



Overview and Scrutiny Committee Briefing Paper

Subject: Safeguarding

Director: Executive Director: Graeme Kane - Chief Operating Officer

Officer Responsible: Nicola Riley - Assistant Director: Wellbeing

Background and Reason for Briefing Note	<u>Self-assessment for Oxfordshire Safeguarding Boards</u>
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The online audit incorporates the standards from the safeguarding self-assessment against the Children Act 2004 (known as the Section 11 audit) carried out by the OSCB as well as the standards developed by the LGA for Adult Services and published within the LGA Adult Safeguarding Improvement Tool. This combined audit covers both safeguarding children and adults with care and support needs and adults at risk, recognising that most agencies attending the Safeguarding Boards provide services to both children and adults with care and support needs.

2019 Assessment Standards

In the full self-assessment, there are four core standards, with an additional standard focussing on what is impacting on our ability to safeguard our communities. It was agreed that the Boards would conduct a focussed assessment every other year, looking in more detail at a smaller number of the standards. For 2019, the standards that are being assessed are as follows:

- **2B – Interagency Working** - There is effective inter-agency working to safeguard & promote the welfare of children and adults with care and support needs
- **3 - Performance & Resource Management** - There is effective training on safeguarding & promoting the welfare of children and adults with care and support needs for all staff working with or, depending on the agency’s primary functions, in contact with children and adults with care and support needs.
- **4 - Outcomes for, and Experiences of, People Who Use Statutory Services People’s experiences of safeguarding**
- **5 -Impact assessment**

The assessment is broken into 4 sections, each with subsections. Graded red, amber and green there is an opportunity to provide evidence and complete an action plan to identify work to improve delivery.

The action points arising from the return highlight where Cherwell needs to improve the delivery of its safeguarding practice either through better implementation of existing policies or updating current policy content.

In grading the audit it should be noted that there are 0 Red grades, 2 Amber grades and the remainder, 15, are Green. There will be a moderation exercise in March 2020 for all partners to contribute to.

The action plan associated with the amber grades covers improving the take up of member training to over 60% and undertaking an impact analysis of staff training. It is essential to know that staff



have been trained and that that training has had an impact on how the service is delivered.

The recruitment of a safeguarding officer to begin work in January 2020 will enable this work to be undertaken.

Completed by: Nicola Riley

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