

Annex B

Analysis of Key Corporate Risk 5 – Safeguarding

1. This Annex provides a more detailed analysis of KCR5, Safeguarding.
2. The description of this risk is as follows; **A vulnerable child or adult with care and support needs is not protected from harm.**
Ensuring that vulnerable adults and children in the city are safe and protected is a key priority for the council. The individual, organisational and reputational implications of ineffective safeguarding practice are acute.

Risk Detail

Failure to protect a child or vulnerable adult from death or serious harm (where service failure is a factor)

3. Safeguarding vulnerable children and adults is one of the most important duties of the council and is underpinned by statutory frameworks which describe the way that the local authority needs to work with other agencies to keep children and adults safe.
4. The Children and Social Work Act 2017 abolished local children's safeguarding boards in favour of new safeguarding partnership arrangements. The revised statutory guidance: Working Together 2018 sets the parameters for the new arrangements with three key partners taking the lead: The Local Authority; the Police and the Clinical Commissioning Group.
5. Local Authorities have a statutory duty under the Care Act 2014 to establish a Safeguarding board to oversee arrangements for protecting adults at risk and preventing abuse and neglect.
6. Safeguarding adults at risk requires close partnership working between all parts of the statutory and voluntary services. Failure within this partnership increases the risk of harm to adults at risk.

Implications

7. The implications for the Council include;
 - A vulnerable person is not protected
 - Children's serious case review or lessons learned exercise

Annex B

Analysis of Key Corporate Risk 5 – Safeguarding

- Safeguarding adults review
- Reputational damage
- Serious security risk

Controls

8. The controls in place include;

Safeguarding sub groups

9. Safeguarding sub groups of the Children’s safeguarding board have ensured that partners are held to account. Lessons learned reviews have been commissioned and used to inform programmes of multi-agency training and to identify priorities for further work e.g. in 2018-19 the focus will be on developing understanding of Harmful Sexual Behaviours.
10. The Safeguarding Adults Board has established subgroups focussed on the development of the workforce, lessons learned and performance & quality. The SAB receives regular performance information at each meeting.

Multi agency policies and procedures

11. Multi-agency policies and procedures e.g. the recently revised Children’s Services threshold document are developed and adopted through the Safeguarding boards.

Specialist safeguarding cross sector training

12. Cross sector training has been commissioned by the Children’s Safeguarding Board and has included specialist training provided by partner agencies e.g. NSPCC. Training for schools on safer recruitment and the revised Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance is provided by the Schools Safeguarding Adviser.

Quantitative and qualitative performance management

13. The Chief Executive, lead member and Corporate Director, CEC monitor the performance of children’s social care through monthly

Annex B

Analysis of Key Corporate Risk 5 – Safeguarding

oversight of the performance scorecards for the service. Information from case file audits informs on-going training and development of the service.

Reporting and governance to lead Member, Chief Executive and Scrutiny

14. Children's social care scorecards are regularly reported to the lead member and Chief Executive, this ensures they are well sighted on caseloads and emerging themes identified from case file audits. CEC scrutiny receives an annual programme of reports from Children's social care and the children's safeguarding board which provides information about priorities and the outcomes of work to safeguard vulnerable children. CYC continues to report on its performance through the Safeguarding Adults Return. This is regularly reported to the SAB and through Health Housing and Adult Social Care Policy and Scrutiny Committee. The Health and Wellbeing Board receives the SAB annual report.

Annual self assessment, peer challenge and regulation and ongoing inspection preparation and peer challenge

15. Children's services participate in an annual programme of regional sector-led improvement which informs the development of the self evaluation summary to support service planning and identify the focus for peer review activity. Children's services are externally regulated by Ofsted and self evaluation is a focus of the Ofsted Annual Conversation. In 2018 this takes place on 29th November. This supports the process of on-going inspection preparation through the work of the internal inspection. reference groups.

Further details of Safeguarding Adults Controls

16. Safeguarding Adults Policy have been recently reviewed and updated. Updated local operating guidance has been introduced.
17. Each member of the SAB submits self assessment information to the SAB and is require to provide annual updates on the roll out of 'Making Safeguarding Personal'.

Annex B

Analysis of Key Corporate Risk 5 – Safeguarding

18. The Multi Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy have been recently reviewed and updated. Updated local operating guidance has been introduced.
19. CYC has refreshed its offer of specialist cross sector safeguarding adults training across the health and care sector in line with new procedures.
20. Prevent arrangements have recently been reviewed to ensure alignment with adult safeguarding process.
21. Further resource is in place to enable the SABs management of its strategic and business plans. The SAB's plan and risk register is regularly reviewed by partners at the Board.
22. Following the completion of the Veritau audit on deprivation of liberty safeguards, CYC is completing recommended actions. The sector led peer challenge action plan for the SAB has been completed and shared with the SAB.
23. DBS check and recheck are in place for necessary staff.
24. Further resource is in place to enable the SABs management of its strategic and business plans. The SAB's 2018/2019 plan is approved and on track. This and the risk register are regularly reviewed by partners at the board.
25. Community Safety Plan has been agreed by the Executive and the Community Safety Partnership continues to meet regularly, overseeing the delivery of the plan.
26. Procurement of a new independent chair of the board is underway.

CORAG (Chief Officer Reference and Accountability Group) which brings together Chief Officers from relevant organisations in relation to safeguarding eg. police, CYC

27. CORAG has overseen the move from the local children's safeguarding board to the new children's safeguarding board arrangements. The new model for the partnership has been based on the premise that there should be no change for change's sake to arrangements that are already working well. This was confirmed by

Annex B

Analysis of Key Corporate Risk 5 – Safeguarding

the recent Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) inspection in September 2018, which highlighted the effective challenge and support provided by the children's safeguarding board. CORAG has ensured that the new partnership arrangements have been jointly developed and owned by the three safeguarding partners.

Completed restructure of Children's social care services

28. The new structure is now embedded and a recruitment and retention strategy has been put in place to ensure that remaining vacancies have been filled and the reduce numbers of agency staff. This has been successfully introduced in the Referral and Assessment Service and is now bring implemented in the Safeguarding and Intervention Service. The Assistant Director post was successfully recruited to and the new Assistant Director came into post on 22nd October 2018.

Interim Director arrangements in place in CEC and HHASC directorates, until permanent replacements start

29. The appointments to interim director roles through internal secondment has ensured continuity of approach and a smooth transition until the permanent directors are in post. The appointment to the permanent director role has further strengthened capacity in CEC.

Outstanding Actions

30. The Early Adopter work to engage schools with the Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements will be completed later in the year.

31. The implementation of Children's Social Care records system will be evaluated to identify any priorities for further development.

Risk Rating

32. The gross risk score is 20 (likelihood probable, impact major). After applying the controls detailed above the net risk score is reduced to 19 (likelihood possible, impact major).