



## COUNCIL - 17TH NOVEMBER 2015

**SUBJECT: CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND S.151 OFFICER**

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- 1.1 The report, which was considered by Cabinet on 14th October 2015 outlines the final draft of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy and is referred to Council for determination.
- 1.2 In the period March to May 2014 the Welsh Audit Office (WAO) completed a review of Caerphilly County Borough Council's (the Council) assurance and accountability arrangements for ensuring that safeguarding policies and procedures were in place and being adhered to.
- 1.3 The findings of the Review were published in October 2014 and reported to Cabinet on 10th December 2014, where it was agreed that a cross Directorate group of key Officers would be established to implement the recommendations made by WAO. The report provided Cabinet with an update on the actions taken to meet the WAO requirements through the production of an overarching Corporate Safeguarding Policy.
- 1.4 Members noted that following the review, WAO identified 5 key areas for improvement, mainly around Governance, which included updating the Safeguarding Policy, accountability and reporting and including Safeguarding within the Internal Audit work programme.
- 1.5 Cabinet discussed the item and it was noted that there have been some amendments to the Policy since the time of printing, including; the inclusion of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy in the mandatory induction programme for all Elected Members following election, safeguarding training for all Elected members nominated to join the Corporate Safeguarding Group and the inclusion of names of the Designated Safeguarding Officers for service areas with direct interface with the public. In addition, the proposal to develop a Corporate Safeguarding portal on the Council's intranet site was noted. Cabinet agreed the changes and that Councillor R. Woodyatt be named Lead Cabinet Member for Safeguarding.
- 1.6 Following consideration and discussion, and subject to the foregoing it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that: -

- (1) the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to make minor amendments to detail within the policy as indicated during the meeting and that it be RECOMMENDED to Council that for the reasons contained in the Officers report, the draft Corporate Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy be approved, as amended.
  - (2) Councillor R. Woodyatt be nominated Lead Cabinet Member for Safeguarding.
- 1.7 Members are asked to consider the amended draft Corporate Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy as appended to the report.

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Appendix:  
Report to Cabinet dated 14th October 2015.