

THE MID AND WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & ADULTS BOARDS

Annual Report 2018-19

An Overview of the Objectives and Achievements of the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Children & Adults Board



Gwasanaeth Prawf Cenedlaethol
National Probation Service



Diwyd Adfyfyllu Cymunedol Cymru
Wales Community Rehabilitation Company
PRIFYF
PROBATION
Gwiothrodwr gan / Operated by Working Links



Heddlu • Police
DYFED-POWYS
Diogelwch ein Cymuned - Safeguarding our Community



Powys



Cyngor Sir Gâr
Carmarthenshire
County Council



GIG CYMRU NHS WALES
Bwrdd Iechyd Addysgu Powys
Powys Teaching Health Board



GIG CYMRU NHS WALES
Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru
Public Health Wales



GIG CYMRU NHS WALES
Bwrdd Lechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda
Hywel Dda University Health Board

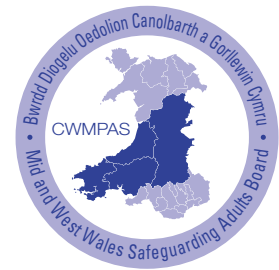
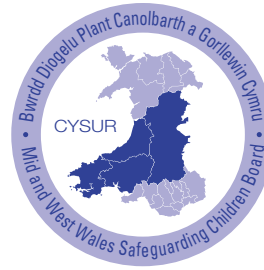
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Introduction

It gives us pleasure to jointly present the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards CYSUR and CWMPAS Annual Report.



This Annual Report outlines the progress we have made against the outcomes set by CYSUR and CWMPAS in March 2018 as part of our joint Annual Strategic Plan.

The Boards have progressed to a combined all-age Safeguarding People agenda in line with the spirit and ethos of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014. Joint and integrated working between the CYSUR and CWMPAS Boards at a regional Executive and Sub Group level is now fully embedded into the Boards' structures and is part of everyday business.

2018-19 has seen the completion of a number of significant Board projects, namely the Regional Threshold Document for Safeguarding Adults, the Training Strategy, and the VAWDASV Regional

Strategy and 5 year Delivery Plan, all of which have required significant input from dedicated multi-agency safeguarding professionals across the Mid and West Wales region. These bespoke projects have laid the foundations for the delivery of safeguarding services and professional practice in the coming three to five years.

We would like to thank the members of the Mid and West Wales Boards and Sub Group members for their engagement, commitment and progress made in the last year. CYSUR and CWMPAS are progressing well and we look forward to working with the Boards next year to continue to improve and enhance practice across the region to protect children and vulnerable adults from the risk of abuse.



Jonathan Griffiths (CWMPAS Chair)
Director of Social Care and Housing
Pembrokeshire County Council



Jake Morgan (CYSUR Chair)
Director of Community Services
Carmarthenshire County Council

Objectives of a Regional Safeguarding Board

The objectives of Regional Safeguarding Boards as outlined in the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 are below.

The objectives of a **Safeguarding Children Board** are:

- **to protect** children within its area who are experiencing, or are at risk of abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm, and
- **to prevent** children within its area from becoming at risk of abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm.

The objectives of a **Safeguarding Adults Board** are:

- **to protect** adults within its area who –
 - have needs for care and support (whether or not a local authority is meeting any of those needs), and
 - are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse or neglect, and to **prevent** those adults within its area from becoming at risk of abuse or neglect.

Guidance on the functions of Safeguarding Boards

The focus for Safeguarding Boards is twofold. It is both the protection of children and adults who are in need of care and support from abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm and the **prevention** of children and adults from

becoming at risk of abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm. These two objectives should inform the priorities of Safeguarding Boards when they are considering their work programmes and annual plans, and reviewing their performance.

Keeping children and adults who may have needs for care and support safe is everyone's responsibility. This means feeling safe and being safe with those with whom they live and who support and care for them, as well as being safe in environments outside the home where they may live, travel, play, learn, work or undertake sport, cultural, leisure and other activities. This responsibility lies primarily within the family or with carers and within the wider community. Many organisations have responsibility for safeguarding children and adults through the services they provide directly to them, through the help and support provided to families and carers, or through their work to develop and strengthen communities.



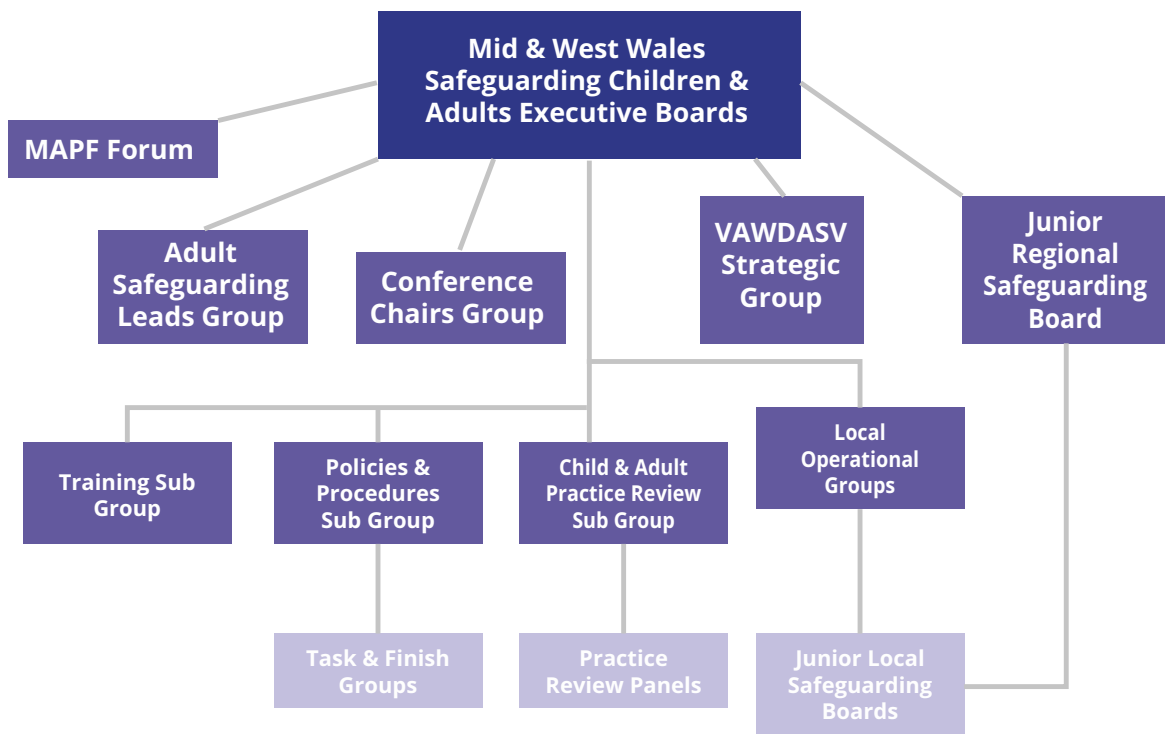
Board structure

The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards serve the communities of Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Powys, working together collaboratively and in partnership within a multi-agency setting. The Boards aim to raise awareness of safeguarding issues with members of the public and provide support, advice and guidance to professionals working in our local communities who deliver a range of voluntary and statutory services. Mid

and West Wales is covered by two sister Safeguarding Boards:

- **CWMPAS** [Collaborative Working & Maintaining Partnership in Adult Safeguarding]: The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Adults Board, and;
- **CYSUR** [Child & Youth Safeguarding, Unifying the Region]: The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Children Board.

Mid & West Wales Board Structure



Executive Boards:

The Executive Boards for CYSUR and CWMPAS work together as an overarching regional Board to monitor and improve regional safeguarding activity across Mid and West Wales. The Executive Boards consist of senior managers from all key statutory partners and agencies (see membership table). The Executive Boards'

aim is to provide leadership and guidance to all its constituent agencies through the delivery of a series of strategic priorities for safeguarding activity and practice.

The two Executive Boards support, guide and take advice from the regional Sub Groups.

Local Operational Groups:

Each of the four Local Authorities within Mid and West Wales host Local Operational Groups (LOGs). The purpose, membership and structure of these LOGs mirror that of the Executive Boards. However, the primary objective of LOGs is to monitor and analyse safeguarding practice locally, rather than regionally. Membership consists of the Head of Children’s & Adult Services, who chair the groups, senior and middle managers from local statutory agencies, including Health, Police and Probation. LOGs seek to improve safeguarding practice locally by discussing local safeguarding activity in an open and transparent environment, sharing and analysing local performance data and completing practice audits to inform practice improvements and

identify risk. LOGs seek to share and acknowledge examples of good safeguarding practice, in addition they will professionally challenge and hold agencies to account when safeguarding practice falls below expected standards.



Regional Practice Review Sub Groups:

The Adult Practice Review (APR) & Child Practice Review (CPR) Sub Groups consider referrals from agencies where a child or adult at risk has either died or suffered significant impairment of health and development as a result of abuse and/or neglect. The regional APR/CPR Sub Group considers information against defined criteria within ‘Working Together to Safeguard People Volume 3 – Adult Practice Reviews & Volume 2 – Child Practice Reviews’ and makes a recommendation to the relevant Executive Board Chair as to whether there are identified learning outcomes and whether an APR/CPR should be undertaken to learn lessons. Practice

Reviews are undertaken by a multi-agency group of professionals who collectively analyse information and identify any practice themes and lessons to learn. The report is then published as a Child/Adult Practice Review on the Boards’ website.



Multi-agency Child Practice Review Learning Event

Regional Policies & Procedures Sub Group:

The Policies & Procedures Sub Group operates collaboratively and in conjunction with the Executive Boards. The Group seeks to provide guidance to professionals by the development of regional policy and procedure. A key objective

for the Boards this year is to work towards the development of existing local into regional policies and procedures to help promote a more consistent response to safeguarding practice across the region.

Regional Training Sub Group:

The Training Sub Group operates collaboratively and in conjunction with the Executive Boards. It seeks to support and guide the delivery of safeguarding training and learning across the four local authority areas and partner agency organisations. The Training Sub Group works closely with partners’ training departments to ensure and promote the quality and consistency of safeguarding training and delivery. The group can commission specialist, bespoke safeguarding training across the region and works closely with other Sub Groups such as the APR/CPR Sub Groups to ensure any learning

outcomes that have been identified as result of Child/Adult Practice Reviews are disseminated to staff.

2018-19 has seen the development and establishment of regional bespoke forums and groups. These groups support and are closely aligned to the Boards’ annual strategic plan and priorities, and include the implementation of a Regional Multi-agency Professional Forum (MAPF), a regional multi-agency Adult Safeguarding Leads Group and Regional Group for Child Protection Conference Chairs.

Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Strategic Group:

‘VAWDASV’ affects all citizens of the region and incorporates all forms of violence against women, honour based violence, forced marriage, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM),

trafficking, sexual violence and exploitation, and domestic abuse. The VAWDASV Strategic Group is a multi-agency collaboration that is driving forwards the requirements of the VAWDASV Act, including the development and implementation of the Regional Strategy and Plan.

CADW: Junior Regional Safeguarding Board

The CYSUR Board continues to commission TGP Independent Advocacy Service to facilitate its Junior Safeguarding Board. The group continues to advise the Executive Boards on safeguarding matters and issues from a young person’s

perspective via meetings, workshops and consultation events. The CADW Group meet quarterly and are complemented by three local junior safeguarding groups and a youth partnership, closely aligned to their respective Local Operational Groups.



