

**SUBJECT: Corporate Safeguarding Policy**

**MEETING: Select Committee**

**DATE: 7<sup>TH</sup> June 2017**

**DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: County wide**

**1. PURPOSE:**

To inform Members of the introduction of the new Corporate Safeguarding Policy

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that Members agree and adopt the Corporate Safeguarding Policy

**3. KEY ISSUES:**

- Safeguarding children and adults at risk has the very highest priority in the Council.
- Safeguarding, under the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014, is recognised as everybody's responsibility and considerable progress has been made over the last 5 years to systematically embed safeguarding culture, knowledge and practice.
- All staff, paid and unpaid, and Councillors share a responsibility both corporately and individually to ensure that children and adults at risk are treated with respect and protected from harm.
- Whilst the Council does have an existing safeguarding policy in place it is heavily focussed towards educational settings and other child and family services. Safeguarding is therefore firmly embedded in some Directorates and service areas however there are varying levels of understanding as to expectations in other parts of the organisation.
- This policy will be a mechanism to evaluate understanding, systems and training throughout the Council and ensures that safeguarding is firmly placed as core to the business of the council.

**4. REASONS:**

The Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 aims to strengthen and build on existing safeguarding practice to ensure that people are able to live their lives to the full.

There is a new overarching duty to promote the well-being of people who need care and support and every service within the Council has a role to play and has to take full ownership of their safeguarding responsibilities.

**5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

Any resources required to implement this policy will be found from within existing service budgets

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

The policy is to assure Members around the level of safeguarding practice which is essential to the well-being of future generations.

**7. CONSULTEES:**

SLT

Cabinet

Whole Authority Safeguarding Working Group

All comments received have been incorporated into the policy

**8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

WASG Self evaluation

Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014

**9. AUTHOR:**

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