



## Report of the Director of Social Services

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 8 October 2018

### Annual Report 2017/18 - Corporate Safeguarding

<b>Purpose:</b>	This report is the Director of Social Services' Annual Report 2017/18 on the Council's corporate safeguarding arrangements, and a review of the work programme of the Corporate Safeguarding group.
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Corporate Safeguarding Policy
<b>Consultation:</b>	Corporate Safeguarding group, Legal, Finance, Access to Services
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that:  1. The Annual Report Corporate Safeguarding by the Director of Social Services 2017/2018 is received, reviewed and endorsed.
<b>Lead Councillor(s)</b>	Cabinet Member for Care, Health & Ageing Well, Councillor Mark Child
<b>Report Author:</b>	Simon Jones
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Chris Davies
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Lucy Moore
<b>Access to Services Officer:</b>	Rhian Millar

## **1. Introduction and background**

- 1.1 Every person has the right to be safe from harm, the opportunity to fulfil their full potential and to have their human rights and choices protected. The Council also recognises the high profile nature of safeguarding issues, and the important role of robust, effective corporate safeguarding arrangements.
- 1.2 Swansea Council's Corporate Plan 2017-22 has a Well-being Objective 1: Safeguarding people from harm – so that our citizens are free from harm and exploitation. Through this Well-being Objective, "Safeguarding" is seen as a wider objective than the vital work of protection of the most vulnerable children and adults. This corporate priority also deals with public protection and citizen rights within the following:
  - Protection from harm and neglect;
  - Safety
  - Physical health, emotional well-being, and mental health;
  - Human rights
  - Contribution to society
  - Social and economic well-being.
- 1.3 This wider strategic approach has recently been reported on within the Annual Review of Performance 2017/18 of each of the Council' Well-being Objectives, as a statutory requirement under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, and also within changes set out in Swansea Council's refreshed Corporate Plan (2018-22).
- 1.4 Swansea Council has recently revised the Corporate Safeguarding Policy to meet the many challenges we are facing and to address the newer collaborative ways of working, which involves close working with volunteers and providers. By working closely with the Policy Development & Delivery Committee, an updated policy was developed and then approved in May 2018.
- 1.5 Swansea Council's Corporate Safeguarding Group (CSG) was first set up in 2014 to lead on the Council response to the WAO report into safeguarding and on the subsequent development, implementation and monitoring of corporate safeguarding policy. This group has continued to meet every 2-3 months-chaired by Director of Social Services, and attended by the responsible Cabinet Member, with lead representatives from all services areas across the Council.
- 1.6 The remit of the CSG now covers both safeguarding children and vulnerable adults from harm.

- 1.7 Regional briefings on progress are also provided to, and received by, Western Bay Regional Safeguarding Adults, and Children Boards, established under Part 7, of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.
- 1.8 Regular progress reports are provided to Corporate Management Team on safeguarding performance. The Cabinet Member for Adult Health & Ageing Well, the Programme Scrutiny Committee and relevant Performance Scrutiny panels also receives regular information regarding safeguarding and the work of the Corporate Safeguarding Group.
- 1.9 This Annual Corporate Safeguarding Report 2017/18 (attached. Appendix 1) is an important part of this reporting cycle. It highlights the main achievements during 2017/18 and also sets out a work programme for 2018/19. A copy of the Work Programme is also attached

## **2. Annual Report**

**See Appendix 1: Annual Report – Corporate Safeguarding 2017/18**

## **3. Other Issues**

None

## **4. Equality and Engagement Implications**

This report has no direct equality and engagement implications.

## **5. Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **6. Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

**Background Papers: None**

**Appendix 1. Annual Report – Corporate Safeguarding 2017/18**