

Ref No.	Description of Risk	Triggers	Consequences	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Current Controls	Likelihood	Impact	Status	Proposed further controls to mitigate / reduce risk	Target Score			Risk Owner	Direction of Travel from Previous Quarter	
												1	4	M e d i u m			
Directorate Risk EDDRR3 Corporate Risk Register CRR4	Safeguarding - Failure to ensure adequate. Safeguarding arrangements are in place for children & young adults in Blaenau Gwent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate assessments and monitoring Lack of documentation Increasing demand for services Lack of appropriate guidance and training Poor communication between all parties (internal / external) High turnover of staff Varying capacity as a result of the pandemic so routine activities do not take place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential significant harm / loss of life Long term reputational damage and confidence in the Council undermined Increase in complaints / Potential litigation / prosecution External intervention Increased pressure on budgets Low staff morale 	3	4	C r i t i c a l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Social Services and Education Scrutiny established (PEOPLE scrutiny committee) Education Designated Lead and Deputy Officer nominated Education Safeguarding Officer established and in post Gwent Adult Safeguarding Board SE Wales Safeguarding Children's Board Safeguarding is a standing item on CMT agenda Lead Executive Member has been identified for having responsibility for safeguarding Senior leadership have received Level 1 safeguarding training. Annual safeguarding training is in place which all schools are up to date with. Training is updated on an annual basis to ensure it reflects any emerging safeguarding concerns. Safeguarding in Education matrix updated March 2024 to ensure that all relevant safeguarding information from schools is now captured in one place. MyConcern safeguarding software is being used by all schools. A corporate safeguarding leads group has been established to drive forward the safeguarding agenda and action the recommendations made by the Blaenau Gwent Wales Audit Office report All directorate risk registers include safeguarding and include actions required to ensure safeguarding arrangements are in place. 	1	4	H i g h	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding Reports into PEOPLE Scrutiny contain corporate safeguarding information from all directorates Safeguarding training data to be reviewed by each Directorate to ensure all staff are undertaking this Regularly review the council's volunteering register to ensure DBS checks are up to date Ensure the audit Wales BG safeguarding report recommendations continue to be reviewed and met Each Directorate to undertake a safeguarding self-assessment 	1	4	M e d i u m	Corporate Director of Education Exec Member Sue Edmunds	No change in direction of travel	<p>Status of Further controls</p> <p><i>On track</i></p> <p>Forecasted direction of travel</p> <p><i>Work continues on target to reduce overall risk</i></p>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Safeguarding in Education Manager now sits across both Social Services and the Education Directorate with both paying 50% of the role, which has further improved partnership working and information sharing across the directorates. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New post created in the Education Directorate, School Improvement Officer with safeguarding responsibilities in the job description with responsibility for supporting schools with further developing their use of My Concern and for analysis data to inform next steps/future training needs etc from the Safeguarding in Education Matrix. 				
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Quarter 2 progress update (July - September 2023)

The current safeguarding lead for the education directorate is an interim arrangement due to staff changes. All school are now using MyConcern to record and report concerns and the MyConcern group has continued to meet despite Action Short of Strike (ASOS). Triage and filing concerns have been priority to ensure that safeguarding concerns are prioritised. Usage of the system between school is variable and one school still needs to undertake training. ASOS has resulted in data submission being affected and this will need to be reviewed in order to ascertain the impact this has had.

Quarter 3 progress update (September – December 2023)

MyConcern safeguarding software is being used by schools. An annual health check of how the software is being used is in place and the findings of the audit are used to provide bespoke training for each school. A MyConcern working group meets termly to look at how the software can be used more effectively to record safeguarding concerns. An annual audit of school’s usage of MyConcern has identified that more schools are using MyConcern appropriately to record safeguarding incidents, but there is inconsistency across schools.

Quarter 4 progress update (January – March 2024)

A review of Corporate Safeguarding has been undertaken within Quarter 4 which sought to review the data and narrative content of the report provided to People’s Scrutiny. The review of Corporate Safeguarding is complete and appropriate reports will be provided to SLT / CLT at the end of June. Quarter 3 and 4 information will be reported to People Scrutiny using the existing format, but Quarters 1 and 2 of 24/25 will be reported later in the year using a revised format if approved by CLT. The revised report will contain relevant regional data sets as well as Blaenau Gwent specific data.

The Safeguarding in Schools Matrix has been updated March 2024. This will now capture all relevant data in one place, this will make it more streamlined for schools and easier for the Education Directorate to analyse the data. A new post has been created in the Education Directorate, School Improvement Officer, who will lead on supporting schools with this and analysing this data in order to inform the future working of the directorate and to further develop safeguarding policies and procedures. Review of School’s Volunteer Policy to clarify the role of PTA members in schools undertaken following audit, relevant changes to the policy have been implemented.