

<b><u>BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL</u></b>	
<b>Report to</b>	<b>Chair and Members of Social Services Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Report Subject</b>	<b>Corporate Safeguarding Policy</b>
<b>Report Author</b>	<b>Tanya Evans, Head of Children's Services</b>
<b>Report date</b>	<b>21st September 2017</b>
<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Social Services</b>
<b>Executive Portfolio</b>	<b>Councillor Mason, Executive Member Social Services</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> November 2017</b>
<b>Date signed off by Monitoring Officer</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Date signed off by Section 151 Officer</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Date signed off by Chair</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> November 2017</b>
<b>Key words</b>	<b>Safeguarding Children / Vulnerable Adults</b>

## Report Information Summary

<b>1.</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is for the Social Services Scrutiny Committee to consider the updated Corporate Safeguarding Policy prior to adoption by Council.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Scope of the Report</b>
2.1	Currently Blaenau Gwent has a Corporate Child Protection Policy, when reviewing this it was proposed that this be developed into a Corporate Safeguarding Policy incorporating vulnerable adults and the wider safeguarding agenda. The policy is the appendix attached to this report
<b>3.</b>	<b>Contribution to the National Well-Being Goals – Detail attached as Appendix 1</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Recommendation(s) / Endorsement by other groups, e.g. CLT/Committees/Other groups</b>
4.1	<p>The policy has been seen and endorsed by both Social Services and Education SMT/DMT and the Corporate Leadership team. The policy has been sent to the corporate safeguarding leads group and has been to the Youth Forum to gain their views.</p> <p>The policy will also be considered by the Education and Learning Scrutiny Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendation/s for Consideration</b>
5.1	It is recommended that Scrutiny consider the options as detailed in paragraph 6.1.

Why this topic is a priority for the Council?							
Single Integrated Plan (SIP)	Corporate Improvement Plan (CIP)	Performance Management Improvement Framework (PMIF)	Transforming Blaenau Gwent (TBG Programme)	Relevant legislation	Other (please state)		
X	X				Post Inspection Improvement Plan		
Reporting Pathway							
Directorate Management Team (DMT)	Corporate Leadership Team (CLT)	Audit	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny	Executive	Council	Other (please state)
	September 17			SS - 30.11.17 E&L 15.12.17		11.1.18	

## Main Report

<b>1.</b>	<b>Background and Context</b>
1.1	Currently Blaenau Gwent has a Corporate Child Protection Policy that needed to be updated. In doing this it was agreed to increase the scope of this policy to encompass the wider safeguarding agenda and develop a Corporate Safeguarding Policy.
1.2	The new policy was developed between both Children's and Adults Social Services safeguarding staff in consultation with Education safeguarding staff. It has been to both Social Services and Education SMT/DMT and the Corporate Leadership team. It has been sent out to the members of the corporate safeguarding leads group for consultation and has been presented to the Youth Forum for consultation.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Performance Evidence and Information</b>
2.1	The Corporate Child Protection Policy was originally written in May 2015 and last updated in September 2016. In consultation with safeguarding colleagues it was thought this needed to be broadened to encompass the wider safeguarding agenda.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Risk Implications</b>
3.1	The Authority needs to have a policy specifying safeguarding roles and responsibilities so it is clear to all staff what their responsibilities are, without this the Authority is open to challenge.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Financial Implications</b>
4.1	None
<b>5.</b>	<b>Staffing/Workforce Development Implications</b>
5.1	The staff roles and responsibilities are already in place.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Options for Consideration</b>
6.1	That Members:  Option 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and support the updated Corporate Safeguarding Policy for approval by Council.</li> </ul> Option 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the updated Policy and provide comment on areas requiring further clarity prior to approval by Council.</li> </ul>

<b>7.</b>	<b>Impact Assessment Against Proposals / Options</b>
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Thinking for the long term</b>            Having a Corporate Safeguarding Policy that clearly identifies roles and responsibilities will help staff understand their part in Safeguarding citizens of Blaenau Gwent.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Taking a preventative approach</b>            The work undertaken by the Social Services Directorate looks to promote a preventative approach to practice through early identification and intervention. Having a proactive rather than re active approach to service planning can also help with planning resources.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Involvement</b>            The development of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy and the departmental safeguarding leads meetings helps ensure all departments within the Authority are aware of their responsibilities for safeguarding and are kept updated with any issues trends within safeguarding.             Termly meetings also take place with the Safeguarding leads from all the schools, and monthly meetings occur between the safeguarding team and lead education staff.</li> </ul>
7.2	<b>Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)</b> N/A
<b>8.</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>
8.1	Scrutiny considers and supports the updated Corporate Safeguarding Policy and agree that it can be presented to Council for approval.

Assess how well your project / activity will result in multiple benefits for our communities and contribute to the national well-being goals.		
Description of the Well-being goals	How will your project / activity deliver benefits to our communities under the national well-being goals?	Is there anyway to maximise the benefits or minimise any negative impacts to our communities (and the contribution to the national well-being goals)?
<p><b>A prosperous Wales</b>                      An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</p>		
<p><b>A resilient Wales</b>                      A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</p>		
<p><b>A healthier Wales</b>                      A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</p>		

Description of the Well-being goals	How will your project / activity deliver benefits to our communities under the national well-being goals?	Is there anyway to maximise the benefits or minimise any negative impacts to our communities (and the contribution to the national well-being goals)?
<p><b>A more equal Wales</b> A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).</p>	<p>By developing this policy we are better able to protect people from harm supporting them regardless of their age, gender, religion or ethnicity ensuring that they are treated equal.</p>	<p>maintaining a focus on the importance of safeguarding and ensure it is high on the agenda. Implementation across the Council.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.</p>	<p>Being active members of both the Children’s and Adults Safeguarding Boards covering the South East Wales region ensures a multi agency cohesive approach to safeguarding across the region and feeds into the National Board</p>	<p>Sharing the learning and best practice via the Boards across the region and nationally.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</b> A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.</p>		
<p><b>A globally responsible Wales</b> A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.</p>		