised.
- 2.3 That members consider what feedback they would wish to offer to Cabinet.

### 3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 Following a review by Wales Audit Office (WAO) of the provision of kerbcraft training by MCC staff on behalf of Welsh Government an action plan was reported to Council in March 2017.
- 3.2 Appendix 1 replicates the action plan but in italics under relevant headings an update is provided.
- 3.3 One of the actions requires the preparation and implementation of new procedures for the provision of kerbcraft training and that the future operating model be reported to Cabinet. This report offers Strong Community Select Committee members the opportunity to review the report before it is presented to Cabinet.
- 3.4 During March and April officers reviewed previous and current working arrangements and developed a new procedure for the provision for kerbcraft training.

- 3.5 The new policy and working procedures are provided in appendices 2,3 and 4 .However the following points are brought to members' attention.
- 3.6 A major weakness highlighted by WAO was the control and recording of volunteers that supported MCC in the training of children at each school.
- 3.7 Since WAO expressed concern over the management of volunteers in August 2016 none has been used and all kerbcraft training has been provided by MCC kerbcraft trainers occasionally with assistance from school support staff.
- 3.8 The new procedure limits the use of volunteers to six at any one time so the checking and recording of safeguarding information relating to the volunteers becomes much more straightforward (previously records for up to 80 volunteers were required).
- 3.9 This change in procedure along with clear instructions on how the scheme is to be delivered will offer greater confidence that safeguarding is controlled in the provision of this service.

#### **4. REASONS**

- 4.1 The Council's action plan in response to the WAO findings is quite specific and in particular seeks to ensure that members are kept informed on progress with implementation, and its ongoing performance. This report is the first of several to members as outlined in the action plan.

#### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

None directly from this report. The kerbcraft scheme is funded and delivered on behalf of Welsh Government. The funding is £56,000 per annum and is incorporated within the WG Road Safety Grant.

#### **6. FUTURE GENERATIONS and EQUALITY ASSESSMENT**

Attached

**SAFEGUARDING ASSESSMENT:** As contained within the body of the report, supporting reports and the FGEA. The Action plan is intended to strengthen safeguarding arrangements surrounding the kerbcraft scheme.

#### **7. CONSULTEES:**

None

#### **8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Report to Council on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 titled ' Wales Audit Office report on safeguarding within the kerbcraft scheme in Monmouthshire County Council'.

#### **9. AUTHORS**

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