

# Scrutiny of Safeguarding – Update 5th September 2018

## The purpose of the review

To ensure that:-

- WMFS policy and procedures (Standing Order 1712) is compliant with the legislation, statutory guidance and addresses the learning from the Metro Court multi-agency review
- The whole workforce has the necessary skills and knowledge to identify safeguarding concerns within the context of their role and apply the policy and processes consistently and competently
- The policy is owned by the most appropriate SET member so that safeguarding is seen as everyone's responsibility
- Quality standards and monitoring processes in place to ensure safeguarding concerns are identified and managed in accordance with WMFS Policy.

## Intended outcomes

### Policy

- complies with relevant legislation.
- is applied consistently internally in the provision of support for the workforce where relevant.
- is applied consistently externally through the delivery prevention, protection, response and other activities where the workforce has contact with the community.
- there are appropriate policies, procedures and guidance in place to support safeguarding and whether these are appropriately cross referenced

### Training

- mandatory training and development needs by role are identified and implemented along with the refresh frequency requirements to maintain competency.

### Recruitment, selection and induction processes

- consistently obtain references, obtain DBS checks where relevant for successful candidate and include the requirement to undertake the required role related training and to safeguard.

### Determine and identify to extent to which the workforce:-

- has been trained and is competent in recognising safeguarding concerns
- understands the link between safeguarding and fire.

### Governance, quality framework and monitoring


- arrangements are in place to provide assurance that policy and process is being followed.

### WMFS Lead for Safeguarding

- Strategic Enabler - ownership of the policy

### **What Informed the Scope and Intended outcomes?**

- Recent changes to legislation and statutory guidance: -  
  
The Care Act 2014 and Working Together to Safeguard Children Statutory Guidance
- WMFS has been engaged in a multi-agency review resulting from a Fire Safety Prohibition of a building that housed children and families which made specific recommendations which WMFS need to address and implement.
- Some evidence to suggest that there are instances where either safeguarding concerns have not been identified and/or policy and procedure has not been applied.
- A self assessment for Solihull Safeguarding Adults Board to inform compliance against the Care Act 2014



### Recommendations for Undertaking the Review

That:-

- An external professional be appointed to work with nominated Scrutiny members to conduct the review, analyse the information gathered and write a report which includes their analysis and recommendations to achieve the intended outcomes
- They are supported by an internal working group with membership:-
  - PSS - Wendy Browning Sampson
  - Prevention – Pete Wilson
  - Representatives from:-
    - Response
    - Protection
    - Intelligence and Innovation (Policy assurance?)


That :

- The internal working group implements the recommendations with peer support from
  - NFCC National Safeguarding Group
  - West Midlands Metropolitan Emergency Services Safeguarding Adults Group
  - Local Safeguarding Children partners

Representatives from Scrutiny will need to be able to commit to 3 or 4 meeting sessions over the course of the review.

#### Role of Internal Safeguarding Working Group

- Ensure the representation of the Working reflects all Service areas
- Scope a details Terms of Reference
- Supporting the Professional and Scrutiny in providing the relevant evidenced based practices, skills, knowledge and limitations
- Provide the context of what the Service provides
- Work together to implement the recommendations and report back to Scrutiny Administration and facilitation (Organise, structure and direct) the engagement between the Professional the Service



### Anticipated Costs and Benefits of External Professional?

- Safeguarding is a specialist field and WMFS does not have a bespoke professional with the relevant knowledge and experience to support, guide and implement:
  - Our evidence suggests we are not fully compliant with legislation and consistent in following policy and procedure
  - Help us to interpret legislation and translate into a framework to be fully compliant with internal policy and compliance to legislation
  - Safeguarding currently sits within Prevention and needs to be integral to Prevention, Protection and Response
  - WMFS has a duty to safeguard its people
- Offers an objective analysis
- Estimated costs for the independent professional Based on work across all Service areas we will require:
  - 8-10 days work - dependent on the format of the review and numbers of personnel engaged
  - @ £600-£800 per day

#### Role of the Safeguarding Professional Support

- Carryout appropriate lines of enquiry to establish how close we are to the intended outcomes (with or on behalf of Scrutiny)
- Analyse the information gathered
- Write a report
- Report to include analysis and recommendations to achieve the desired outcomes
- Advice and guide to Scrutiny Panel
- Evidence based practice
- Desired outcomes
- Key lines of enquiry
- Analysis of the whole geography (command areas/ support staff/ PPR and PSS)
- judgement of current position and recommendations for future practice, linked to outcomes
- Report

## Timescales

The review will take 3 months from securing the stakeholder group.