

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023

**“C97 ANNUAL CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING REPORT: 2022/2023 (SCH) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –**

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to update Cabinet on the work that had been undertaken in relation to corporate arrangements for safeguarding across the Council.

Councillor Williams highlighted the ‘Working Together to Safeguard People Guidance’ under Part 7 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 which provided advice on what should happen where an individual had concerns over the wellbeing or welfare of an adult or child and wanted to ensure that Members were aware of that duty and that it was not simply the responsibility of Social Services.

Society as a whole had seen a change in recognising people who needed support and there had been an improvement in support services as a result, e.g. domestic abuse victims being allowed to remain in their own homes and feel safe instead of having to leave.

Councillor Birch was pleased to see the Council taking its responsibilities seriously with regard to education and safeguarding children and vulnerable young people and adults. She was pleased to hear that people who were subject domestic violence were able to stay in their own homes, also illustrated by Councillor John earlier on a separate agenda item, and having appropriate security precautions put in place in order to protect them.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the work that had been undertaken to improve corporate arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and adults be noted.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet would continue to receive six monthly reports on work carried out to improve Corporate Safeguarding arrangements and the effectiveness of relevant Policies.

(3) T H A T the report be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources, Environment and Regeneration, Healthy Living and Social Care, Home and Safe Communities and Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committees, as well as Governance and Audit Committee for consideration.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(2) To allow Cabinet to exercise effective oversight of the key area of corporate working and be assured of effective safeguarding taking place.

(3) To respond to requests that each Scrutiny Committee be provided with update reports.”