

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 1, Winter 2022/20023

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD MANAGER

Welcome to the first Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board Newsletter! We are pleased to be launching this publication after a great deal of development and planning.

This quarterly bulletin will provide you with the key regional and national updates taking place in the safeguarding arena, including policies, legislation and practice reviews. We also hope to utilise this platform as a means of celebrating good practice locally and regionally, and to keep you up to date with developments in key areas of interest.

We hope you enjoy our first issue!

Julie Breckon

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NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING WEEK 2022

National Safeguarding Week took place this year from 14th to 18th November 2022, with the theme of “Moving on and Recovering from the Pandemic”. Under this broad heading a programme was designed that aimed to respond to some of the challenges children and adults at risk face on their journey of recovery from the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Throughout the week six key events were held, including conferences and webinars that sought to raise awareness and highlight issues that currently affect children and adults at risk. The regional program was also supported by national events taking place across the whole of Wales. This included the launch of new multi-agency training standards being led by Social Care Wales and an event hosted by the National Independent Safeguarding Board in collaboration with the Violence Prevention Unit on shaping the future of Safeguarding in Wales.



Animation Launch Event at Parc-y-Scarlets Stadium



Children's Commissioner, Ms Rocio Cifuentes

LAUNCH OF SAFEGUARDING ANIMATION WITH THE CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER



The flagship event for the week was a launch and celebration of a safeguarding training resource and video animation for professionals that took place at Parc-y-Scarlets Stadium in Llanelli. The video animation was created by children and young people from our Junior Board.

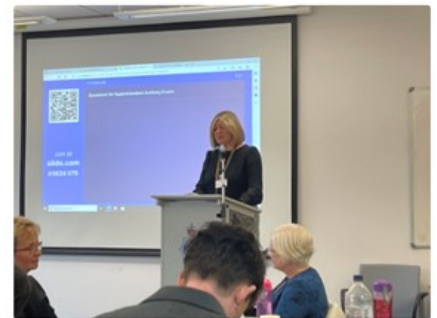
The keynote address was delivered by the new Children's Commissioner, Ms Rocio Cifuentes, who commended the children and young people on their excellent work, and underscored the importance of sharing this resource more widely in support of disseminating its key messages. Both videos can be accessed from our [website](#).

NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING WEEK 2022

DYFED POWYS POLICE DOMESTIC ABUSE CONFERENCE

Dyfed Powys Police hosted a very successful multi-agency Domestic Abuse Conference at Police HQ, where speakers included those with lived experience of domestic abuse.

The programme also included a closer look at domestic abuse and dementia, a discussion of older people and domestic abuse and the impact of domestic abuse on children. The feedback noted how the guest speakers were incredibly impactful, and that it was a very informative conference. People also commented on how it good it was to be back together face to face, and that they will be taking a lot of learning back to their teams.



MICROSOFT TEAMS LIVE SEMINARS

A series of successful Microsoft Teams Live Seminars were held throughout safeguarding week as follows:

- ◆ Safeguarding Children living with Foster Carers, Adopters and Special Guardians: Learning from Case Reviews 2007-2019
- ◆ Operation Jasmine, in collaboration with the Regional Partnership Board
- ◆ Think Family — See the Adult, See the Child
- ◆ Promoting Positive Mental Health and Well-Being of Children and Young People since the COVID-19 Pandemic, in collaboration with CAMHS Schools In-Reach Team

These received excellent feedback and were very well attended. Dedicated webpages were also created to share speaker's presentations, training resources, videos and images from the events. These can be accessed on [our website](#).

"Really informative and am sure people will leave enthused to challenge and make changes"

"Thank you very much for a really thought provoking presentation."

"Really interesting and certainly food for thought."

"Thank you very much for the excellent presentation and the discussion."

Feedback from 'Think Family' virtual event that led by Professor Michael Preston-Shoot

NEW 7 MINUTE BRIEFINGS

Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board create '7 Minute Briefings' as learning aids for use in supervision, team meetings, and as a reminder of the key issues around a particular theme or current issue. Research suggests that seven minutes is an ideal time span to concentrate and learn.

Recent publications include:

- * **Single Unified Safeguarding Reviews** - This briefing provides an update on the SUSR process, highlighting progress to date and outstanding issues that still need to be addressed.
- * **CYSUR 4 2019** - This offers a summary of findings and recommendations from an Extended Child Practice Review.
- * **Resolution of Professional Differences Regional Protocol** - When professional differences occur that cannot be resolved informally, it is essential that all individual professionals or staff members are able to constructively and critically challenge the practice and decision of others. Managers are therefore responsible for ensuring that their staff are supported when they want to report concerns and disagreements within their own organisation and/or between agencies.
- * **Corporate Safeguarding** - This 7 Minute Briefing aims to help everyone who works for council services understand how they can play a crucial role in safeguarding children and to meet their responsibilities in preventing the abuse of children and adults.

