

**CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING BOARD POLICY**

**FINANCE, MODERNISATION & PERFORMANCE (COUNCILLOR  
CHIRS WEAVER)**

**AGENDA ITEM: 6**

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**Reason for this Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend Cabinet approval of Cardiff Council's Corporate Safeguarding Policy "Safeguarding People in Cardiff".

**Background**

2. Corporate Safeguarding is the activity required by all Council directorates to effectively protect the health, wellbeing and human rights of children and adults at risk so that they are able to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. In accordance with legislative requirements set out in the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act (2014) (SSWBA).
3. Safeguarding is everybody's business and the SSWBA imposes a duty on local authorities, all Members and employees, and other statutory partners to report all safeguarding concerns to relevant safeguarding departments. This is known as the duty to report. In order to effectively implement these duties and activities, the council must ensure that all staff are compliant with, and fully understand their duties under the SSWBA.
4. In November 2017, the Corporate Safeguarding Board (CSB) published its first Corporate Safeguarding Policy (CSP). The policy covers the work of all Council services staff, members, volunteers, partners and contractors. The CSB action plan requires, the CSP to be reviewed annually, and in line with this, a new and revised policy is attached. The revised policy aims to strengthen and widen the scope and activity of the local authority to meet all of its safeguarding functions. It aims to make clear the roles and responsibilities of officers and Members, and establish governance arrangements to support effective discharge of safeguarding responsibilities.
5. The policy incorporates the council's statutory duties in respect of Modern Day Slavery as required by the Modern Day Slavery Act (2015). The Council was the first signatory to the Welsh Government's

Code of Practice: Ethical Procurement in Supply Chain, which includes a commitment to produce an annual Modern Slavery Statement. The Council has incorporated its Modern Slavery Statement into its Corporate Safeguarding Policy in recognition of the interconnections between safeguarding and modern day slavery. There is also operational alignment.

6. The CSP is a 3 year policy but will be reviewed annually, and revised as required.

### **Issues**

7. The inaugural CSP required strengthening and further development to fully set out all aspects of corporate safeguarding and clarify roles and responsibilities.

### **Reason for Recommendations**

8. To comply with the action stated in the CSB 2017/18 plan which requires the CSP to be reviewed annually.
9. To strengthen and widen the scope of the policy and activity of the Council directorate's to meet all of its safeguarding functions.
10. To comply fully with the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

### **Scrutiny Consideration**

11. This issue was considered by Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee on 9 January 2019 and the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee on 15 January 2019. The letter from the Chair of Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee is attached as Appendix C. The letter from the Chair of the Committee is attached at Appendix D.

### **Financial Implications**

12. The CSP covers the whole Council workforce (including Elected Members). The costs associated with the workforce carrying out their duties in conformance to this policy will be contained within the respective directorate budgets. In the event of identifying any unbudgeted costs to carry out any action that is needed in order to conform with the policy then the funding budget needs to be identified before committing to the spend.

### **Legal Implications**

13. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

## **HR Implications**

14. There are a number of requirements of employees outlined in the progress report and there will need to be clear communication of what those requirements are. In addition, it is identified that a review is to take place with regards to safer recruitment practices and this will need to be done in conjunction with HR.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Cabinet is recommended to approve the Cardiff Council Corporate Safeguarding Policy (2018-2021), including the Council's Modern Slavery Statement.

<b>SENIOR RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	<b>CLAIRE MARCHANT DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES</b>
	18 January 2019

*The following appendices are attached:*

- Appendix A – Cardiff Council Corporate Safeguarding Policy (2018-2021)
- Appendix B – Modern Slavery Statement (1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020)
- Appendix C – Letter from Chair of Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee
- Appendix D – Letter from Chair of Children & Young People's Scrutiny Committee