

Safeguarding Children and Adults Strategic Panel Terms of Reference

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND ADULTS STRATEGIC PANEL TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Safeguarding children and adults is a priority for Cyngor Gwynedd. To ensure that suitable and appropriate safeguarding procedures are in force, the Statutory Director of Social Services convenes a Strategic Panel for Safeguarding Children and Adults, which represents Members and senior managers from all the Council's departments.
- 1.2. The Safeguarding Children and Adults Strategic Panel is expected to lead and advise on the safeguarding requirements contained in paragraphs 64-69 of Part 8 of the Social Services and Well-being Wales Act (2014).
- 1.3. All agencies also need to establish internal arrangements for ensuring that the counter-terrorism agenda, prevention of radicalisation, and community safety issues, receive the appropriate attention.
- 1.4. For the purpose of this Panel, the term 'safeguarding' applies to adults, children and young people and means preventing them from being abused or neglected and educating those around them to recognise the signs and dangers. Safeguarding, and promoting the welfare of individuals, is a broader term than 'protecting' individuals from being abused. It is about individuals and services recognising the risk factors and taking steps to prevent vulnerable individuals from being abused. Protection is part of the safeguarding and promoting well-being work. It refers to the activity of protecting children, young people and adults who suffer or are at risk of suffering significant harm because of abuse or neglect.

2. SAFEGUARDING STRATEGIC PANEL TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 2.1. The aim of the Panel is to give assurance to Members and to the Statutory Director of Social Services, as the senior officer within the Council who has full final responsibility for safeguarding children, young people, and adults, that suitable arrangements and procedures are in place at a corporate level to ensure the safeguarding of children, young people and adults. The Panel will fulfil 3 statutory duties, namely:
 - 2.1.1. general corporate duty to safeguard,
 - 2.1.2. Social Services statutory duty
 - 2.1.3. And the Community safety duty.
- 2.2. To meet these duties, the Panel is expected to:
 - 2.2.1. Identify any gaps in relation to safeguarding at corporate level and approve work programs to respond to these. Collaborate with the Safeguarding Operational Group to respond to any identified gaps.
 - 2.2.2. Identify lessons to be learned, at a corporate level, from reviews of serious cases and from other relevant reviews and ensure action on these. (Adult Practice Review, Child Practice Review and Domestic Homicide Review).

2.2.3. Identify lessons to be learned from external and internal audits and ensure action on these.

2.2.4. Inform relevant lead members of key issues/developments in the field of safeguarding children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

2.2.5. Be a vehicle to raise the awareness of all members of the Council's staff and all elected members of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.

2.2.6. Be a vehicle to ensure that staff members and elected members receive suitable training (for example the two mandatory VAWDASV and Prevention) in a timely manner, and monitor attendance at this training.

2.2.7. Ensure inter-departmental work correlation and effective communication within the Council in the field of safeguarding.

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2.2.9. Ensure an overview of wider Safeguarding issues including counter-terrorism procedures, modern slavery, domestic violence, and community safety.

3. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

3.1. The Safeguarding Strategic Panel will have a responsibility to monitor and challenge performance relating to the Safeguarding field.

4. CHAIRSHIP

4.1. The Panel shall appoint a Chair and a Vice-Chair every two years.

5. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

5.1. The Panel will meet three times per year.

6. GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

6.1. The Safeguarding Strategic Panel is accountable to Cabinet. An Annual Report will be submitted to Cabinet on an annual basis. The Annual Report will also be submitted to the Full Council on an annual basis.

6.2. Business management [i.e. formulating a work programme, meetings programme, 'secretariat', central communication point, organising additional professional advice (if necessary)] is the responsibility of the Corporate Support Department.

7. MEMBERSHIP

Title
Children and Supporting Families Cabinet Member
Adult, Health, and Wellbeing Cabinet Member
Education Cabinet Member
Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Safety
Corporate Support Cabinet Member
Chief Executive
Corporate Director
Statutory Director of Social Services
Head of Department for Children and Family Support
Head of Education
Head of Adults, Health, and Wellbeing
Head of Corporate Support
Chair of the Operational Safeguarding Group
Head of Legal Service
Anglesey and Gwynedd Safety Partnership Manager
Senior Child Protection and Quality and Family Support Manager
Senior Safeguarding, Quality Assurance and Mental Health Manager