



# APPENDIX I

Strategic Panel for Safeguarding Children and Adults Terms of Reference

## **STRATEGIC PANEL FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND ADULTS TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Statutory Director has specific responsibilities in the safeguarding field. The Director's Protocol is also in place and sets out how the Director meets the requirements of the role. These matters relate to the safeguarding requirements set out in paragraphs 64-69 in Part 8 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. Paragraph 65 highlights the need for the Director to have an overview of safeguarding matters but also the need to regularly report to Members on the arrangements for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults within the authority and how these arrangements work, and what needs to be improved.
- 1.2 There is also a need for every agency to establish internal arrangements to ensure that the counter terrorism, anti-radicalization and community safety matters' agenda receives the appropriate attention.
- 1.3 For the purpose of this Panel, the 'safeguarding' term is relevant to adults, children and young people and means to protect them, prevent them from being abused or neglected and educate those around them to recognise the signs and the dangers. Safeguarding and promoting individuals' well-being, has a wider meaning than protecting individuals against abuse. It involves individuals and services identifying the risk factors and taking steps to prevent vulnerable individuals from being abused. Protection is part of the work of safeguarding and promoting well-being. It refers to activities to protect children, young people and adults who are suffering or in danger of significant harm as a result of abuse or neglect.

### **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING PANEL**

- 2.1. The aim of the Panel is to give reassurance to Members and the Statutory Director of Social Services, as the senior officer within the Council who has the full final accountability for safeguarding, that appropriate arrangements and procedures are in place on a corporate level to ensure the safeguarding of children, young people and adults. The Panel will discharge 3 statutory responsibilities which are the corporate responsibility to safeguard, the statutory responsibility of Social Services and the community safety responsibilities.
    - Identify any gaps in relation to safeguarding on a corporate level and approve work programmes in order to respond to these.
    - Identify lessons to be learnt, on a corporate level, from serious case reviews and from other relevant reviews and ensure their implementation. (APR, CPR)
    - Identify lessons to be learnt from external audits and ensure their implementation.
    - Identify lessons to be learnt from internal audits and ensure their implementation.
    - Notify the relevant lead members of matters/key developments in the field of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.
    - Act as a means to raise the awareness of every Council staff member and every elected member of their safeguarding responsibilities.
    - Act as a means to ensure that staff members and elected members receive timely appropriate training and monitor the attendance of this training.
    - Ensure a interdepartmental working relationship and effective communication in the Council within the safeguarding field.
    - Ensure that the Councils procedures adhere with the legal requirements to ensure that staff are eligible to work in regulated positions.
    - Call for relevant projects to report on progress.
    - Receive performance management information - cross departmental
-

- Ensure an overview of broader Safeguarding matters including counter-terrorism procedures, modern slavery, domestic abuse and community safety.

### 3. CHAIRMANSHIP

3.1. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People will Chair the Panel.

### 4. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

4.1 The Meeting will be held every eight to ten weeks

### 5. GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

5.1 The Strategic Safeguarding Panel is accountable to the Cabinet.

5.2 Business Management [i.e. creating a work programme, meeting agendas, secretariat, central communication point, organising additional professional advice if needed] through the function of the Corporate Director.

### 6 MEMBERSHIP

Job Title
Cabinet Member for Children and Supporting Families (Chair)
Cabinet Member - Adults, Health and Well-being
Cabinet Member - Education
Chief Executive
Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Safety
Corporate Director (Statutory Director) for Social Services
Head of Children and Supporting Families Department
Head of Education
Head of Adults, Health and Well-being Department
Head of Corporate Support Department
Chair of the Operational Safeguarding Panel
Head of Legal Services