(a) Membership

CWMPAS (Safeguarding Adults Executive Board)

Jonathan Griffiths (Chair)

Director of Social Care & Housing, Pembrokeshire County Council

Anthony Griffiths (Vice-Chair)

Det Superintendent, Dyfed Powys Police

Jake Morgan

Director of Community Services, Carmarthenshire County Council

Carys James

Strategic Director of Social Services & Corporate Lead Officer Adult Services, Ceredigion County Council

Alison Bulman

Director of Social Services, Powys County Council

Sian Passey

Assistant Director Nursing Assurance and Safeguarding Corporate Nursing, Hywel Dda University Health Board

Avril Bracey

Head of Mental Health, Learning Disabilities & Adult Safeguarding, Carmarthenshire County Council

Donna Pritchard

Service Manager Mental Health, Adult Safeguarding, MCA & Substance Misuse, Ceredigion County Council

Jason Bennett

Head of Adult Services, Pembrokeshire County Council

Michael Gray

Head of Adult Services, Powys County Council

Christine Harley

Assistant Chief Executive, National Probation Service

Rhian Lovell

Assistant Chief Probation Officer, Wales Community Rehabilitation Company

Mandy Rayani

Director of Nursing, Quality & Patient Experience, Hywel Dda University Health Board

Katrina Rowlands

Interim Director of Nursing, Powys Teaching Health Board

Mandy Nichols-Davies

Head of Safeguarding Adults & Children (Named Nurse), Hywel Dda University Health Board

Sonia Mason

Assistant Director of Safeguarding (Named Nurse), Powys Teaching Health Board

Karen Toohey

Designated Nurse, National Safeguarding Team (NHS Wales), Public Health Wales

Daphne Rose

Designated Nurse, National Safeguarding Team (NHS Wales), Public Health Wales

Nikki Harvey

Head of Safeguarding, Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust

Hazel Lloyd-Lubran

Regional Third Sector representative, Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations (CAVO)

Chris Harrison

Regional representative for Heads of Commissioning

CYSUR (Safeguarding Children Executive Board)

Jake Morgan (Chair)

Director of Community Services,
Carmarthenshire County Council

Sian Passey (Vice-Chair)

Assistant Director Nursing Assurance and Safeguarding Corporate Nursing,
Hywel Dda University Health Board

Jonathan Griffiths

Director of Social Care & Housing,
Pembrokeshire County Council

Carys James

Strategic Director of Social Services & Corporate Lead Officer Adult Services,
Ceredigion County Council

Alison Bulman

Director of Social Services,
Powys County Council

Anthony Griffiths

Det Superintendent,
Dyfed Powys Police

Stefan Smith

Head of Children's Services,
Carmarthenshire County Council

Anthony Maynard

Head of Children's Services,
Pembrokeshire County Council

Jan Coles

Head of Children's Services,
Powys County Council

Christine Harley

Assistant Chief Executive,
National Probation Service

Rhian Lovell

Assistant Chief Probation Officer,
Wales Community Rehabilitation Company

Mandy Rayani

Director of Nursing, Quality & Patient Experience,
Hywel Dda University Health Board

Katrina Rowlands

Interim Director of Nursing,
Powys Teaching Health Board

Mandy Nichols-Davies

Head of Safeguarding Adults & Children (Named Nurse),
Hywel Dda University Health Board

Sonia Mason

Assistant Director of Safeguarding (Named Nurse),
Powys Teaching Health Board

Karen Toohey

Designated Nurse, National Safeguarding Team (NHS Wales),
Public Health Wales

Daphne Rose

Designated Nurse, National Safeguarding Team (NHS Wales),
Public Health Wales

Nikki Harvey

Head of Safeguarding,
Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust

Hazel Lloyd-Lubran

Regional Third Sector representative, Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations (CAVO)

Steve Davis

Regional representative of Youth Justice Managers

Kate Evan-Hughes

Regional representative of Directors of Education

Dr Ingrid Prosser

Named Doctor, Child Protection, PTHB

Dr Velupillai Vipulendran

Named Doctor, Child Protection, HDUHB

Mid & West Wales Safeguarding Boards Business Unit

Julie Breckon

Regional Safeguarding Board Manager

Rebecca Reynolds

Business Development Officer

Stuart Hicks

Business Co-ordinator

(b) Action taken to achieve our outcomes

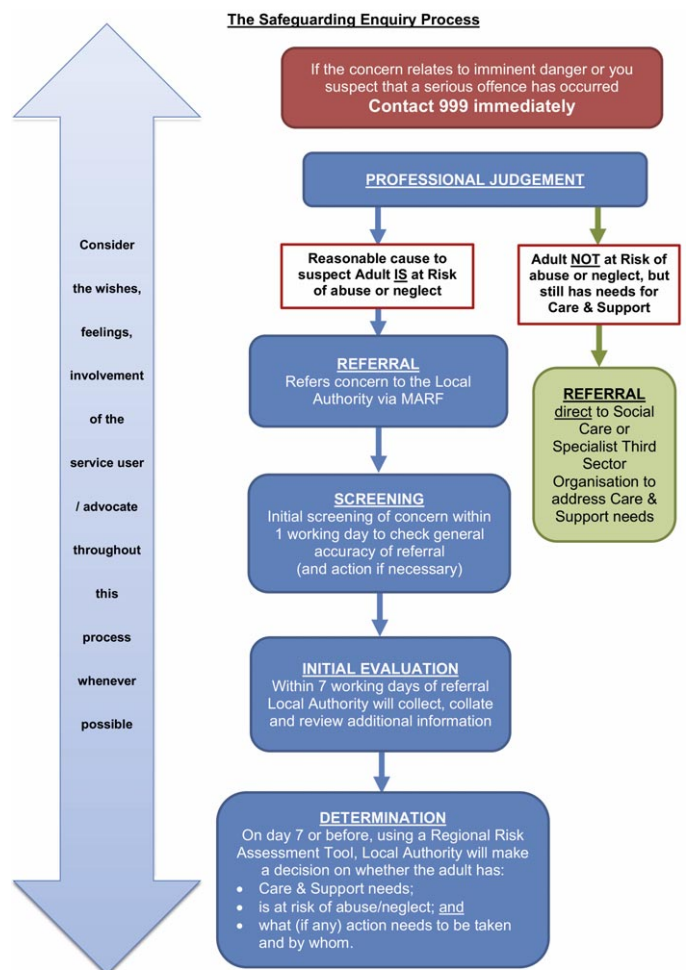
Development and Implementation of the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards' Regional Threshold Document for Safeguarding Adults at Risk

The Mid and West Wales Regional Safeguarding Board (MAWWSB) completed and approved the Regional Adult Safeguarding Threshold Guidance Document for Adults at Risk in July 2018. This was officially launched as part of the Boards' Regional Conference during National Safeguarding Week activities, and was the culmination of a challenging and complex project undertaken by the Regional Adult Safeguarding Leads Group. The removal of the terms 'significant harm' and 'vulnerable adult' as part of the Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014, along with the new definition of an 'adult at risk', has caused confusion amongst some professionals as to when and how they should seek help and support for adults who may be vulnerable and in need of help. The document will help practitioners and managers safely assess, investigate and manage referrals and reports of adults at risk and support consistent professional practice

The Development of a Regional Process for the Management of Domestic Abuse Notifications

The duty to report requirement under the Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014 has contributed to significant increased referrals, reports and information shares from the police into social care front door safeguarding services for victims of Domestic Abuse.

A review of the impact of this across the region



Adult Safeguarding Threshold Guidance Document Extract

identified many of the referrals and notifications being sent were inappropriate and were not being directed to the most appropriate service. Additional legal complications where the consent of the adult was not being obtained prior to referral were identified. The impact of this was that opportunities to signpost victims to more proportionate preventative services were not being adequately utilised.

As a result, a new process to support better screening and management of domestic abuse

referrals has been agreed with Dyfed Powys Police (DPP). The Police Goleudy victim support service is now being used to signpost victims to appropriate services in the community and to seek the consent of the victim before any request for an assessment for care and support is made.

Any formal referrals made for adults at risk will be made using the regional multi-agency referral form (MARF). The development and implementation of this process will help ensure victims of domestic abuse are offered support via appropriate and proportionate pathways, and will help ensure those at most risk are responded to in a timely way.

Implementation of a Regional Framework for undertaking Multi-Agency Professional Forums

Following the development of this framework in 2017-18, a regional forum to support and oversee Multi-agency Professional Forums (MAPFs) was implemented in 2018-19. This

complements the Boards' Quality Assurance and Performance Reporting Framework, and the Regional Child and Adult Practice Review process. This forum will support professional and multi-agency learning and help improve professional safeguarding practice. The coming year should see an increase in the number of MAPFs undertaken for children and adults at risk.

Development and Publication of the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board VAWDASV Strategy and Delivery Plan

The Regional Mid and West Wales VAWDASV Strategic Group has overseen and led the development of a regional strategy, 'Safer Lives, Healthier Relationships' and 5 year Delivery Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act (2015). This was published and implemented in November 2018. A regional advisor has since been appointed to implement key actions identified in the 2018-19 Delivery Plan.



(c) Extent to which we have implemented our strategic annual plans

1 Better Engagement

To demonstrate that the voice of children and adults at risk is central to our work and that the views of children, young people, adults at risk, their families and frontline practitioners inform practice and shape services.

What we said we would do:

- Develop a Regional Engagement and Participation Programme with service users
- Strengthen the Boards' relationship with other national and regional forums
- Raise awareness of the Boards, their functions, profile and activities
- Continue to strengthen the Executive Boards' relationship with the Junior Safeguarding Board

What improvements we have made:

A regional conference was hosted as part of National Safeguarding Week activities in November 2018, titled Putting Voice and Control At the Heart of Safeguarding Practice in Mid and West Wales. Opportunities were utilised to host workshops with stakeholders, which identified a number of themes the Boards need to consider at a practice and strategic level to better engage with service users. This includes the need for more proactive use of advocacy, better training provision and clearer guidance for professionals on safe and legal information sharing. The need to make better use of existing adult forums across the region as a pathway to direct access to the voice of vulnerable adults was also identified.

Strong links have been made with the West Wales Regional Partnership Board with a view to undertaking some collaborative work with adults at risk as part of its wider citizen engagement work in 2019-20 and on Workforce Development.

Work has been undertaken with the four Regional Community Safety Partnerships across the Mid and West Wales region, and a joint protocol which supports better

communication and the opportunity for shared learning from Adult Practice Reviews (APRs) and Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) has been developed.

The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Children Board continues to support a Regional Junior Safeguarding Board (CADW), facilitated by Tros Gynnal Plant (TGP) Cymru. This Group has been in place for several years and is well established within the region. Capacity and changes in personnel in the Boards' Business Unit and TGP have impacted on the progress and pace of work in the last year. Consolidating the excellent work achieved in recent years will be a priority in 2019-20.

The Board continues to communicate with the CADW group using social media (Facebook and Twitter) and a dedicated CADW page on the Boards' website. CADW representatives have had the opportunity to participate in an Executive Board meeting, to share their concerns and ideas in respect of safeguarding practice and how this can be improved.

The Boards have sought to raise awareness of their work via a variety of channels. Further

resources have been invested in improving the content of the Boards' website, via the commissioning of a local web-design company to upgrade and re-design the existing website. The content will be reviewed in the coming year. This will enable more information about the Boards to be made publicly accessible and improve the information hub for practitioners and the general public, in relation to regional and national safeguarding policies and procedures. The Boards' website also

contains links to other relevant sites and useful forums, including the National Independent Safeguarding Board. Widespread promotional activity took place across the region as part of National Safeguarding Week 2018, using the Boards' website and social media. Every opportunity to circulate web links to staff, rather than standalone documents, has been utilised where possible, as this helps to raise awareness of the Boards and information available on the website.

What outcomes we have achieved and what difference we have made:

- The Executive Boards have a better understanding of how to progress their regional engagement programme with adults at risk
- Improved communication has strengthened the relationship between the CADW Junior Group and the CYSUR Executive Board
- Pathways and communication channels with other regional forums have been strengthened and plans for future collaborative work have been established
- Website and social media promotion of the Boards and their functions continue to help raise awareness of citizens' responsibilities

within communities and encourage them to report concerns in respect of people who may be at risk



CADW members at the Executive Board, April 2018

What we still need to do:

- Further develop consultation work undertaken with stakeholders into an established regional adult service user engagement program
- Engage and communicate directly with service users about adult safeguarding practice and how service delivery can be improved

- Continue to support and develop the regional CADW Junior Board
- Complete and relaunch the new website re-design

CADW Junior Safeguarding Board:
"Links with Wendy have been great and have helped us have a better understanding"

2 Increased Knowledge

To be assured we know the children and adults most at risk and effectively safeguard them.

What we said we would do:

- Undertake a review of our workforce's strengths and vulnerabilities
- Develop and publish a regional VAWDASV strategy and delivery plan
- Align our regional suicide research with the Mid and West Wales Suicide and Self Harm Strategy
- Better understand the Child Protection Investigation Process across the region
- Improve information sharing between professionals

What improvements we have made:

A regional 'deep dive' audit exercise in relation to workforce development and sustainability has been undertaken. An independent consultant was commissioned to undertake research to identify potential risk areas in the recruitment and retention of statutory frontline social workers. The methodology used included in-depth interviews with social workers and managers and a review of HR data. A number of recommendations have been made and overall assurance provided on a number of practices. This includes the use of agency social workers, retirement projections for the next 5 years, staff turnover, workload levels and the quality of supervision and management support.

