

Strategic Director - People

As Director of Social Services

- I. To exercise the statutory responsibilities of the role of Director of Social Services and undertake such delegated responsibilities consistent with the discharge of that statutory role as set out in the statutory guidance on the role and accountabilities of the Director of Social Services issued under Part 8 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and any other relevant legislation.
- II. To determine the responsibilities of the Head of Adult and Community Services and Head of Children and Young People Services for the management and delivery of operational services within social services and the exercise of specific statutory functions on behalf of the Director of Social Services (as set out in the scheme of delegation to Heads of Service), ensuring that systems are in place to monitor the quality and effectiveness of services.
- III. To meet the core responsibilities and functions of a Director of Social Services as set out in the Welsh Assembly Government's Code of Practice on the Role of the Director of Social Services (2016) as follows:
 - Providing clear professional and strategic leadership to effectively deliver care and support services which discharge the Council's social services functions and meet the Council's well-being objectives.
 - Having direct access to and advising the Chief Executive and councillors on social services matters and on the direction the council should take in fulfilling its social services responsibilities and ensuring that the Head of Paid Service, Cabinet and councillors have access to the best, up-to-date professional advice and information on all aspects of care and support services.
 - Identifying and advising councillors on priorities, challenges and risks across all aspects of social services, including areas of co-dependency between agencies and circumstances where staffing issues affect the Council's ability to discharge its statutory responsibilities.
 - Ensuring that strong performance management arrangements are in place across social services, and reporting at a corporate level and to members on the authority's performance in respect of these.
 - Ensuring that the authority has proper safeguards to protect vulnerable children and young people, adults and older people, reporting at a corporate level and to members on their effectiveness and briefing the Head of Paid Service and councillors on high-profile cases and other matters likely to cause public concern.
 - Fulfilling overall responsibility for social services workforce planning, training and professional development.

- Advising councillors on strategies for improving methods of intervention, service provision, practice and use of resources.
- Ensuring that there are adequate arrangements in place to work effectively with others, both within and outside the authority, in fulfilling its social services functions and in contributing to the achievement of wider policy objectives.

Fostering effective joint working relationships both within and outside the local authority, including formal integrated arrangements with health boards.

- IV. To provide clear professional leadership for Social Services
- V. To provide advice to the Head of Paid Service and Councillors on the strategic direction and social service responsibilities.
- VI. To determine and provide strong management of performance and transparent arrangements for planning and delivering improvements in social services
- VII. To determine and provide arrangements to ensure the safeguarding of children, young people and adults and to report to members on the operation, monitoring and improvement of those safeguarding systems
- VIII. To work with further and Higher Education and the CSSIW to enhance workforce planning and professional development for all staff across the sector.
- IX. To determine arrangements for governance, strategic direction and operational management
- X. To report annually to the Council on the delivery, performance risks and plans for improvement on the full range of social services functions.
- XI. To advise Overview and Scrutiny Committees on children's and adult's social services.
- XII. To determine any guardianship application and to make an order for the discharge of patients subject to guardianship under the Mental Health Act 1983.
- XIII. To approve the institution of adoption proceedings by a foster parent
- XIV. To set up an adoption panel in accordance with the Adoption Agencies (Wales) Regulations 2005 and to make such decisions and notifications as to the adoption of children as specified in those regulations.
- XV. To approve the payment of the legal expense of prospective adoptive parents for children whom the Council as an Adoption Agency is placing for adoption.
- XVI. To grant allowances to persons who have adopted children in accordance with the Adoption and Children Act 2002 and regulations that may be issued by the Secretary of State.

- XVII. To determine provision for the accommodation of children in secure accommodation in accordance with Section 119 Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.
- XVIII. To act as nearest relative, appointee or receiver in all matters in which it is appropriate for an officer of the Council to act.
- XIX. To appoint officers to act as approved mental health professionals under Mental Health Act legislation.
- XX. To act as the lead director for children and young people's services under Section 27 of the Children Act 2004 to co-ordinate and oversee arrangements to improve the well-being of children in the local authority area

General

- XXI. To determine matters relating to Human Resources, tenders, finance, land and buildings, operational plans and legal agreements relating to social services functions in accordance with the general delegation of powers to all Heads of Service set out in this constitution (except insofar as they have been delegated to the Head of Adult and Community Services and Head of Children and Young People Services)

Strategic Director – Place

- I. To determine matters relating to Human Resources, tenders, finance, land and buildings, operational plans and legal agreements relating to the relevant service areas in accordance with the general delegation of powers to all Heads of Service set out in this constitution (except insofar as they have been delegated to the relevant Heads of Service)