

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Subject: Safeguarding Children Corporate Policy
Committee: Cabinet
Date: 13 September 2011
Cabinet Member: Councillor Sam Leaves
CMT Member: Director of Services for Children and Young People
Author: Hannah Haines (Policy and Business Planning Officer) and
Maureen Grimley (Safeguarding Manager)
Contact: Tel: 01752 307335 or 01752 306754
e-mail: Hannah.haines@plymouth.gov.uk or
Maureen.grimley@plymouth.gov.uk
Ref: Safeguarding Children Corporate Policy
Key Decision: No
Part: 1

Executive Summary:

The aim of this corporate policy is that all relevant Plymouth City Council employees are able to recognise any child where there is a safeguarding concern and respond appropriately and that all elected members and employees¹ of the Council understand their responsibility where a safeguarding concern has been identified. They will be able to access and follow the agreed safeguarding procedures in order to protect that child and to fully comply with all aspects of their responsibility. A child is defined as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday and includes unborn children.

Adherence to this policy will contribute to providing every child and young person in Plymouth with a safe environment to live, grow, achieve and exceed in their hopes for the future, through:

- the promotion of effective and efficient Safeguarding Services within all directorates of the Council, and
- promoting effective single agency and multi agency safeguarding.

This policy, combined with the associated procedures, provides guidance to all elected members and employees who may come across safeguarding concerns within the context of their work for the Council. The expectation of Plymouth City Council is that all elected members will participate in the appropriate training that is offered in relation to the safeguarding children as part of their responsibilities as corporate parents.

Corporate Plan 2011-2014:

This policy directly contributes to reducing inequalities by helping children to have the best start to life. Keeping children safe is at the heart of everything we do.

¹ The term employee does not refer to the paid status of the person concerned but rather actions taken by them on behalf of Plymouth City Council, therefore unpaid workers, volunteers and agents may be included within this context.
Updated September 2011

**Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:
Including finance, human, IT and land**

None that are bit already included in the Council's budget and plans

Other Implications: e.g. Community Safety, Health and Safety, Risk Management and Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion:

- Community Safety - preventing abuse and neglect
- Health and Safety - Promoting safeguarding and wellbeing
- Risk Management - enable employees to identify risk of abuse or neglect.
- Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken with no required actions.

Recommendations & Reasons for recommended action:

Cabinet are requested to approve this corporate policy.

Alternative options considered and reasons for recommended action:

N/A

Background papers:

Safeguarding Children Corporate Policy

Sign off:

Fin	5.7.11 SA	Leg	1.7.11 LT	HR	16.6.11 JM	Corp Prop	N/A	IT	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating SMT Member: Mairead MacNeil											