As part of the Mid and West Wales regional 'Safer Lives, Healthier Relationships' VAWDASV Strategic Delivery Plan 2018-19, significant work has been undertaken on a data mapping exercise to be used to identify a set of regional indicators to allow effective monitoring and evaluation of the strategy. A sub-group has been established to develop a regional VAWDASV Survivor Engagement Framework to ensure survivors have their voices heard and inform policy and practice improvements. A regional workshop has been held by an independent facilitator to review structure and reporting arrangements into the regional Executive Boards. A revised structure to strengthen governance has been recommended, and a new Regional Delivery Group will drive the implementation of the delivery plan.

Understanding risk factors associated with suicide in respect of children and young adults, as well as what can help prevent suicide, has been a key priority for the Boards in the last year. The Mid and South West Wales Regional Suicide and Self-Harm Forum has been established, which has developed a prevention strategy. The strategy mirrors the objectives of the national 'Talk to me 2' strategy. Suicide and Self-Harm is a standing agenda item at the Safeguarding Executive Boards where progress is routinely reported. Further dissemination work on the outcome of the research undertaken across the Mid and West Wales region by Cardiff University and CASCADE research facility will be considered in the coming year by the Regional Training Sub-Group.

Data disparities across the region in the approach social workers and the police take in investigations when children are deemed to be at risk of harm has been identified as part of the Boards' Regional Quality Assurance and Performance Framework. An independent consultant has been commissioned by the Boards to analyse these differences via a regional thematic review of practice. Any themes identified and recommendations made as part of this review will be taken forward in the coming year.

An all-age regional multi-agency Information Sharing Protocol has been developed and published which will aid and support good quality and timely information sharing between professionals.

What outcomes we have achieved and what difference we have made:

- We better understand our workforce's strengths and vulnerabilities
- We have a clear platform and regional vision from which to ensure all victims of domestic abuse are better protected
- Increased knowledge will improve professional responses to children who may be at risk

- Awareness has been raised of children and young adults at risk of suicide
- The quality of information sharing between professionals for children and adults at risk will improve

Feedback from Children in Wales:

"We really love your 'Right Help at the Right Time' document and refer to it in our training courses."

What we still need to do:

- Work with the West Wales Partnership Board and Regional Partnership Board to implement the recommendations of the Workforce Development audit

- Consider the recommendations of the work undertaken into child protection investigations
- Launch the regional Information Sharing Protocol.

3 Systematic Learning

To continually develop and improve the way we work so that outcomes for children and adults at risk improve.

What we said we would do:

- Develop a regional Training Strategy and promote multi-agency learning
- Review the Regional Multi-agency

Performance and Reporting Framework to include multi-agency data

- Improve our Child and Adult Practice Review process

What improvements we have made:

The Mid and West Wales All Age Regional Training strategy has been completed, in order to support partner agencies to discharge their collective responsibilities as Safeguarding Board members, as outlined in Part 7 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014. This has laid the foundations for continuing aspirational and collaborative multi-agency work.

The regional multi-agency Quality Assurance and Performance Data has been reviewed. This now incorporates data from statutory board agencies including Dyfed Powys Police and Health. This provides the regional Executive Boards with a more rounded

picture of multi-agency safeguarding activity across the region and now includes information in respect of Police domestic abuse responses, sex offender monitoring and child self-harm related hospital admissions.

Following the implementation of the regional APR & CPR Protocols to support statutory guidance in relation to the undertaking of Child and Adult Practice Reviews, work commenced this year on the development of a practice review toolkit. When complete, this will provide a range of regional literature to include standardised templates and proformas for review panels and learning events.

What outcomes we have achieved and what difference we have made:

- We have a clear strategy and vision on how to execute our responsibilities for training under part 7 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014
- The quality of data provided to the Regional Executive Board has improved

Children's Commissioner for Wales in response to WG Home Education announcement (1/2/18):
"..every child should have the opportunity to be seen and their views and experiences listened to."

What we still need to do:

- Deliver against our Mid and West Wales Regional Training Strategy Action Plan
- Improve the way we present multi-agency data to the Executive Boards
- Identify opportunities to share learning across agencies

4 Strong Leadership

To provide strategic leadership across the partnership in relation to safeguarding.

What we said we would do:

- Influence the national strategic safeguarding agenda
- Improve the structure of Local Operational Groups to reflect the all-age safeguarding approach
- Improve Board oversight of the Procedural Response to Unexpected Deaths in Childhood (PRUDiC) process
- Develop a long-term strategy and vision

What improvements we have made:

The Boards have influenced the national strategic agenda for children who are Electively Home Educated (EHE) in Wales, and for the provision of medical forensic services for children who have been sexually assaulted via the Sexual Assault and Referral Centres (SARC).

The publication in 2019 of draft statutory guidance for EHE children is considered to be one of the Boards' key long-term achievements after several years of work by the Boards to highlight the need for stronger legislation in Wales for this group of children.

A lack of appropriate provision in Mid and West Wales of forensic services for children who have been sexually assaulted has been a key driver for the regional Executive Boards throughout 2018-19. Specific concerns and shortfalls have been identified within the context of the availability of sufficiently trained clinical medical doctors to undertake forensic examinations, and the distance children are required to travel for these examinations. Regional Health and Police representatives have put forward the Boards' views to the South, Mid and West Wales SARC

collaborative, and the Chair of the CYSUR Board has held discussions with senior Welsh Government officials, the Chief Executive of NHS Wales and the Chief Executive of the Local Health Board to highlight this significant shortfall in provision. As a result, an interim paediatric model which provides clearer pathways for children who are victims of rape or sexual assault has been agreed.

All Local Operational Groups have evolved into one all-age local meeting, with one unified agenda covering local multi-agency safeguarding issues.

A review of the PRUDiC process has been undertaken. Structures have been implemented to incorporate the monitoring and review of all PRUDiC cases into the regional CPR Sub-Group. Administrative systems have been reviewed to ensure improved monitoring and tracking of all PRUDiC cases and to support better communication with the Public Health Wales Child Death Review Team.

Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service:

"Thank you for coming along and providing input. It was very informative and much appreciated."

What outcomes we have achieved and what difference we have made:

- Statutory guidance for EHE children will enhance and improve safeguarding practice
- Referral Pathways and forensic services for children who have been sexually assaulted in Mid and West Wales have improved
- A combined agenda and all-age 'safeguarding people' approach has improved the efficiency and management of LOG meetings

- Improved administrative systems will improve regional oversight of children who die unexpectedly in Mid and West Wales

What we still need to do:

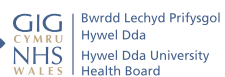
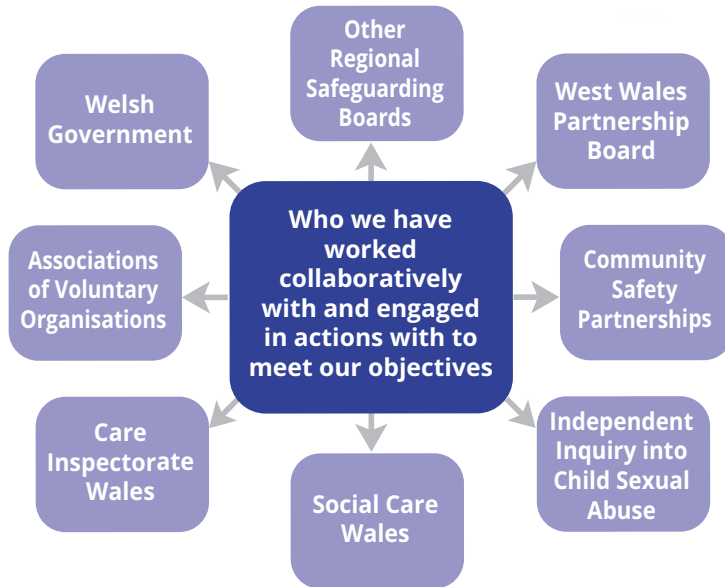
- Continue to engage with the regional SARC collaborative to improve SARC services across the Mid and West Wales region

- Work to develop a clear long-term strategy and vision for the Boards

THE MID & WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & ADULTS BOARDS



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



(d) How we have collaborated with other bodies engaged in activities relating to the boards' objectives

Welsh Government



The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board Manager has continued to work closely with Welsh Government (WG) in the last

year via attendance at regular briefing meetings with Government officials to discuss the Boards' work. The Boards have supported the development of the National Protection Procedures by facilitating feedback from Board members, managers and practitioners to give their views on content and structure. The Regional Board Manager, along with a senior adult safeguarding service manager, is the Mid and West Wales representative on the National Project Board which is overseeing the development and implementation of the procedures.

Other Regional Safeguarding Boards across Wales

All Regional Safeguarding Board Managers meet regularly to share good practice, discuss areas of development and identify emerging national safeguarding trends. The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards have worked collaboratively with other regional Safeguarding Boards in Wales to plan National Safeguarding Week, developing regional themes to distribute the work and share good practice.

In September 2018, the Regional Board Manager and Regional Training Sub-Group Chair attended and participated in a workshop held by the North Wales Regional Safeguarding Board to support the development of a North Wales Training Strategy.

Regional West Wales Partnership Board



Partneriaeth Gofal Gorllewin Cymru
West Wales Care Partnership

The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards' links and

communication with the West Wales Partnership Board have been strengthened. A joint review of the Partnership and Safeguarding Board Annual Plans has been undertaken with a view to identifying future opportunities for collaborative work. Joint work on Workforce Development and service user voice and citizen engagement has been identified for 2018-19.

Social Care Wales

The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards have engaged and worked with Social Care Wales, who have undertaken a review of multi-agency arrangements for the delivery of safeguarding training across Wales. The Board Manager and regional Training Sub-Group Chair have attended workshops to develop a national multi-agency training framework.

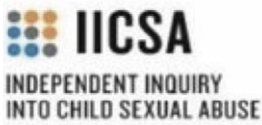
Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW)



We have worked with the CIW providing information for the various inspections

that have been undertaken across the region in the last year. The Regional Board Chairs, Senior Managers and Regional Board Manager have been interviewed and provided feedback on safeguarding practice, successes and continuing challenges across the region.

Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA)



The CYSUR Board has continued to support the work of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse via promotion of relevant information and events on the Board's website and the dissemination of bulletins to regional partners. A full review of provision of victims of Child Sexual Exploitation in the Mid and West Wales area was undertaken and submitted to the Inquiry this year.

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Community Safety Partnerships



The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards have worked with Community Safety Partnerships in the region to consider how the interface between the Practice Review process and the Domestic Homicide Review process could become more aligned to ensure any lessons learned are shared widely. A regional protocol to support collaborative working and to share learning has been developed and implemented.

Barnardos Cymru - Gwella Project



The Gwella project has come to the end of its initial three year term project. A one year extension has been agreed. The aim of the project is to evidence that increased earlier support reduces the need for intervention in later adolescence, when vulnerabilities may become apparent through increased risk of CSE or displaying sexually harmful behaviour.

A small number of families within the Carmarthenshire area have received therapeutic input from a Gwella project worker as part of a pilot project. A review of this intervention has been undertaken with positive outcomes. Work has included supporting relationships and the stability of placements, supporting proposed

rehabilitation plans, life journey work and using the principles of Theraplay. A full national evaluation is being undertaken by Cardiff University with a report to the Regional Executive Board expected in autumn 2019.

National Independent Safeguarding Board



The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board has enjoyed a positive relationship with the National Independent

Safeguarding Board (NISB). This has been based on open dialogue, regular communication, healthy debate and challenge. The NISB has attended Regional Executive Board meetings regularly and members have supported the Boards' regional conferences over the last three years. We look forward to a developing an equally constructive relationship with new board members appointed earlier this year.

Attendee feedback:
"I found the course very interesting and have been provided with the information and knowledge to be able to support children experiencing trauma."

(e) Requests made to qualifying persons under sec 137(1) and whether they were complied with

For the purpose of enabling or assisting the Boards to perform its functions, Section 137 of the Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 allows Safeguarding Boards to ask a qualifying

person or body to supply specific information. The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards made no such requests this year.



(f) Achievements we have made during the year

Completion and Publication of Regional Strategies and Policies

A number of long-term projects were completed in 2018-19, culminating in the publication of three key regional strategies.

- The Mid and West Wales Regional Threshold Document for Safeguarding Adults
- The Mid and West Wales Training Strategy
- The Mid and West Wales VAWDASV Regional Strategy and 5 year Delivery Plan

These strategies will lay the foundation for the delivery of key safeguarding services across the Mid and West Wales Region over the next three to five years. The work undertaken in relation to multi-agency training has been recognised at a national level, and has been used by Social Care Wales as the basis for the development of a National Training Framework.

