

EXECUTIVE BOARD
28TH SEPTEMBER, 2015

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION OF A CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING POLICY THAT COVERS ALL THE COUNCIL'S SERVICE AREAS		
RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED: To endorse the proposed policy.		
REASONS: A corporate Safeguarding Policy will ensure that there is satisfactory governance in place across the Authority in relation to the Safeguarding of Children and Adults.		
Relevant Scrutiny Committee to be consulted: YES Social Care & Health – 16 th September, 2015 Scrutiny Committee Recommendations/Comments: UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to endorse the report for consideration by the Executive Board. Education & Children's Services – 24 th September, 2015 Scrutiny Committee Recommendations/Comments: A verbal update of the recommendations/comments from Scrutiny Committee will be provided to members of the Executive Board at the meeting.		
To be referred to Council for Decision: YES Council Decision Required 14th October, 2015		
Executive Board Member Portfolio Holders: Councillor Gareth Jones (Education & Children) Councillor Jane Tremlett (Social Care & Health)		
Directorate Education and Children's services Report Author: Stefan Smith	Designations: Head of Children's services.	Tel Nos. 01267 246530 E Mail Address: SJSmith@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
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**INTRODUCTION OF A CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING POLICY
THAT COVERS ALL THE COUNCIL'S SERVICE AREAS**

During the period March to May 2014, the Wales Audit Office completed a review of the assurance and accountability arrangements of Carmarthenshire County Council for ensuring that safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and are being adhered to. The study examined what the Council itself has done to seek assurance that its arrangements to support safeguarding are effective by reviewing how the Council is discharging its safeguarding responsibilities at all levels: cabinet, senior management team, scrutiny and individual officers.

The study focussed on answering the following: Do the Council's governance and management arrangements provide assurance that children are safeguarded?

The main questions that the review sought to answer were:

- Are there clear governance, accountability and management arrangements for overseeing whether the Council is meeting its safeguarding responsibilities to children?
- Is the Council monitoring and evaluating appropriate information, which provides assurance that it is meeting its safeguarding responsibilities to children?
- Are assurance systems operating effectively?

The review was specifically in relation to children and overall the findings were that the authority had adequate systems in place. There were however, a series of recommendations. One of these was :

Develop and introduce a Corporate Safeguarding Policy that covers all the Council's service areas.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **Stefan Smith - Head of Children's services.**

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	People Management	Physical Assets
None	None	None	None	None	None	None

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken place.

Signed: **Stefan Smith - Head of Children's services.**

1. Scrutiny Committee – Both Social Care & Health and Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Committees have been consulted on the 16th and 24th September, 2015 respectively.

1. Local Member(s)

N/A

2. Community / Town Council

N/A

3. Relevant Partners

N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background papers used in the Preparation of this report:

THERE ARE NONE

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection