

To: Cabinet
Date: 13 July 2022
Report of: Scrutiny Committee
Title of Report: Oxford City Council Safeguarding Report

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To present Scrutiny Committee recommendations for Cabinet consideration and decision
Key decision:	No
Scrutiny Lead Member:	Councillor Dr Christopher Snowton, Scrutiny Committee Chair
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Diko Walcott, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities
Corporate Priority:	Support Thriving Communities
Policy Framework:	Council Strategy 2020-24
Recommendation: That the Cabinet states whether it agrees or disagrees with the recommendations in the body of this report.	

Appendices	
Appendix A	Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee

Introduction and overview

1. The Scrutiny Committee met on 05 July 2022 to consider a report concerning the Oxford City Council Safeguarding Report. The report, which is due for Cabinet consideration on 13 July 2022, sets out progress made on the Oxford City Council Safeguarding Action Plan 2021/22. The Committee would like to thank Councillor Walcott (Cabinet Member for Safer Communities), Mish Tullar (Head of Corporate Strategy) and Laura Jones (Safeguarding Co-ordinator) for attending the meeting to answer questions.

Summary and recommendations

2. Councillor Diko Walcott, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities introduced the report. She highlighted the work of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements which ensured the delivery of safeguarding interventions and training across the County.

3. The Head of Corporate Strategy highlighted that this was a report and not a policy, adding that the Council had achieved a ‘best practice’ finding for the fifth consecutive year – which he congratulated staff on.
4. During discussion, the Committee noted the work being undertaken to ensure safeguarding was taken seriously and suggested that, given the increase in digital platforms and use of digital devices for activities including education (particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic), attention should be given to incorporating digital inclusion and digital safeguarding into safeguarding training.

Recommendation 1: That the Council works with Oxfordshire County Council and other local organisations to ensure that digital inclusion and digital safeguarding are covered in safeguarding training.

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