
Corporate Safeguarding Board – Annual Report 2018/19

Reason for the Report

1. The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising the performance of Children’s (Social) Services. This report provides the Members with a copy of the draft Corporate Safeguarding Board’s Annual report 2018/19 covering all of Social Services, prior to its consideration by Cabinet, copy attached at **Appendix A**.

Background

2. The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Children Board (RSCB) was established in April 2013 as a result of merging the two separate safeguarding children boards that covered the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff Council areas respectively and which had been in place since 2007. The Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Adults Board (RSAB) was established in 2015. Again, this regional board was the result of a merger of two previously separate boards in each of the local council areas. The terms of reference were agreed as:
 - i. Ensure the compliance of all Council Directorates with key safeguarding requirements in relation to children and vulnerable adults.
 - ii. Support the Statutory Director of Social Services in the discharge of his/her wider safeguarding duties.
 - iii. Support HR in the delivery of key vetting and barring requirements and workforce development.

- iv. Provide an Annual Corporate Safeguarding Report, setting out the performance of all Directorates, in relation to vetting and barring, staff safeguarding training, and the operation of front-line services in terms of their effectiveness in identifying and referring safeguarding concerns.
 - v. Review and develop relevant corporate safeguarding standards and policy.
 - vi. Review and develop appropriate corporate safeguarding performance measures.
 - vii. Advise the Head of the Paid Service and recommend relevant action in relation to corporate safeguarding standards and policy.
 - viii. Promote effective cross Directorate safeguarding practice particularly in terms of information sharing and data collection, front-line operational awareness, staff training and wider partnership engagement.
3. The Cardiff & Vale Regional safeguarding Children's Board (RSCB) has met on four occasions during 2018-19 to work towards implementing the Annual plan. This report will therefore provide an annual summary of the progress made against the annual plan.

Issues

4. The draft Annual Report, copy attached at **Appendix A**, includes the following elements:
- a. what is safeguarding? – page 5
 - b. introduction
 - i. What are the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Boards? – Page 6
 - ii. Annual Report - Page 7
 - c. membership
 - i. Regional Safeguarding Children Board – pages 8-9
 - d. meetings and attendance
 - i. Regional Safeguarding Children Board Meetings – Page 12

- ii. Regional Safeguarding Children Board Attendance – page 12
- e. safeguarding children:
 - i. Identified Priorities – page 14
 - ii. Addressing the Priorities – Pages 14 - 17
 - iii. Other Activity and Board Development – Pages 18 - 19
- f. collaboration work
 - i. Adults and Children Safeguarding Agenda – pages 24 - 27
 - ii. Work of the Sub Groups – Pages 27 - 37
 - iii. Collaboration work with other safeguarding boards and Welsh Government – page 37
- g. managing resources
 - i. Board Budget
 - ii Board Expenditure

Evaluation

5. In the RSCB's 2018 – 2019 Annual Plan the Board identified the following priorities:
 - a. Effectiveness of Child Protection System
 - b. Children on the edge of the Child Protection System
 - c. Service User Engagement
 - d. Learning Lessons from Reviews

6. The Under each of these priorities, the RSCB has set out a number of objectives and intended outcomes to ensure the priorities were tackled effectively and successfully. The RSCB is pleased to be able to evidence significant progress against key objectives, albeit the Board also recognises that some areas require further development. Following a Development Day on 31st January 2019, members of the RSCB have ensured that each priority has been assessed and any objectives that require further attention have been carried forward to 2019-20 annual plan with SMART actions going forward.

Scope of Scrutiny

7. The scope of this scrutiny is to consider the proposed Draft Corporate Safeguarding Board Annual Report – 2018/19, and assess whether the Board has appropriately addressed the priorities that it agreed. Members may also wish to assess that appropriate actions were put in place to address the Welsh Audit Office's recommendations.
8. Members may also wish to review and assess the key achievements for the year, and pass any observations, comments or recommendations to the Chair of the Board, Cllr Hinchey and the Director of Social Services with regards to the progress made.

Way Forward

9. Members are invited to consider the information set out in the attached report at **Appendix A** and to identify any issues on which they would wish to receive further information.
10. Councillor Graham Hinchey (Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Performance) has been invited and may make a statement. Claire Marchant, Director of Social Services and Deborah Driffield, Interim Assistant Director , Children's services, have been invited to comment on the Annual report.

Legal Implications

11. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend, but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to the Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any

procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

12. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend, but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to consider the contents of the Corporate Safeguarding Annual report attached at **Appendices A** and provide the Cabinet Member and Director of Social Services with any comments or concerns, prior to the Cabinet's consideration of the report.

Davina Fiore

Director of Governance and Legal Services

16 September 2019