**Implementation of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy**

Conwy has attempted to take a proactive approach to ensuring compliance with its safeguarding responsibilities, in support of the statutory Director of Social Services, who has ultimate accountability for this. However, despite a range of approaches, we cannot yet be confident that robust safeguarding practice is embedded across all the Council’s functions. In addition, Multi-Agency Safeguarding Board functions, including scrutiny functions, will increasingly be held at sub-regional and regional levels.

This in turn places more responsibility on the council to assure its internal systems are working well. As one of the priority aims within the Council’s Corporate Strategy is to ensure people within Conwy are kept safe, the Corporate Safeguarding Policy is the key development to achieve this aim

The Corporate Safeguarding Policy was implemented in Conwy County Borough Council following approval by Cabinet in July 2014.

As part of the implementation of the policy, a Corporate Safeguarding Panel was established the panel is chaired by the Director of Social Services and has representation from Senior Managers across the Council and relevant Lead Members

The aim of the Panel is to ensure that robust arrangements for the safety of children and adults at risk are in place within Conwy County Borough Council

The following key tasks were identified (updated actions in bold):

1. Providing Safeguarding Training for members, staff and managers

In 2014/15 the priority aim is to ensure all Elected Members have attended the Care Council Safeguarding training (incorporating both adult and child safeguarding considerations)

– **Seven Safeguarding training events have been held for Elected Members over the last six months.**

That all nominated Designated Safeguarding Lead officers have attended the specialist training around their roles and responsibilities

– **Designated Safeguarding Lead Training held on the 27/3/15**

That the Corporate Safeguarding training strategy has identified the training requirements of all Conwy County Borough Council staff and that the overall aim is for all staff to have attended safeguarding training over the next three years

– **Draft Training Strategy developed. Designated Safeguarding Leads will be inputting into the strategy to identify the type of safeguarding training that individual Departments require.**

1. Ensure awareness of and compliance with the Corporate Safeguarding Policy

To ensure every department in the council will produce and confirm their departmental safeguarding policy

– **As part of the Quality Assurance Framework work, each Department will be reporting in June 2015 compliance with the Corporate Safeguarding Policy**

To ensure information regarding the Corporate Safeguarding Policy is available on the staff intranet and public Conwy County Borough Council website

– **Corporate Safeguarding Policy is available on the public website**

As part of Corporate Induction, safeguarding information will be presented to new staff

– **As part of the Induction day in the Council, presentation is given by the Safeguarding Unit.**

1. Promote and Strengthen Safe Recruitment practice across the council

Safe Recruitment Task and Finish Group will audit the current recruitment process for staff working with Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults.

– **Audit completed. Identified the need to develop Safe Recruitment Guidance**

Safe Recruitment Task and Finish Group will look at developing a safe recruitment guidance in line with the good practice guide and toolkit for local authorities

– **Safe Recruitment guidance developed and shared with Corporate Safeguarding Panel**

Corporate Safe Recruitment Training workshops to be held throughout 2015 for managers involved in the recruitment process

– **Dates set for Safe Recruitment Workshop for Managers to attend in 2015**

1. To ensure schools across Conwy comply with the requirements set out in the updated Welsh Government Safeguarding Children in Education Guidance

**Task and Finish Group established in 2015 to look at meeting the following key tasks-**

Respond to the Welsh Audit Office Safeguarding Inspection consultation findings in relation to Education

– **The Task and Finish Group are reviewing the current Quality Assurance Framework in Education**

Look at developing new Safeguarding Materials which sets out the roles and responsibilities of Schools and other Educational Establishments in a user friendly way to staff

– **The Task and Finish Group are currently developing a user friendly guide around reporting responsibilities for staff and also considering a “child friendly” guide for children and young people.**