

Meeting of:	CABINET
Date of Meeting:	19 DECEMBER 2023
Report Title:	INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL POLICY
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CORPORATE DIRECTOR – SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING
Responsible Officer:	JOE BOYLE POLICY OFFICER
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no effect upon the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules
Executive Summary:	This report summarises the process and reasons for this policy to be devised and implemented. This policy is the overarching policy position regarding Infection, Prevention and Control for all regulated care services provided by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate. An Infection, Prevention and Control policy was required to be created following the issuing of Priority Action Notices from recent Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) inspections of regulated services. This policy has been written in line with the National Infection Control Manual.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with an overview of the development of the proposed Infection, Prevention and Control policy for Regulated Direct Care Services and seek approval to implement the policy across regulated care services provided by the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate.

2. Background

- 2.1 Under Regulation 56 of the Regulated Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2016, regulated care services are required to have a policy in place, reflective of current national legislation and guidance, to control and minimise the spread of infection and ensure that the service is delivered in line with the contents of said policy.
- 2.2 Following recent inspections carried out by Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW), Priority Action Notices were issued in respect of the development and review of several policies, one of which being in relation to the development of a policy towards Infection, Prevention and Control.
- 2.3 All services currently follow the Infection Prevention and Control procedure.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 The proposed Infection, Prevention and Control Policy (attached as **Appendix 1**) has been created to cover and support all regulated care services provided by BCBC Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate, in both Adults and Children's Services.
- 3.2 As a part of this process, service managers liaised with the policy officer to gain input into the current use of restrictive practices within their services. All service-specific procedures were consulted.
- 3.3 The National Infection Control Manual was reviewed and content of the policy was drafted up.
- 3.4 Additional feedback received from the service managers relating to the draft of the policy was incorporated into the proposed policy.
- 3.5 The proposed policy has been submitted to the Directorate's Senior Management Team for review and approval, along with submission to the Trade Unions.
- 3.6 The policy and its associated national framework provides services and staff with a safe and effective framework from which services can operate towards controlling and preventing the spread of any communicable diseases that services may encounter.
- 3.7 Training is ongoing for all staff with initial training being provided to new staff and annual refresher training being provided to established staff.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh Language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report.

Involvement	Representatives from varying levels of the Directorate, along with colleagues from Commissioning, Social Care Workforce Development Programme (SCWDP), Health and Safety, the Shared Regulatory Services, and Finance have fed into this report.
Long term	There will be a positive long-term impact of this policy due to meeting regulatory requirements as well as providing a safe and effective framework for Infection, Prevention and Control.
Prevention	To prevent the spread of communicable diseases within regulated care settings by the use of appropriate infection prevention and control techniques.
Integration	This policy will be implemented and used Directorate wide. Training for is provided to all direct care and support services staff.
Collaboration	Work has taken place with commissioning, SCWDP, Service managers, Team managers, Health and Safety and the Shared Regulatory Service.

6. Climate Change Implications

6.1 There are no climate change implications as a result of this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 This policy sets out to provide additional support to all individuals in receipt of direct care and support services provided by the Directorate by providing staff with a clear framework for the prevention of the spread of infection and control of infections. This will safeguard the individuals in receipt of care and support and staff where possible from the spread of communicable diseases.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no additional financial resource implications required from the implementation of this policy. Training in Adults and Children's services remains ongoing and from within existing budgets.

9. Recommendation

9.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approve the Infection, Prevention and Control Policy for implementation across regulated care services provided by the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate.

Background Documents

Social Services and Wellbeing Infection Control Protocol (2022)