The Mid and West Wales Regional Adult Safeguarding Threshold Document is the first of its kind in Wales and is being used as the basis for development of similar work in other Regional Safeguarding Boards.

The Development of a Full All-Age Integrated Safeguarding Agenda

CYSUR & CWMPAS are two separate distinct Boards, however, they have a very strong alignment and work closely together on many shared objectives. Recent years have seen the Boards evolve to publishing Joint Strategic Annual Plans and Reports.

Following a successful pilot in July 2018, the structure and management of Board business at an Executive Level has evolved into one joint

regional board meeting. This is supported by a full integrated all-age safeguarding agenda. The model has been replicated at a local level with all of the four Local Operational Groups adopting the same format.

The natural evolution and progression of the Boards' strategic approach to safeguarding effectively means that CYSUR and CWMPAS are now operating in all but name as one fully integrated children and adults Safeguarding Board.

Executive Board Development Day



Executive members of both CWMPAS and CYSUR Boards came together in January 2019

to reflect on progress made in the last year and to develop our strategic priorities for the coming year 2019-20. It was a very successful day with open and honest discussion on our collective expectations of each other, which highlighted the significant development and progress of the Boards to a confident and effective working partnership.

It was noted that it is crucial for the Boards to continue to consolidate and strengthen the strategic all-age approach to Safeguarding, increase capacity within the Business Unit and develop better systems to report high-level strategic risk to the Executive Board. The full outcome of the day and the Board priorities for the year going forward can be seen in the Board Annual Strategic Plan for 2019-20.

Feedback from an Executive Board Member:

"What we have achieved feels more tangible now... it feels like we are moving together"

Publication of CWMPAS 1 2016 Concise Adult Practice Review

The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Adult Board, CWMPAS, published its first Concise Adult Practice Review in 2018, undertaken by an independent author into the circumstances surrounding the tragic death of an elderly gentleman in a care home.

The conclusions of the review have helped identify a number of areas for improvement needed in relation to multi-agency professional practice, particularly in commissioned care and nursing home services for older people.

A regional action plan based on the review findings has been developed and is being implemented.

Local, Regional & National Collaboration for National Safeguarding Week (NSGW18)



In November 2018 the Board Business Unit, in collaboration with Local Operational Groups, coordinated and supported a regional programme of events to support National Safeguarding Week.

A Regional Planning Group was set up consisting of representatives from each partner organisation which had regular 'virtual' meetings to plan and coordinate the regional NSGW18 programme. The Regional Safeguarding Board Manager and Co-ordinator were the links

between this group and WG, NISB and other Boards in Wales who all worked collaboratively to provide consistency of approach and resources that were useable in each area.

| Mid & West Wales Safeguarding Board Programme for National Safeguarding Week 2018 | | |
|--|--|---|
| NATIONAL RESOURCES | REGIONAL | LOCAL |
| Activities carried out prior to the week - across ALL themes: | | |
| <p>National Safeguarding Week logo to be used by all organisations</p> <p>Welsh Government Media Promotion throughout the week, using hashtags #NSGW18 and #WDCGym18</p> | <p>Dyfed Powys Police Force wide action</p> <p>Female Gender Mutation (FGM) campaign launch</p> <p>FGM awareness campaign was launched from the 05/10/2018 for 5 weeks. Dyfed Powys Police are joining in with partners in health to include FGM awareness into the National Safeguarding week. FGM home office literature disseminated to women's aid, children's services, health and other partners.</p> <p>Cyberstalking Awareness</p> <p>On 5th of October a cyberstalking training and awareness day held at Carmarthen police HQ in collaboration with Get Safe Online.</p> <p>Approximately 60 attendees from various external bodies and Public Service Boards including School head teachers, carers, the county council, the fire service and foster carers - staying safe online including online scams, malware, secure passwords, personal information, social media and child safety online.</p> <p>Modern day slavery SIO Course</p> <p>7th-8th November 2018 held at police HQ. It will be a course run jointly with CPS - lawyers also participating. An opportunity to learn more about running slavery/trafficking/exploitation investigations which can be extremely challenging often with reluctant victims.</p> | <p>Ceredigion</p> <p>1. Money Trust - Talk Learn Do Grow to be run: Cardigan: 30.11.18 Boscastle: 14.11.18 1:30-3:30pm. Family Centre Aberystwyth: 14.11.18 1-3pm Llanidloes: 5.11.18 10-12pm</p> <p>2. Llanidloes Family Centre</p> <p>A money advice session on the 8th November</p> <p>3. Digital Communications and Cyber Crime Unit/Corporata communication team to put out a publication around staying safe online and a link to the Get Safe Online website.</p> <p>4. Ceredigion County Council</p> <p>Newsreader message will go out on Friday 8th November</p> <p>Displays will go up in Ceredigion County Council Main office reception (Penmorfa and Cefnolles/Bloedol)</p> <p>5. Ceredigion</p> <p>Will deliver 10 minute talks to students on the theme of Exploitation and also cover 8. Bullying as Anti Bullying Week, delivered across both campuses.</p> <p>6. Family Centres</p> <p>Displays utilising the links and information provided to support NSGW and putting out information on Facebook.</p> <p>7. Sessions to be held before, during and following NSGW, which runs alongside let's talk money week.</p> <p>Powys:</p> <p>1. Live streaming the Signs of Safety (SoS) Gathering (Live from Dublin) raising the profile of safeguarding and SoS Tuesday 6th Thursday 8th November The Media Resource Centre, Llandrindod Wells, Powys. LD1 6AH. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm</p> |

Extract from the NSGW18 Programme

Regional Conference

The Regional Conference, 'Putting Voice and Control at the Heart of Safeguarding Practice in Mid and West Wales', was a huge success and was attended by over 150 delegates from across the region. Excellent feedback and evaluations were received.

The event was used as a platform to launch two of the three regional policies and strategies completed during the year: the Mid and West Wales VAWDASV Strategy and 5 year Delivery Plan, and the Regional Adult Safeguarding Threshold Document.

Attendee feedback:

"Fantastic to have an event like this in Carmarthen."

Baroness Finlay, Deputy Speaker at the House of Lords and Chair of the National Mental Capacity Forum, former National VAWDASV advisor Rhian Bowen Davies and members of the National Independent Safeguarding Board delivered presentations and facilitated workshops.

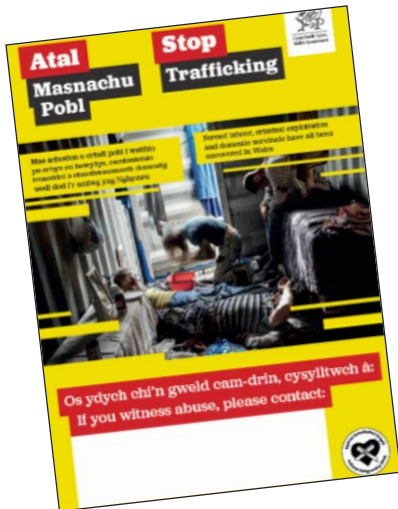
Attendee feedback:

"Really took home some useful information to put into practice."

Survivors of Domestic Abuse shared their personal experiences of services and intervention from professionals as part of a keynote delivery to the conference.



The Boards worked with other regional Boards and WG to help raise awareness on different forms of exploitation, with a different topic promoted each day via social media and the Boards' website. The topics addressed consisted of criminal, sexual and financial exploitation, trafficking and modern slavery.



Several other events were held throughout the week in Mid and West Wales, with regional activities promoted by Dyfed Powys Police and Hywel Dda University Health Board, and a wealth of local events were also held in each area.

Notable events include a multi-agency conference in Powys focussing on participation and engagement, and suicide prevention awareness raising in the reception of Pembrokeshire's County Hall.

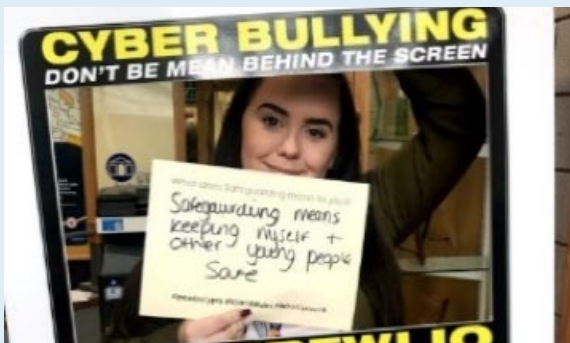
The Boards enjoyed an active contribution from their junior counterpart in the form of Pembrokeshire's Safeguardians Conference, in which delegates received a new module, 'Keeping Children, Young People and Adults Safe in Pembrokeshire', and completed a workshop with the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust. In addition, the young people of the Junior Board celebrated their work completed throughout the year, giving attendees the opportunity to see a variety of projects which have been the focus of their work in 18-19.



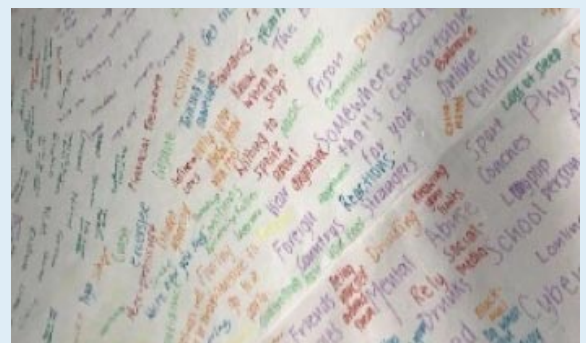
Other highlights included:

- 'Lunch and Learn' sessions held throughout the week in Powys, with an emphasis on CSE.
- Launch of online Suicide Awareness/Prevention training in Pembrokeshire.
- Safeguarding session for young people in Pembrokeshire with additional needs, held by the Junior Safeguardians in association with Young Choices for Youth Forum.
- Team building event between Pembrokeshire Safeguardians and decision makers.
- Children in Need project held at Ray Ceredigion to raise awareness of the dangers of 'grooming'.
- Intergenerational lunch held in Lampeter preceding a number of centre-based awareness raising sessions across Ceredigion.
- Dissemination of information on criminal exploitation across Powys' Intranet and social media.
- Series of advice sessions held across Ceredigion relating to financial exploitation, in acknowledgement of the simultaneous 'Let's Talk Money' week.
- Stalls and activities facilitated across Glangwili Hospital, Carmarthen, raising awareness of adult and child safeguarding and promotion of the online pledge.
- Range of events held across hospitals in the region, providing visitors with a variety of information on pertinent safeguarding topics.
- Delivery of CSE lessons throughout local schools by Dyfed Powys Police.
- Outreach work in care homes, leisure and sport facilities and a variety of other centres and individuals raising awareness and offering guidance in relation to a wide variety of safeguarding issues.





Some collective photos from National Safeguarding Week 2018:



team building exercise between Pembrokeshire Junior Safeguardians and senior Pembrokeshire County Council Children's Services staff

Conferences held by Baroness Finlay and Keith Towler. Other speakers during the week include Margaret Flynn, Rhian Bowden Davies and Joel Sven Martin

(g) To what extent have agencies contributed to the boards' effectiveness

Hywel Dda University Health Board



Hywel Dda University Health Board have made an active contribution to the CYSUR and CWMPAS Boards' work and the ongoing development of safeguarding practice at a regional and local level. Hywel Dda representatives are routinely represented and contribute to the Executive Boards, Local Operational Group and Sub Groups. The Assistant Director of Nursing Assurance and Safeguarding Corporate Nursing is the Vice Chair of the CYSUR Executive Board. Hywel Dda continue to play an active role in the Boards' various sub groups and Task and Finish groups, and have actively contributed to the development of regional strategies and policies.

Hywel Dda continues to present local safeguarding performance data to all Local Operational Group meetings, which enables and supports the monitoring of safeguarding practice and the identification of themes and trends. Data and information in respect of pressure sore damage has been developed and introduced this year. The Regional Performance Framework has been amended to include information on self-harm related admissions to hospital, supporting

the Boards' ongoing work on suicide prevention. The LAC Lead Nurse actively reports to the regional Corporate Parenting Panels, providing assurance in relation to the Health Board's Corporate Parenting responsibilities for Looked After Children.

Hywel Dda have focussed on improving outcomes for patients. They have undertaken work on improving communication between agencies upon patient discharge from hospital. Improvements have also been made to the oversight and scrutiny of inpatient falls, and a staff training programme for pressure damage prevention has been developed. They continue to support the ongoing regional work on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), and in the last year have developed an electronic standard operating procedure and alert system for children's records for those identified to be at risk of CSE.

Senior members of the Health Board have worked collaboratively with regional partners to seek resolution to the challenges identified in respect of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) provision in the region.



Safeguarding Practice Highlight

Hywel Dda University Health Board Lead Nurse for Looked After Children (pictured) was recognised by the RCN in their annual award ceremony, and was runner up in the category of Raising Awareness of Safeguarding.



Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB)



Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) have made a

full and active contribution to the CYSUR and CWMPAS Boards. PTHB representatives are routinely represented at the Executive Boards, Local Operational Group and all Sub Group meetings and they support the ongoing development of safeguarding practice at a regional and local level. PTHB have a strong commitment to partnership and multi-agency working and have been represented at all of the region's task and finish groups, and have contributed fully to the many ongoing specialist bespoke projects.

The Assistant Director of Safeguarding is the Vice Chair of the Powys Local Operational Group, and has worked closely with Social Care colleagues in Powys to develop and improve the structure of the group. Support has also been provided to Child Protection Conference appeal panels, and the Assistant Director of Safeguarding has chaired a complex and challenging appeal.

PTHB have made a full and active contribution to Child Practice Review Panels to support the

development of regional multi-agency learning. Powys Teaching Health Board staff work in close partnership with their multi-agency partners in all areas of the safeguarding agenda including MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference), MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements), MACSE (Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation), PRUDiC (Procedural Response to Unexpected Deaths in Childhood), Corporate Parenting, Practice Reviews and Audits etc. Senior safeguarding staff promote children's participation in the safeguarding agenda and continue to engage with the Powys Junior Safeguarding 'Eat Carrots' Group.

Following publication of the external Tawel Fan report, PTHB worked in partnership with Hywel Dda Health Board to complete a comprehensive self-assessment and improvement plan. This has laid the foundations for further work to be undertaken across social care by the Adult Safeguarding Leads Group. PTHB have engaged and worked constructively with Hywel Dda and Dyfed Powys Police on seeking improvements to clinical and forensic services for victims of sexual assault within the region.



Safeguarding Practice Highlight

Powys Teaching Health Board have developed a new Safeguarding Group Supervision Model for its practitioners. This will aid and support staff awareness, knowledge and confidence in exercising their responsibilities in line with the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

Public Health Wales (National Safeguarding Team)



Public Health Wales' National Safeguarding

Team works closely with Welsh Government, Health Boards and NHS Trusts to improve safeguarding across NHS Wales. The National Safeguarding Team designated professionals are members of all Regional Safeguarding Boards

(adult and children) across Wales. The Designated Nurses have consistently contributed to Board work by providing independent expertise at all levels to support agencies across the region. The PHW representative on the Executive Boards provides significant support to the ongoing development of the Child Practice

Review process in Mid and West Wales and to the Board Business Unit. They continue to promote awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) within the CYSUR Board agenda.



The NHS Wales Safeguarding Network is fundamental to the collaboration, successfully linking

both locally and nationally to support NHS Wales Health Boards and Trusts in discharging their responsibilities for safeguarding. This collaboration has facilitated the successful delivery of demanding deliverables in 2018-19 and helped make optimum use of the enormous expertise across the group. Working together, the Network have developed specialist professional learning and support and shared

good safeguarding working practice as well as information from current national issues by engaging with existing groups. This work includes development of the Safeguarding Maturity Matrix, the Chaperone Best Practice Guidance, the Learning from Reviews Report and the bespoke NHS training package covering the Ask and Act under VAWDASV legislation.

The National Safeguarding Team's shared ambition is that the principles and duties of safeguarding children, young people, and adults at risk should be holistically, consistently and effectively applied as the benefits of all cannot be achieved in isolation. The achievements of the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network over the last year have only been possible because of the close partnerships and high level of collaborative cooperation and co-creation.

Welsh Ambulance Service Trust (WAST)



The Welsh Ambulance Service Trust

(WAST) are represented at the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Executive Boards, and participate in Sub Groups and Local Operational Groups as and when needed. They continue to support the wider safeguarding strategic agenda across the region. They are members of the MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) Regional Steering Group and have supported the ongoing VAWDASV work across the region.

Following the launch in 2017 of WAST Children & Young People's Promises (which supports Children's Rights), WAST continues to make every contact count by capturing children's WAST experiences. Working in partnership with ABMU Health Board & the Children's Rights Unit, a CPD session was arranged for staff & volunteers

which discussed Children's Rights, WAST CYP Promises and therapeutic play and distraction techniques giving staff hints, tips and clever ways to engage with children and young people to help carry out their role including making observations easier.

WAST have undertaken significant work this year to improve the experiences of children and young people who may need to contact 999. To support young callers, WAST are asking children and young people to vote on alternative child friendly words which can be used at 999 call handling stage e.g. clammy, abdominal, verify.

Following the engagement, the bank of words will be shared with call centre colleagues to identify those words children and young people will understand whilst still having the same meaning to ensure a correct response is sent. In 2018, for the fourth year running, the Trust

THE MID & WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & ADULTS BOARDS

visited Primary schools across Wales during October to run our 'Shoctober' campaign, which aims to teach primary school children about using 999 services appropriately and teaching lifesaving skills. With the help of staff and volunteers including St. John's Ambulance, a Health Board A&E Doctor and University students, several schools were visited, reaching over 2,100 children across Wales.

Through partnerships with Hywel Dda equality networks and attending a number of community events, WAST have held several Community Safety information workshops for Syrian refugee families and BAME communities. They have also developed a resource information pack about WAST Services to support BAME/refugee families when they arrive in the country.

Work has also been undertaken with Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS) to help improve staff carer awareness and enhance the help and support they can offer to carers. NEPTS have now achieved the Investors in Carers Bronze Level award, a scheme which is delivered by Hywel Dda University Health Board and supported by the local authority and third sector partners in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire. Other key achievements by WAST this year include the publication of a booklet "Adverse Childhood Experiences – a guide for Emergency Practitioners", implementation of a Mental Health Plan including the acquisition of a Head of Mental Health within the Organisation, work around DBS checks and safe recruitment and the serious and violent crime agenda.



Safeguarding Practice Highlight

Welsh Ambulance Service Trust have placed a focus this year on safeguarding referrals, having procured a new digitalised referral system which is currently being implemented, as well as ensuring continuous monitoring of referrals to enable the identification of any areas of concern. WAST also ensure that any highlighted regional issues are escalated to a national level where this can aid in addressing the issues. Referral pathways have also been developed for staff experiencing domestic abuse, as well as a specific pathway for referrals into Fire and Rescue Services. These processes enable dynamic, proportionate and effective responses to referrals received.

Dyfed Powys Police



Dyfed Powys Police (DPP) have made a full and very active contribution to the Mid and West Wales Regional Safeguarding Boards. This is evident through routine officer attendance and participation at all Board levels, including the Executive Boards, Local Operational Groups and all Sub Groups.

Significant support continues to be provided to the regional Practice Review Sub Group, and DPP officers have undertaken the role of Panel Chair

for a number of ongoing and completed Child Practice Reviews. This includes the co-facilitation of practitioner and manager learning events. The DPP Superintendent Board representative continues to hold the position of Vice Chair of the CWMPAS Board. DPP has focused on improving and developing its response to domestic abuse (DA), working closely with other organisations within the regional VAWDASV group to raise awareness and improve multi-agency responses to victims.

Work has included the introduction of a Vulnerability Desk within its Force Control Centre to provide additional support to officers attending incidents. DPP have worked alongside Board Partners to ensure that frontline officers identify and respond accordingly to all risk levels of domestic abuse (DA). Previously, a small percentage of lower risk incidents have not always resulted in the completion of required DA risk assessments, and the force has worked hard to develop the required response.

More recent audits carried out have revealed significant improvements. Further work has been undertaken to the rollout of Operation Encompass within the region, and DPP have worked alongside Education Safeguarding Teams to develop this approach within each Local Authority area. Operation Encompass is an early notification process between the Police and schools where DA has occurred in the home to promote appropriate responses and support to children from teachers and school staff.



Safeguarding Practice Highlight

In the last year **Dyfed Powys Police** have led several successful enforcements in relation to the threat from 'County Lines' by organised crime gangs, which saw the first successful prosecution in Wales of a criminal for the trafficking of a child with criminal intent (the supply of controlled drugs).

Joint approaches by the Force's Police Online Investigation Team and the Offender Management Teams have led to many successes in identifying online behaviour by sex offenders.

Dyfed Powys Youth Justice Service (YJS)



The Youth Justice Service (YJS) have made a full and active contribution to the Safeguarding Boards via regular and consistent attendance at the Executive Boards and underlying Local Operational Groups and Sub Groups. The Pembrokeshire Youth Justice Service Manager continues to represent regional Youth Justice interests at the Executive Boards and Sub Groups, disseminating information to colleagues across the Dyfed Powys area via regional Youth Justice Meetings.

All Local Operational Groups have engagement and representation with their local Youth Justice Service Managers who input into the local safeguarding agenda.

On the 8th May 2018, the Community Safeguarding and Public Protection Incidents (CSPI) reporting responsibilities by Local Authorities to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) ceased. Decisions about whether and how to review incidents of concern which may generate professional multi-agency learning are now required to be taken locally.

Regional Youth Justice managers have led on the development of a CSPI Learning and Review Framework, which will be linked directly to the Regional MAPF forum and sit under the Regional Safeguarding Boards' governance structure.

The National Probation Service (NPS) & Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)



Both the National Probation Service (NSP) and Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) are represented on the Executive Boards, Local Operational Groups and some Sub Groups. Continuing resource pressures have affected NSP and CRC's ability to participate and consistently

attend and engage in regional work and projects. The Regional Executive Safeguarding Board has requested clarification on future safeguarding responsibilities and lines of accountability in light of the pending national restructure and proposed changes in Wales.

Carmarthenshire County Council



Carmarthenshire County Council's Statutory Director of Communities chairs the CYSUR Board and has fulfilled this role for a number of years, providing consistent strategic leadership to the Executive Board and its Local Operational Groups and Sub Groups. Carmarthenshire has made a full and active contribution to the Boards and underlying Sub Groups with consistent attendance from designated safeguarding staff. Carmarthenshire have led on the development of a regional Information Sharing Protocol, which supports the timely sharing of information between professionals when concerns are identified.

Carmarthenshire Children's Services have hosted a pilot project on behalf of the Safeguarding Board as part of the Gwella Project in partnership with Barnardo's. This is a three year

WG funded project aimed at reducing the risk of vulnerable children and young people experiencing CSE or demonstrating sexually harmful behaviour. The project is exploring the hypothesis that there is a correlation between experiencing trauma in early childhood and the potential to become a victim of CSE or develop sexually harmful behaviour in adolescence.

The Head of Service for Mental Health and Learning Difficulties continues to chair the Regional Suicide & Self Harm Group, the Adult Practice Review Sub Group and the Regional VAWDASV Strategic Group. The strategic and operational lead for Adult Safeguarding leads the Regional Adult Safeguarding Leads Group, which is striving to improve and establish consistent adult safeguarding practice across the Mid and West Wales region.



Safeguarding Practice Highlight

Carmarthenshire County Council has redesigned its safeguarding referral process to ensure a consistent and robust single point of access. It has created dedicated safeguarding duty officer roles which ensures a prompt, person centred response to all safeguarding referrals.

Pembrokeshire County Council



Pembrokeshire County Council is the regional host authority for the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards and facilitates the Regional Safeguarding Board Business Unit. The current Statutory Director of Social Services is the Chair of the CWMPAS Board. Pembrokeshire's Statutory Director of Education represents the other areas in Mid and West Wales as the regional strategic lead for Education. Pembrokeshire continues to benefit from an Integrated Safeguarding Team combining both children and adult safeguarding matters into one unified service.

Pembrokeshire's Corporate Training Manager continues to chair the Regional Training Sub Group and has led the development of the now

published All Age Regional Safeguarding Training Strategy, one of the Boards' identified key achievements this year. The Integrated Service Manager for Safeguarding has led the development and implementation of the Regional MAPF Forum, and has been instrumental in the setting up of a Regional Practice Group for Child Protection Conference Chairs.


Pembrokeshire's Integrated Safeguarding Services have supported the regional Child Practice Review process by releasing Senior Managers to be Independent Reviewers and Panel Chairs for Practice Reviews. This has involved a significant resource commitment from Pembrokeshire.



Safeguarding Practice Highlight

Pembrokeshire's Integrated Safeguarding Service along with the Corporate Training Department have developed a Joint Children and Adult Basic Safeguarding Awareness E Learning Training Module. This model is now in the process of being used as the basis to develop a similar multi-agency training module for Regional Board Partners.

Powys County Council

 Powys County Council Children's Services continue to experience challenges following their CIW inspection in 2017, which highlighted significant concerns and shortfalls in the provision of services to children who are at risk and in need of care and support. 2018-19 has seen the appointment of a permanent Statutory Director and Head of Children's Services.

Stability at a senior strategic level has served to strengthen relationships and improved communication with the CYSUR Safeguarding Board Chair. Assurance has been provided to the Regional Safeguarding Boards in respect of Powys' commitment to its workforce strategy, and they are working hard to resolve their staff recruitment difficulties. This is supported by a new service structure which aligns with the requirements outlined in the Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014.

Further improvements in the provision of regular timely data and audits as part of the Boards' Regional Performance and Quality Assurance Framework have been noted this year. Attendance and engagement in the Regional Practice Review Sub Groups has improved. Continuing challenges and pressures, however, have affected Powys' ability to attend regional Executive Board meetings on a regular basis.

This has been compounded by high staff turnover levels and changes in key positions at a Service Manager level, which has affected engagement and attendance at other regional Sub Groups and participation in work streams.

Powys Adult Services has continued to make a full and active contribution to the Safeguarding Adults Board and its work. Attendance and engagement in the CWMPAS Executive Board and its Sub Groups has been regular and consistent, with a high level of participation and input from the senior Adult Safeguarding Lead, who has made a significant contribution to the development of the Adult Safeguarding Threshold Guidance document, along with other Board Sub Groups and work streams.

Senior strategic leaders have expressed their strong commitment to the Mid and West Wales partnership and its strategic vision and aspirations for the future. This has provided a degree of reassurance to the Regional Safeguarding Board that Powys now have a genuine stake in the regional agenda and its work. More regular and consistent engagement and attendance from senior leaders, particularly at the regional Executive Boards, is needed to demonstrate and evidence that they are willing partners in the regional collaborative.



Ceredigion County Council



Ceredigion County Council have made a full and effective contribution to the Regional Safeguarding Boards at all levels.

Senior officers have attended and engaged in all Executive Board meetings, and there is appropriate consistent representation at all the identified Regional Sub Groups.

They have made a significant contribution to the Boards' Regional Quality Assurance and Performance Framework with the provision of timely data and a local audit programme, which has focussed on progress in relation to their Signs of Safety and wellbeing assessments and the availability of doctors to undertake Deprivation of Liberty Assessments.

Ceredigion have led on the development of a number of projects for the Boards in the last year, including the development of a regional policy for communicating with people who have sensory impairment. The Senior Operational

Manager for Adult Safeguarding has played a pivotal role in the development of the Regional Threshold Document for Safeguarding Adults at Risk. She has led a number of bespoke projects for the Regional Safeguarding Board and is leading a review and self-assessment of practice following issues raised in the Tawel Fan Report in North Wales.

Significant support has been provided to the Regional Practice Review and MAPF process by senior managers from Children's Services. Panel Chairs have been provided for a number of ongoing Practice Reviews, and support has been provided to the evolving Regional MAPF Forum, which has included facilitating Learning Events for other local authorities in the region. Improving systems for the management, screening and service pathways for victims of domestic abuse has been a key focus for Ceredigion in the last year.



Safeguarding Practice Highlight

Ceredigion Adult Safeguarding Team co-ordinated a large scale multi-agency investigation into concerns of institutional abuse. Good reflective learning opportunities arose from this process, for all those involved, which will inform future practice.

Edge of Care provision has expanded and practice is being developed alongside partner agencies using strength-based and intensive interventions in order to safeguard children and safely reduce the need for reception into care.

Regional Directors of Education representative

All regional education partners have a consistent framework for quality assuring safeguarding in schools, a yearly self-evaluation process and an external audit every three years. Education is represented on all Local Operational Groups and Board Sub Groups. Any themes that arise from

safeguarding health checks, such as site security, training, policy alignment and consistency of practice, are shared with Head Teachers and Governors. Education staff are represented at all Regional Sub Groups. Staff have played an active role in the development of a regional

Information Sharing Protocol, and have worked closely with colleagues in the CAMHs Service on the ongoing development of a regional Suicide Prevention Pathway.

This will ensure an area-wide approach to improving referral pathways and training of frontline staff. Pembrokeshire have launched Operation Encompass, which provides early domestic abuse notifications to schools. Work

continues with other LAs to embed this into practice across the CYSUR region, which will ensure children who witness domestic abuse in their homes will be better identified and supported. Support has been provided to the development of the All Wales Safeguarding/ Protection Procedures as well as ongoing support and advice to the development of National Statutory Guidance for Children who are Electively Home Educated.

Regional Further Education (FE)

The Further Education (FE) colleges within the region have supported the work of the Boards and have been fully compliant in the adoption of its policies. They have also supported the work of the Boards through providing venues for events and meetings.

They have been represented on the Sub Groups of the Board by the Designated Senior Lead for Safeguarding at Pembrokeshire College, who is the Board link for FE Colleges. She has provided a high level of support to the region's ongoing

work on suicide prevention, and has been active in the implementation of the Professional Information Sharing Practice meeting that occurs to manage the deaths of young people aged 18-25. This is akin to the PRUDiC process and was introduced in Pembrokeshire as a pilot in 2018/19. Further significant support has been provided to the regional Child Practice Review process, and the regional FE Lead has undertaken the role of both Independent Reviewer and Panel Chair for ongoing and completed CPRs.

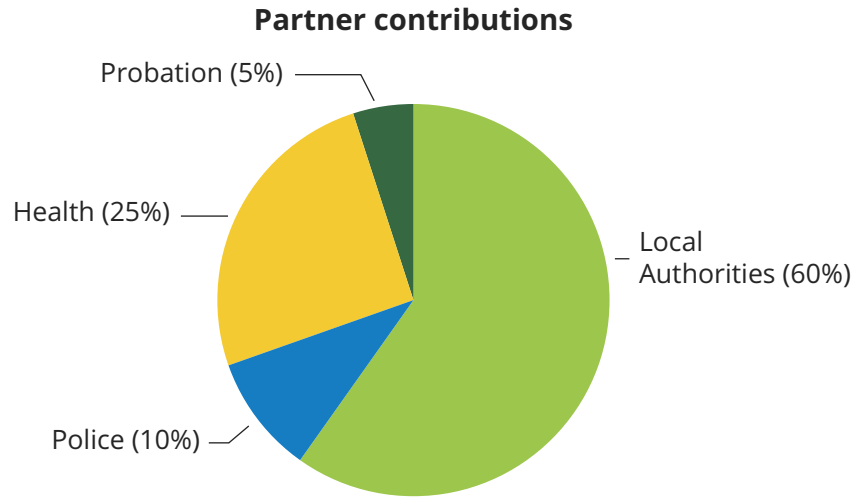
Regional Further Education (FE)

The Mid and West Wales Commissioning Partnership is represented on the Executive Boards and links with the Powys Commissioning Partnership for regional collaboration. In the last year, regional work has supported the regional VAWDASV Strategy and Delivery Plan, with a particular focus upon promoting a better understanding of the current VAWDASV commissioning landscape and establishing a platform for the commissioning of VAWDASV services.

The strategic lead for the West Wales Commissioning Partnership undertook a thematic audit on behalf of the Board on care and nursing home provider performance in

2018-19, which provided reassurance that robust systems and measures are in place for commissioning procedures across the region. A Regional Escalating Concerns Protocol and a Commissioning Skills Training Needs Analysis and Knowledge and Skills Framework has been developed, which has informed the development of a Regional Commissioning Training Programme and Workforce Development Hub. Work on improving the quality of contracts with providers has continued throughout 2018-19. All new contracts are far stronger in respect of safeguarding and the duty to report safeguarding concerns, as well as expectations in terms of engagement in processes such as Adult Practice Reviews.

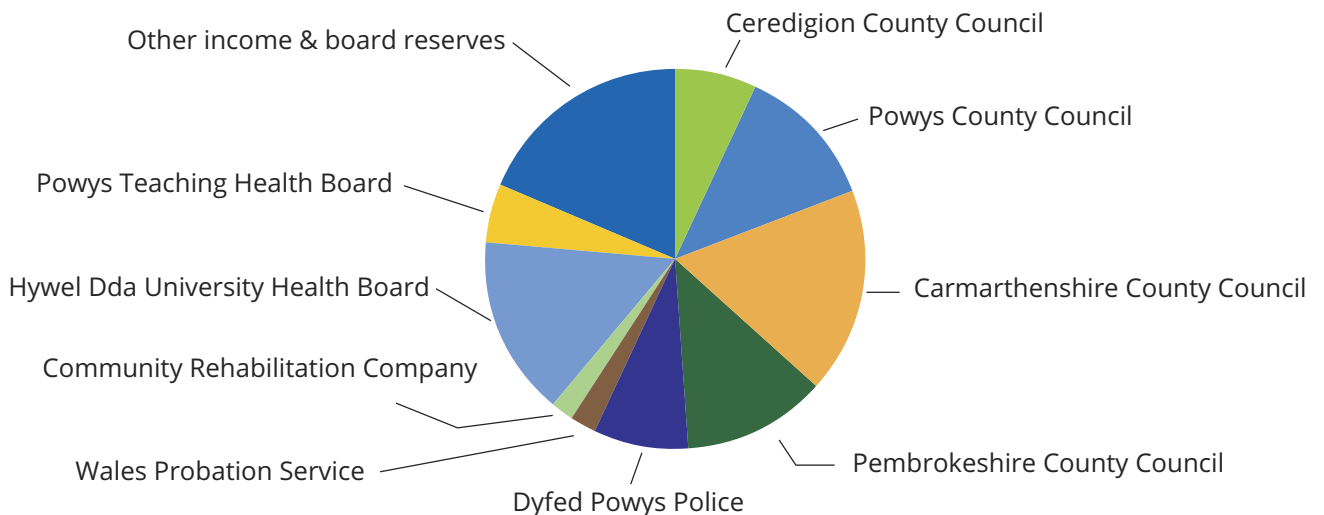
(h) An assessment of how the board uses its resources



The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board uses the national funding formula to assess and identify annual financial contributions from statutory partner agencies. The graphs and charts below illustrate how the Boards have made use of their financial resources within the context of income, expenditure and partner contributions in the preceding financial year.

It is acknowledged that resources used to support the work of the Regional Safeguarding Boards are not confined or restricted to financial contributions from statutory partner agencies. The Regional Safeguarding Board Chairs, Executive Board Members, Sub Group Chairs and members provide a significant amount of the time to support the Boards and their work. This is often in addition to their

Income 2018-19

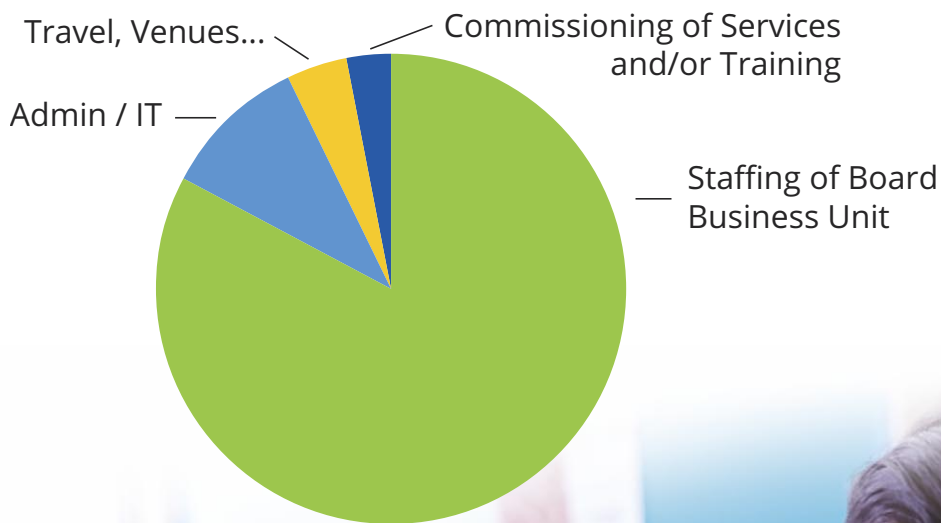


identified professional roles and day to day responsibilities. The variable and diverse nature of the Boards' work makes this difficult to report on within a quantifiable and measurable resource context and is not always obviously visible to other professionals and agencies. The process, management and publication of Child and Adult Practice Reviews, the development of regional protocols and policies, as well as projects that require high levels of professional input, knowledge and expertise are just some examples of Board work.

