

AGENDA ITEM NO.

**EDUCATION & CHILDREN
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**CYSUR (Regional Safeguarding Children Board) –
Annual Report 2014/15**

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- CYSUR (Regional Safeguarding Children Board) Annual report 2014/15

Reasons:

- The annual report considers the effectiveness of the Authority's services for safeguarding children.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder:

CLlr. Gareth O. Jones (Education & Children Portfolio Holder)

<p>Directorate: Education & Children</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Stefan Smith</p> <p>Report Author: Liz Blazey Rebecca Copp</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Head of Children's Services</p> <p>CYSUR Regional Board Manager Carmarthenshire Child Protection Co-ordinator</p>	<p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 246530 sjsmith@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01437 776199 lizblazey@pembrokeshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 246595 rcopp@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Cysur (Regional Safeguarding Children Board) – Annual Report 2014/15

Background

CYSUR

This is the first year that there has been a CYSUR regional annual report in respect of safeguarding. Carmarthenshire has joined three other neighbouring Local Authorities so that we can co-ordinate safeguarding on a regional basis, as directed by Welsh Government. CYSUR is the Welsh word for reassurance. CYSUR is an acronym for Children and Youth Safeguarding and Unifying the Region. The region that CYSUR covers consists of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and Powys. CYSUR and its local sub groups deliver the Safeguarding Children Board's functions for the region.

The report highlights what CYSUR has achieved in the past year and what the priorities are going forward for the regional board; one of the main priorities being that the current arrangements are to be reviewed.

However as the lead agency for child protection, it is also important that the Local Authority strive to ensure that the staff and systems we have in place, not only within our own agency; but also within others, serve to safeguard the welfare of children. Therefore the report also considers trends and themes within Carmarthenshire.

There continues to be a need to retain social work staff trained and experienced in child protection, with caseloads that allow them time to focus on assessment and risk; maintaining and building upon close links with other agencies and driving forward safeguarding programmes and training for all staff.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES
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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, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities – Closer links and reporting structures are continuing to be developed between the Regional Safeguarding Children Board and other key partnerships within the authority.

3. Finance – Funding continues to be identified on a multi-agency basis to fund the Regional Safeguarding Children Board and its operation.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **Stefan Smith**

Head of Children's Services

1. Local Member(s) – The Executive Board Member has regular feedback from the chair of CYSUR and therefore has oversight.

2. Community / Town Council – N/A

3. Relevant Partners – The Carmarthenshire Local Safeguarding Children Board member agencies have contributed to the annual report and continue development of the new regional board.

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – A cross-section of senior local authority staff are members of the Carmarthenshire Local Safeguarding Children Board.

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

