

CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date of meeting: 4 March 2024

Title: Corporate Safeguarding Policy

Purpose of the report:

The Corporate Safeguarding Policy has been updated to reflect the revised Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

The Policy now needs to be agreed through the democratic process.

Reason Scrutiny have requested the information:

Safeguarding activity and policy are scrutinised through Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.

Background

Safeguarding and protecting children and adults at risk is a high priority for Ceredigion County Council and ensuring that there are robust arrangements and procedures in place.

This Corporate Safeguarding Policy provides a framework for every service within the Council setting out responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and protecting children and adults at risk as well as the methods by which the council will be assured that it is fulfilling duties.

Current Situation

The Corporate Safeguarding Group has now been re-established after a hiatus during Covid pandemic. The Group has overseen the drafting of the new revised Corporate Safeguarding Policy in readiness for its implementation and passage through the democratic process.

The last version of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy was drafted in 2017 and were underpinned by the All Wales Child Protection Procedures including vulnerable adults (2008). The Wales Safeguarding Procedures were implemented in 2019 and are now incorporated into the policy.

The policy applies to staff, Councillors, volunteers and people carrying out work on behalf of the council.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why.

No

The policy is inclusive and is designed to safeguard all groups of people irrespective of age, race, culture, language, gender, sexuality, or socio-economic group.

Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:

Long term: N/A
Collaboration: N/A
Involvement: N/A
Prevention: N/A
Integration: N/A

Recommendation(s):

The Corporate Safeguarding Policy is agreed as the definitive document to ensure Ceredigion is a safe organisation and recognises its responsibilities to safeguard children and adults at risk.

Reason for recommendation(s):

It is essential that the Council provides a policy framework to safeguard people delivering services on behalf of the Local Authority.

The revised Corporate Safeguarding Policy utilises the up-to-date relevant guidance and legislation.

Contact Name: Audrey Somerton-Edwards

Designation: Corporate Lead Officer, Porth Cynnal, Statutory Director of Social Services

Date of Report: 22 February 2024

Acronyms: None used