All statutory partners of the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards contribute financially to the running of the Boards, with the exception of Public Health Wales. This contribution is based on population areas within the region across the varied organisations. The total income into the Safeguarding Boards was £125,065, which is the lowest across Wales.

In 2018-19, the majority of the Boards' expenditure went on general running costs, including staffing the Business Unit (£93,669), Admin/IT (£11,464) and travel/venues across the vast regional footprint (£4,726). However, a large amount this year (£3,807) was spent on commissioning services and/or training, which included a review of Sec 47 Child Protection Enquiry Practice, facilitation of the CADW Junior Board and the regional young person's advocacy service with TGP, and bespoke multi-agency training.

Expenditure 2018-19

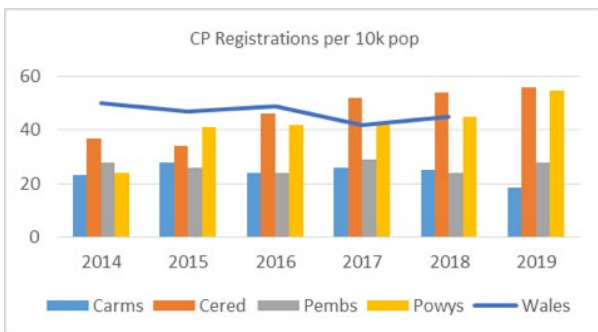


(i) Underlying themes in the way the safeguarding boards have exercised their functions

Safeguarding People

The move to combined meetings and a fully integrated children and adult agenda at a regional and local level has evolved and consolidated the Boards' strategic approach to safeguarding people.

This has further strengthened regional collaborative work, clearly evidenced by the number of successful joint projects completed during the year.



Supporting effective challenge and professional accountability in the delivery of safeguarding practice

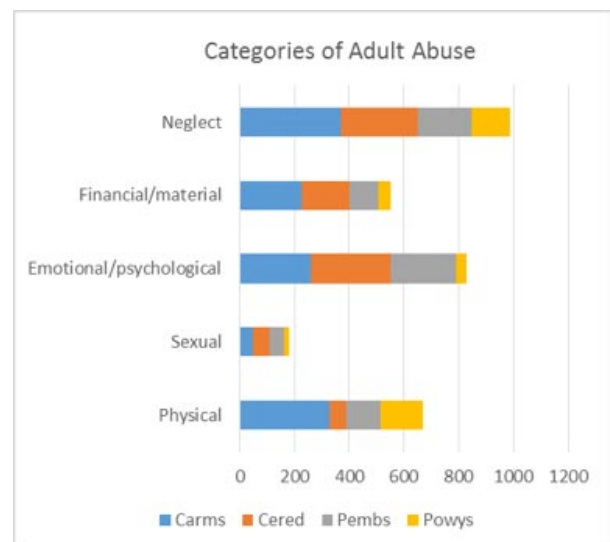
Further developments to the Boards' Quality Assurance and Reporting Framework, which includes a comprehensive dataset alongside a local and thematic regional audit schedule, has continued to aid the Boards' understanding of professional safeguarding practice within the Mid and West Wales area.

The inclusion of data from DPP and the regional Health Boards has provided a more rounded multi-agency perspective on activity. Themes and trends within the context of the use of Section 46 (Children Act 1989), Police Protection Powers, the

management of Professional Concerns, understanding of Mental Capacity and Pressure Sore Care for older people have been identified as areas that require further analysis or improvement.

The continuing development of this framework and the provision of good quality performance data will support the Boards in their commitment to effectively challenge and hold agencies to account when safeguarding practice and service delivery falls below expected standards.

Other themes identified this year through Board work streams include Self Neglect and the correlation to MAPF and APR referrals, and substance and alcohol related co-sleeping PRUDiCs.



Practice Reviews

A number of Adult and Child Practice Reviews have concluded during the year. Themes identified for consideration as a result of these Reviews include:

- Training and awareness raising for health staff on learning disabilities and learning difficulties, and their effect on parenting
- Better systems to improve the communication between GPs, Midwives and Health Visitors
- Development and implementation of a Regional Protocol for Injuries in Non-Mobile Babies
- Development of a Regional Risky Behaviour Policy
- Awareness raising of Absenteeism Procedures in Schools for year 11 pupils.
- Pressure Sore, Dementia and Record Keeping Training for Care Home Managers

Multi-Agency Professional Forums

The implementation of the Regional MAPF Framework to support and aid learning will further support the identification of common regional themes and trends in the coming year.

Signs of Safety (SoS)

All of the four Local Authorities across the region have either implemented Signs of Safety (SoS) or are in the process of introducing this practice model to social work teams to varying degrees.

SoS is a more inclusive, person-centred, solution-focused approach to safeguarding and seeks to enhance and encourage a greater degree of participation by the service user. The core principles of the model complement the spirit and ethos of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, which seeks to put service user participation at the heart of professional intervention with children, their families and adults at risk.

In the last year, a regional signs of safety group has been established which is looking to regional collaborative work and the joint commissioning of training. SoS is the theme of the Boards' forthcoming Regional Conference during National Safeguarding Week in November 2019.



(j) When and how children and adults have had an opportunity to participate in the boards' work

Executive Board attendance

Young members of the CADW: Junior Regional Safeguarding Board attended an Executive Board meeting in April 2018. The meeting was organised in a way that allowed the young attendees to sit in on discussions that the Board felt they could contribute a valuable input to, as well as a designated agenda item permitting CADW to provide feedback on issues they felt pertinent to them.

Feedback from an Executive Board member on CADW input:

"A lot of other items on the agenda could be much richer from having young person input"

A variety of topics were discussed by the Board together with the young people, notably an interest to facilitate further participation in Exec Boards. One young person felt that while having CADW's input to the agenda is very valuable, this section still felt quite separate from the rest of the meeting and further integration is possible.

Board members agreed that while there is a need to distinguish which areas are appropriate to discuss in this joint format, there are significant benefits in permitting further collaborative discussions with young people as part of the Executive Board. Social media and suicide prevention and self-harm were noted as

key areas which the young people could input into. The Board took a particular interest in the young people's views on Elective Home Education (EHE). Their feelings were that a register of EHE children would be very helpful in terms of ensuring they do not slip off the radar, and were very surprised to discover that pupils in years 10 and 11 could become EHE without their own wishes being taken into account. Again at this point, the value of young people's voices and their ability to express valuable opinions was highlighted.



CADW members at the Executive Board

Considering cases where children might become EHE as a result of low academic attainment, the view of one young person was that difficulty in achieving good results did not necessarily mean that the young person did not want to improve and continue in that form of education. It was later agreed that the EHE presentation previously heard by the Board should be delivered to CADW (which took place in May 2018), and considered that a young person input on the issue would be valuable.

The Executive Board were very impressed by the demeanour of the young people in attendance, specifically their high level of competence in expressing opinions and discussing complex issues. It was felt that due to the effectiveness of this meeting, further opportunities to collaborate with the young people should be utilised to enrich discussions and strengthen links with CADW in line with strategic aims.

Feedback from a young person who attended the Exec Board:

"It was nice to have an intelligent conversation about actual issues affecting young people in Wales"

CADW projects and young person priorities

CADW have undertaken several key pieces of work this year addressing the safeguarding issues which are of the greatest concern to them. The young people approached these pieces of work in a way which felt most accessible and engaging, exploring the innovative ways in which they can address contentious issues and serious problems faced by their peers.



CADW's young people posing for the "It's a Rap" video

A prime example of this approach is the 'It's a Rap' video. The young people suggested a variety of words which they associate with safeguarding young people, and considered some of the main challenges they face in modern society.

This was then used to create a 'rap' about safeguarding, which referenced sexting, social media and bullying, filmed to create a video which could then be shared during National Safeguarding Week. CADW felt that they would like to utilise this project as a means of raising awareness of children and young people on how to stay safe online.



'Incognito' masks created by the young people as part of their online safety work

CADW further explored the issue of online safety through their Incognito project. The young people considered the ability to act anonymously online, and whether this has more benefits or risks to young people. While going 'incognito' protects the identities of young people and thus provides a layer of protection, it also poses the opportunity for individuals to groom young people under the guise of befriending them. This issue was illustrated by CADW through the creation of masks, designed to illustrate the mask people can hide behind online.

A photoshoot was then conducted celebrating their work, which was also promoted during National Safeguarding Week.

CADW projects which link to Board priorities

Another area of focus for CADW has been advocacy, with the root of this work having close links to an aim of the Regional Training Sub-Group. The young people have been considering advocacy options available to them and how they could be improved to put children and young people at the forefront of these processes, with particular interest expressed in the possibility of creating an advocacy app.

CADW have also cited an app as a useful way of promoting safe online activity, by providing a platform for 'tips' to adhere to when using mobile phones. CADW have held some very fruitful discussions around this work in 2018-19 which will continue into the next year.

Strengthening links with CADW has been partially hindered this year as a result of staffing changes both within the Board and CADW. The creation of an additional Business Development Officer post within the Board is hoped to enable closer links with the young people going forward, and subsequent alignment of work and priorities. A key aim in achieving this is structured plans for communication and meetings to enable regular and continued engagement. Social media will remain a key method of collaboration with CADW, with plans to explore the potential of this area in 2019/20 as part of a wider technological focus.



Photographs of CADW work during the year



Members of the **Powys 'Eat Carrots Be Safe from Elephants' Junior Safeguarding and Participation Group** celebrated their 10th

anniversary this year, in the form of a "10th Anniversary Birthday Bash". In addition, a member of the group played a key role in the production of the regional group's work on 'It's a Rap' and advocacy. Powys continue to offer a valuable contribution into key regional projects, despite challenges faced in convening young people across such a vast geographical area.

In July 2018, Powys Young Carers and Young Adult Carer Voices attended a residential event in which key organisational decisions were made, confirming methods of communication and recurrence of meetings. The group identified awareness raising, representation on other young person groups and fundraising as key priorities. The group feels it important to ensure they are represented within Eat Carrots to enable wider reach of their work.



Ceredigion 'Sêr Saff' and Ceredigion Youth Service played a pivotal role in key CADW projects during 2018-19. They have ensured that

the young people sit at the heart of their work, encouraging members to utilise their own talents and abilities to contribute to group work. An excellent example of this is Ceredigion's fashion show, the video for which was directed by a young member with particular abilities in filmmaking.

Sêr Saff identified key areas of focus at the beginning of the year, including bullying, social media, CSE, sexting, drugs and alcohol, and the risks to young people going out on their own. 2018-19 has seen a wealth of projects undertaken which relate closely to these themes, specifically the 'Incognito' project led chiefly by Sêr Saff and the safeguarding rap. The group considered other methods of communication which will enable targeting of young people, including a YouTube channel and visits to schools. The young people of the group are demonstrating a clear focus on their aims and strategic methods of ensuring they are met effectively.

Sêr Saff attended the annual Children and Young People's Festival in Aberaeron once again in August 2018, assisting with a variety of stands. Collaborating with Aber Food Surplus, the young people created a "smoothie bike" using fruits donated by Tesco's Community Charity Fund. Other activities supported by the group include an 'Express Yourself' photo booth and face painting, with underlying themes of children's rights and keeping children and young people safe promoted through all activities.



A young person making brownies for the Festival



Carmarthenshire Youth Council continue to run the Children's Rights Community Ambassadors' scheme. This year, they attended a

workshop to scope 'Beth Nawr?' ('What Now?'), and shared their thoughts and views on progress made by the Children's Commissioner for Wales with her three year plan and priorities for 2015-18. They shared their ideas of what the Children's Commissioner should concentrate on for the next three year plan. The findings from 'Beth Nawr?' have helped to inform the Children's Rights Commissioner's priorities for 2019-22.

The Children's Rights Community Ambassadors have undertaken a second mission raising awareness of cyberbullying this year.



Hywel Dda Consultation

During the session, they discussed the impacts of online bullying by putting themselves into someone else's shoes. They then took part in creating contemporary art inspired by Sam's story, a young person who was a victim of cyberbullying. The group used old pairs of shoes as a starting point for their individual responses, adapting and adding new materials and objects to create their own contemporary 3D art. The young artists created Sam's shoes to reflect the feelings and emotions Sam could struggle with, and the other shoe showed the way young people could tackle bullying.