Copies of all of our 7 Minute Briefings can be found on our [7 Minute Briefing webpage](#).

If you or your team have suggestions for future briefings you would find helpful, please send your suggestions to the CYSUR manager Julie Breckon, at CYSUR@pembrokeshire.gov.uk



ANNIVERSARY OF ENDING PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT IN WALES



March will mark the first anniversary since the law was changed with regard to the use of physical punishment in Wales. All physical punishment is now illegal and children have the same protection from assault as adults. Anyone who physically punishes a child risks being arrested or charged with assault.

Parenting. Give it time offers positive parenting practical hints, tips and expert advice to encourage good behaviour from children and alternatives to physical punishment. Their parenting support page offers links to further support and helplines.

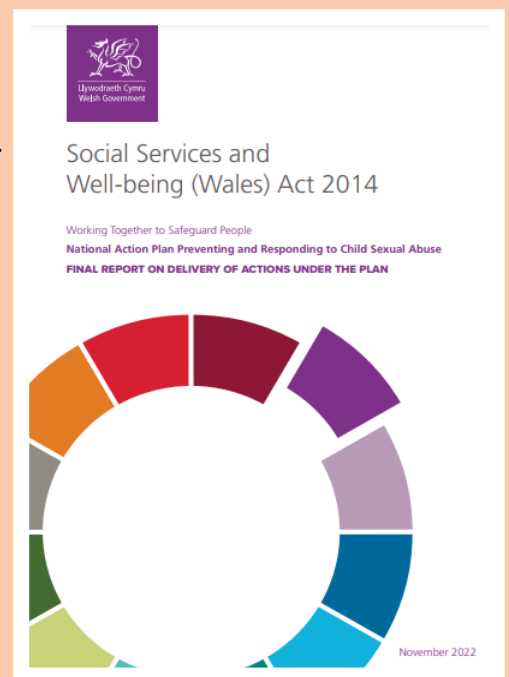
FINAL REPORT ON DELIVERY OF ACTIONS UNDER THE NATIONAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE ACTION PLAN

The National Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Action Plan sets out the actions Welsh Government will take to prevent CSA, to protect children from CSA and to support children who are sexually abused. A recent follow up report “National Action Plan Preventing and Responding to Child Sexual Abuse Final Report on Delivery of Actions Under the Plan” also published by Welsh Government, sets out what has been delivered under the CSA Action Plan between July 2019 and June 2022.

In this report, the work of the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board in supporting and delivering against this plan, has been referenced on several occasions.

We feel this activity reflects extremely well on the Board and would like to thank all our Board partners and practitioners in the region for your work and contribution to delivering on this plan.

A copy of the report is available to view [on our website](#).



PUBLISHED CHILD & ADULT PRACTICE REVIEWS



The prime purpose of practice reviews is to identify any steps that can be taken by Safeguarding Board partners to achieve improvements in multi-agency practice. These contain lessons learned which should be disseminated, and any recommendation arising should be implemented so that the changes required result in children being protected from suffering or harm in the future.

Please find copies of recently published practice reviews available on the Child and Adult Practice Review pages of our website.

CYSUR 4 2019 - Extended Child Practice Review

- ◇ [Published report](#)
- ◇ [7 Minute Briefing](#)

NEW NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TRAINING, LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

New National Safeguarding Training Standards were launched as part of National Safeguarding Week 2022, having been developed by a national multi-agency group which included the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board. The standards are aligned to the Wales Safeguarding Procedures and set out the expectations for knowledge, skills, attitudes and values for people working with adults and children who may be at risk of abuse, harm or neglect.

These new standards are written in a way that everybody can see what each practitioner is expected to do when fulfilling their safeguarding duty and are relevant to everyone working in:



- ⇒ local authorities
- ⇒ social care
- ⇒ early years and childcare
- ⇒ health
- ⇒ police
- ⇒ education
- ⇒ Probation
- ⇒ inspectorates
- ⇒ third and independent sector organisations
- ⇒ commissioned providers
- ⇒ agencies or organisations that work with the above services.

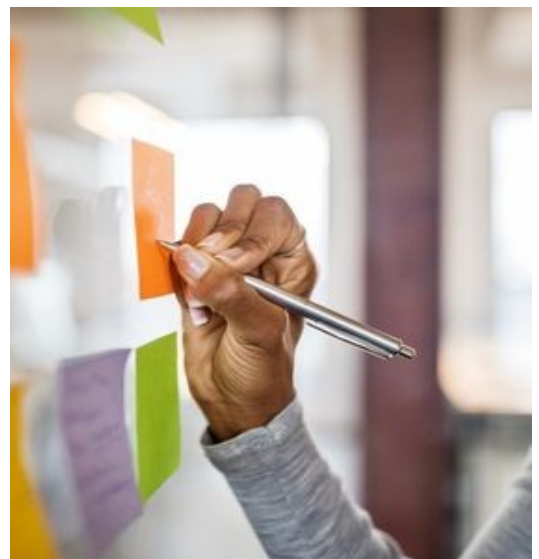
All practitioners are encouraged to become familiar with the standards and how they relate to their respective areas of work. The standards are now live, to access them or to learn more visit the [Social Care Wales website](#).

VAWDASV REGIONAL ADVISORY PANEL

The Regional VAWDASV (Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse, and Sexual Violence) Partnership is currently establishing a Survivor Advisory panel for Mid and West Wales.

The purpose of the panel is to bring together survivors and survivor voices, with statutory and provider agencies to inform and influence policy and practice in the region. As experts by lived experience of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, the panel will provide a mechanism to ensure the needs of survivors are at the heart of VAWDASV service planning and delivery in Mid and West Wales.

For more information please visit the dedicated page on [our website](#). Alternatively, you can contact the Regional VAWDASV team directly by emailing mww.survivor.panel@gmail.com



NEW CHILD EXPLOITATION STRATEGY



Version	Revision Date	Owner	Date approved by Exec Board	Review Date
V1		Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board	18/10/2022	18/10/2024

A newly updated Child Exploitation Strategy has now been published on our website which sets out our priorities and makes an explicit commitment to prevent and tackle child exploitation. This document has been developed as a collaborative project across the region by the four Local Authorities, two Health Boards and the Dyfed Powys Police, led by Powys Children's Services and aims to support a consistent approach and response from all agencies when cases of Child Exploitation are identified.

Access the Child Exploitation Strategy Document on the [Regional Policies and Procedures page](#) of our website.

FREE TRAINING: PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO INCIDENTS OF ONLINE SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Welsh Government are currently offering a free 2 hour training session for secondary school Designated safeguarding persons (DSP's) in Wales to help with understanding, preventing and responding to incidents of online sexual harassment among learners within the school or setting.

Training is available for DSP's or any members of staff involved in supporting the well-being of the school community.

Dates are available for areas within this region from January to March, details on how to register can be found on [Welsh Government website](#).

CADW JUNIOR BOARD

CADW have had a busy year, working on the launch of their wonderful training animation and being documented whilst watching the completed resource for the first time. Their animation, titled The Do's and Don'ts of Caring was officially launched during National Safeguarding Week 2022, with support and attendance from the Children's Commissioner for Wales. The resource is designed to be used as part of safeguarding training for practitioners.

In addition, 'A reflection on the Do's and Don'ts of Caring' an accompanying video was created by Theo Delahaye, a former Junior Board member, who had captured the reactions of group members when they first viewed the resource at their annual residential event.

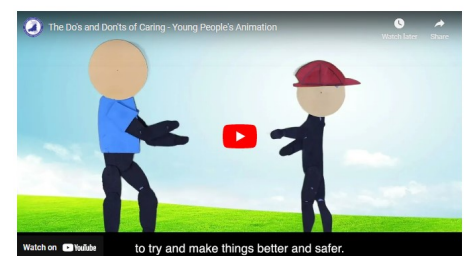
Feedback from practitioners at the animation launch, praised both achievements and encouraged the animation and video to be used and viewed together to get maximum impact. It also focused on what practitioners will do differently after watching the video (e.g. avoid notetaking, incorporate resource in meetings), how they will make sure young people are heard in meetings (e.g. co-chairing LAC reviews, pupil bodies having a voice) and how they will adapt training to incorporate the contents of the video and it's accompanying film (e.g. include in school based training, staff meetings).

The group are currently working on a Welsh version of the resource to make it even more widely accessible.

Both videos can be accessed from [our website](#).



Junior Board Members at Launch event



Junior Board's Safeguarding Resources

SAFEGUARDING AWARENESS DAYS

Please find upcoming safeguarding awareness day dates for your diaries. Remember to follow us on social media for links and resources that support each of these days!

February

1st February	Dignity Action Day
2nd February	Time to Talk Day
6th February	International Day of Zero Tolerance to FGM
6th—12th February	Childrens Mental Health Week 2023
6th—12th February	Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Week 2023
7th February	Safer Internet Day

March

1st March	Self Harm Awareness Day
8th March	International Women's Day
13th—19th March	Safer Sleep Week 2023
15th March	Young Carers Action Day
21st March	World Social Work Day

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