Children's Rights Community Ambassadors are very passionate about their work and feel empowered by having an active role in making change in their community. Part of their work

consists of receiving training on how to raise awareness of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) among young people and its impact on their lives. Children’s Rights Community Ambassadors work closely with the Children’s Commissioner in Wales to make sure that all children and young people know their rights in order to lead safe, healthy and happy lives.

Other achievements of the Carmarthenshire Youth Council in 2018-19 include their active involvement with Hywel Dda’s consultation process for new health services. The group heard the proposed changes from Hywel Dda, getting the opportunity to consider their implications and provide valuable feedback.



Pembrokeshire Junior Safeguardians

hosted a junior safeguarding conference as part of National Safeguarding Week in November 2018. The Conference welcomed pupils

from all secondary schools in the area, as well as Pembrokeshire College and independent schools. The event consisted of two main elements; delivery of the new safeguarding module created for young people, and a session delivered by a mental health trainer from the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust.

The 50 attendees at the conference were all asked to complete a feedback form afterwards, the results of which were collated by the young people. From the selection of words given to describe their feelings following the conference, the most popular choices were ‘informed’, ‘motivated’ and ‘inspired’. All feedback was assessed and considerations made as to what improvements could be made next year. Pembrokeshire Junior Safeguardians undertook a wide variety of other activities as part of NSGW, including a session with a local safeguarding

forum to establish the most relevant issues to them, and delivery of information from the new safeguarding module in a local youth club.

The Great Council Bake-Off was run by Pembrokeshire Junior Safeguardians once again this year, where young people from different local groups each baked a cake with the help of a volunteer from local agencies. Ian Westley (Chief Executive of Pembrokeshire County Council), Stephen Crabb MP (Preseli Pembrokeshire) and Paul Davies AM (Preseli Pembrokeshire) returned as judges for the event. The Bake-Off was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed once again by all participants, and is scheduled to take place again in 2019-20.

Another notable achievement in 2018-19 is Pembrokeshire Junior Safeguardians being shortlisted for the Social Care Wales Accolades. The young people attended the event at Cardiff City Hall, and were delighted to receive a ‘highly commended’ ranking. The application for the awards was completed with the input of the young members of the Safeguardians, providing them with an opportunity to share and celebrate their excellent work.

During 2018-19, Mid and West Wales published its Violence Against Women, Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 Strategy and 5 year Delivery Plan.

The strategy ‘Safer Lives, Healthier Relationships’ outlines how the region will support anyone who is experiencing or has experienced domestic abuse, sexual violence or violence against women, hold perpetrators to account, ensure professionals have the tools and knowledge to act, increase awareness of the issue and how to

Feedback from Junior Conference attendees:
“Informed, motivated and inspired”

access support and help children and young people to understand inequality in relationships and that abusive behaviour is always wrong. Survivor engagement is identified as a key principle underpinning the strategy.

To inform the development of the strategy, a number of focus groups were held across the region with survivors who have been involved in services throughout 2017-18 and the early part of 2018-19. At least one group was held in each local authority area, with specific focus groups held for male survivors and individuals who had experienced sexual violence and abuse.

The purpose of the focus groups was to better understand the experiences of survivors of domestic abuse, sexual violence and all forms of violence against women in the region when accessing support, their views about preventing Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence and Violence against Women and priority considerations for the strategy. Survivors identified “what works”, highlighted gaps in current provision and identified opportunities for improvement.

The strategy was taken back to survivors for their views and comments as part of the consultation phase, providing an opportunity for them to

consider how their input had shaped and informed the draft document. A number of focus groups were held across the region in addition to 1-2-1 interviews with a number of survivors engaging in the consultation activity.

The strategy recognises the vital importance of collaborating with survivors and service users, who are ‘experts by experience’ in terms of what has worked for them, their pathways through services and how easy (or difficult) it has been to find the right service and move towards independence and freedom from abuse.

Survivor voices and experiences have been central in informing and shaping the development of the Strategy and, have helped pave the pathway for the Boards’ strategic vision for the next 5 years.

Progress in respect of the development of a service user engagement strategy for adults at risk by way of workshops for staff and planned joint collaborative work with other regional forums is evidenced throughout the report.



Young people and volunteers attending the Great Council Bake-Off 2018



Pembrokehire Junior Safeguardians attending the Social Care Wales Accolades

(k) Applications for adult protection & support orders

No applications for Adult Protection & Support Orders (APSOs) were made in Mid and West Wales during 2018-19. The Board is aware this trend mirrors activity in other areas and welcomes any observations from Welsh Government as to the likely reasons for this.

(l) Information or learning the boards have disseminated and training recommended or provided

Website



useful information, including how to report a concern and available training provided in the region. All Practice Review reports are published on the Board website for a period of 12 weeks, as per legislation, after which point they are removed but remain available on request.

The website is also used as a conduit to promote safeguarding events and to share learning and good practice. Examples of these are:

- The regionally commissioned thematic review undertaken by Cascade of behalf of the National Independent Safeguarding Board into Adult Practice Reviews, Domestic Homicide and Mental Health Homicides which is publicly available.
- Awareness raising of the different types of exploitation, including modern slavery and trafficking, promoted and shared on the Boards' website as part of National Safeguarding Week 2018.



Adult Safeguarding Training

Training

As outlined in Part 7 of the Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, Regional Safeguarding Boards should ensure practitioners in their area have access to and receive the training they need in child and adult protection.

The completion and publication of a multi-agency Regional Training Strategy and accompanying delivery plan this year has laid the foundations for the work of the Regional Training Sub Group over the next three years.

A training needs analysis completed as part of this work has provided the group with evidence and assurance that safeguarding training is available and being delivered across the multi-agency partnership at all levels, and comprehensive training programmes are in place that target diverse staff groups within organisations.



The structure and delivery of safeguarding training across agencies varies in accordance within each organisation's own internal governance and training frameworks.

For example, Health organisations follow UK Core Skills 2016 and Safeguarding Children and Young people: roles and competences for health care staff INTERCOLLEGIATE DOCUMENT March 2014, and the Police are required to ensure training complies with mandatory requirements as set out by the National College of Policing.

All partner agencies of the Mid & West Safeguarding Boards do, however, collectively have clearly defined safeguarding duties and responsibilities as outlined in Part 7 of the Act.

The delivery plan has identified some ambitious and aspirational targets for the group, which includes the development of a Regional Safeguarding Board App and plans to commission and deliver regional multi-agency training.

Developing a consistent module for the delivery of basic Adult Safeguarding Training and supporting any themes that are identified from practice reviews and MAPFs have been a focus for the group in the last year.

Specific safeguarding training that has been delivered within the region and supported by the Regional Training Group in the last year includes:

- Training in relation to **Facilitating Learning Events for MAPFs** (pictured above) has supported the Regional MAPF Forum to improve staff confidence in this area and increase the number of MAPFs commissioned and undertaken.
- Examples of arrangements that are in place at a local agency level include training provided to **Hywel Dda Health Board Staff on Pressure Damage Prevention**.
- **Powys Teaching Health Board** have collaborated with Public Health Wales ACE Hub in exploring a **Skills and Knowledge Framework for ACEs**.
- **Dyfed Powys Police** commissioned Safer Lives, supported by Hafan Cymru to deliver **Domestic Abuse Matters Training**.

- Safeguarding training has been delivered across the four Local Authorities to large numbers of **Multi-Agency Practitioners and Managers** to support the publication of the Regional Threshold Document for Safeguarding Adults and Handling Individual Cases Statutory Guidance.
- Whilst each agency and organisation has individual responsibility under **VAWDASV** legislation to plan and roll out their own training plans, in relation to the National Training Framework, a new regional training sub group which reports directly to Regional VAWDASV Strategic Group has been developed.

Focus in the last year has been on the responsibility to deliver training to groups 1 and 2 as outlined in the National Framework. All agencies without exception have reported significant challenges in meeting the expectations of the Framework and the requirement to train large numbers of staff. A delay in clarifying the commissioning arrangements at a national level in respect of Ask and Act Training has added to these ongoing challenges and difficulties.

- The Regional Training Sub Group has supported and delivered a number of multi-agency

training events to large numbers of staff as well as parents and foster carers. This includes the Stop It Now Child Sexual Abuse Awareness Campaign for children who are vulnerable to or at increased risk of Child Sexual Abuse. Parents accessing preventative services such as Flying Start and Team Around the Family were targeted for this training.

- Staff working in preventative services across the region also attended Breaking the **Silence Training**, which was an interactive learning session for staff to share best practice for recognising, listening and responding to disclosures of abuse made by children and young people.

- **Black Association of Women Step Out (BAWSO)** delivered training in respect of National Referral Pathway to support the prompt and timely reporting of victims of Modern Slavery.

As the Regional Training Group continues to develop and mature, it will have a more focused and pivotal role in the delivery of safeguarding training across the region, and will be able to offer an improved level of guidance and support to agencies in the delivery of safeguarding training.

(m) How the safeguarding boards have implemented advice from Welsh Government and National Independent Safeguarding Board

No specific advice from Welsh Government Ministers has been issued to the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards. The Chairs of the CYSUR and CWMPAS Executive Boards continue to work closely with senior WG officials on identified areas where it considers more robust policy guidance and legislation could improve safeguarding practice.

Ongoing dialogue and discussion that has taken place in the last year has included the need for improved forensic health services for victims of sexual assault, stronger legislation for children who are Electively Home Educated and the need for clearer guidance on requirements for HR recruitment processes for DBS checks for existing employees.



Collectively what difference are we making

The move to a fully combined all-age strategic agenda at a regional and local level supports the delivery of robust safeguarding practice and services which has enabled the CYSUR and CWMPAS Boards to work together to help improve the lives of the citizens and communities of Mid and West Wales.

As well as enabling the Boards to meet their objectives as outlined in Part 7 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, this combined approach to Safeguarding aligns fully with the ethos and principles of the Act.

The Boards' work has directly impacted upon professional practice. Examples include the completion and publication of three regional policies and guidance documents, all of which provide guidance to staff delivering safeguarding services across the region.

The Boards' work on thresholds and information sharing will promote a more consistent and timely response to those most in need and at risk. The improvements to the Quality Assurance and Performance Reporting Framework has provided

the Executive Board with a better understanding of safeguarding practice within a regional multi-agency context. Analysis of regional themes and trends in relation to child and adult protection enquiries, CSE, Looked After Children and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards has helped to guide the Boards' future work and focus.

A regional thematic deep dive audit in respect of workforce development across children's safeguarding teams has laid the foundation for joint work to be undertaken with the West Wales Partnership Board in the coming year. Work undertaken by the Senior Strategic Lead for commissioning has strengthened safeguarding practice in care homes.

The CYSUR Board is particularly proud of its CADW Junior Safeguarding Board and the supporting local Junior Safeguarding Groups and youth partnerships across the region.

Increased capacity within the Board Business Unit and staff changes in TGP will help ensure the excellent work undertaken to date will be consolidated in the coming year.



Glossary:

- APR/CPR** – Adult Practice Review/Child Practice Review
- MAPF** – Multi-Agency Professional Forum
- VAWDASV** – Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
- MACSE/CSE** – Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation/ Child Sexual Exploitation
- LOG** – Local Operational Group
- NSGW** – National Safeguarding Week
- ERW** – Education Regional Working
- EHE** – Elective Home Education
- NISB** – National Independent Safeguarding Board
- DoLS** – Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
- CIW** – Care Inspectorate Wales
- IICSA** – Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse
- PRUDIc** – Procedural Response to Unexpected Death in Childhood
- ACEs** – Adverse Childhood Experiences
- PTHB** – Powys Teaching Health Board
- CYPP** – Children and Young People Partnership
- CAMHS** – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- MARAC** – Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
- MAPPA** – Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
- PHW** – Public Health Wales
- NST** – National Safeguarding Team
- WAST** – Welsh Ambulance Service Trust
- DPP** – Dyfed Powys Police
- YJS** – Youth Justice Service
- NPS** – National Probation Service
- CRC** – Community Rehabilitation Company
- SoS** – Signs of Safety
- PSE** – Personal & Social Education
- ADEW** – Association of Directors of Education in Wales
- LGBTQ+** – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning Plus
- DBS** – Disclosure and Barring Service
- MARF** – Multi-Agency Referral Form
- DHR** – Domestic Homicide Review
- DA** – Domestic Abuse
- SARC** – Sexual Assault Referral Centre
- BAME** – Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
- CSPPI** – Community Safeguarding and Public Protection Incidents
- YJB** – Youth Justice Board
- UNCRC** – United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child