

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 3, Autumn 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD MANAGER



Welcome to the third edition of our Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board Newsletter!

Inside this Autumn issue we aim to provide you with key information and updates on what is going on in the safeguarding world across our partner agencies in the Mid and West Wales region. This includes news from across the region and information on areas of practice, training, policy, legislation, campaigns as well as links to useful information and to an array of resources and information that can support you in your work.

We hope you enjoy this edition.

Julie Breckon—Regional Safeguarding Board Manager

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

REGIONAL

- ⇒ Publication of Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board Annual Report
- ⇒ CWMPAS Welcomes new Chair
- ⇒ National Safeguarding Week 2023: Save the date!
- ⇒ Safeguarding Practice Awards Ceremony 2023
- ⇒ Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence: Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA) Services
- ⇒ Dealing with Dual-Allegations Training (CPD certified)
- ⇒ Her Majesty The Queen meets Calan DVS Representatives
- ⇒ Builth Wells Events Safety Group (BWESG)

- ⇒ Domestic Abuse Virtual Response Unit (DAVRU)
- ⇒ Multi-Agency Practice Guidance for dealing with cases of domestic abuse and sexual violence to safeguard adults with care and support needs
- ⇒ Keeping babies and children safe around pets
- ⇒ Free Training: Older People and Sexual Violence.
- ⇒ Safer Sleeping - Guidance

NATIONAL

- ⇒ Peer-on-peer sexual harassment among 16 to 18-year-old learners in further education
- ⇒ Child Practice Reviews Thematic Review
- ⇒ Publication of Elective Home Education Statutory Guidance
- ⇒ National Rapid Review into Child Protection Services

PUBLICATION OF MID AND WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

During the summer we were pleased to publish our annual report which outlines the progress made against the outcomes set by CYSUR and CWMPAS as part of our joint Annual Strategic Plan for the year 2022-23.

Our particular successes this year include the development of multi-agency safeguarding training packages. This includes the development and implementation of professional curiosity training and accompanying resources, as well as the development of a safeguarding training animation created by our Junior Board.

Our continued commitment to deliver against our Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) agenda has progressed at some pace this year. Our new four-year strategy and accompanying delivery plan has been completed and published, directly informed by survivors with lived experience of domestic abuse in the Mid and West Wales area.

Developing creative solutions to some of the significant workforce challenges the social care and the public sector workforce is experiencing has continued to be a key focus of the Boards' work this year, both within a regional and national context. A review of the social care workforce across the region has been undertaken, and we will be implementing actions in the coming year to improve recruitment and retention of staff locally alongside ongoing national work.

The report is available to view on our website at <https://www.cysur.wales/our-annual-report-2022-23-is-now-live/>



THE MID & WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & ADULTS BOARDS

Launch and Implementation of "The Do's and Don'ts of Caring"

It gives us pleasure to share the outcome of 18 months of dedicated work undertaken by our Junior Board, which culminated in the launch and implementation of an animation to support safeguarding training, "The Do's and Don'ts of Caring". This originated from a regional Child Practice Review surrounding the tragic death of a child, where it was recommended the voice of the child and children's lived experience needed to directly inform multi-agency safeguarding training.

Led by the regional Training Sub-Group, a brief was shared with the Junior Board, CADW, inviting them to produce a piece of work which could be utilised in regional safeguarding training across agencies in the partnership. CADW were asked to share their views about how safeguarding practitioners could more effectively support them, and were free to choose the format of the resource they produced.

They decided to develop an animation, and to invite a professional animator to develop a product fully designed and scripted by the young people. Curious Otch and Space to Create were employed following approval of the Junior Board's Animation Task and

Finish Group, as animator and artist for the animation. Next, the young people conducted surveys in local groups to obtain some further views from children and young people beyond the Task and Finish Group. The findings from this work, together with learning obtained from completed Child Practice Reviews in which children's views were shared in contribution to the review process, were considered by the Task and Finish Group as a basis to the message to be delivered via the finished product.

Young people in the Task and Finish Group also shared and considered their own experiences and perspectives of how they have been supported by professionals in the past. The young people utilised these sources to devise a script, and designed characters to feature in the animation.

Three regional workshops were then held with the animator and artist, in which the young people produced materials and recorded the animation in stop-frame motion. Imagery and sound in the animation were created by the young people with careful consideration of how to illustrate the message conveyed in their script.



THE MID & WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & ADULTS BOARDS

High-Risk Behaviours for Adults at Risk (Including Hoarding and Self-Neglect)

Current legislation in Wales provides a robust and comprehensive framework for agencies to provide early intervention for adults who exhibit high-risk behaviours, including those who hoard and self-neglect.

Irrespective of this, a disproportionately high number of cases feature in referrals into the Boards for Adult Practice Reviews and MAPFs, where sadly adults have either died or suffered serious harm where concerns of this nature are known and understood by professionals, who often feel powerless to effectively intervene to prevent harm or reduce risk.

Following the implementation of a regional protocol to support this hugely complex and challenging area of work last year, work has continued this year led by the Adult Safeguarding Leads to implement the model consistently.

Numbers who meet the criteria to be considered by the model are lower than expected and this will be further reviewed in the coming year. It is hoped the framework will help improve practitioners' understanding of the legislation in Wales, alongside an enhanced and improved understanding of how mental capacity legislation can be implemented to support adults in a more creative, solution focused multi-agency approach.



CWMPAS WELCOMES NEW CHAIR

The Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board are pleased to welcome Michael Gray, Director of Social Care and Housing Pembrokeshire County Council as the new Chair of CWMPAS, the regional safeguarding Adults Board.

Michael notes "I have recently joined Pembrokeshire County Council as the Director of Social Services and Housing and I am delighted to take up the post of CWPMAS Chair for the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board.

As a previous Head of Adult Services, I know the importance of working in partnership to ensure that safeguarding is everybody's business. I have been part of the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board since 2019 and I look forward to utilising our strong multi-agency partnership to further its important work."



Michael Gray, CWMPAS Chair

NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING WEEK 2023: SAVE THE DATE!

This year National Safeguarding Week will take place from 13th to 19th November. A number of task and finish groups have been held so far and a regional programme, complemented by national and local events is shaping up nicely.

Our regional theme for this year is Safeguarding in Rural Communities, reflecting the rurality and diversity of the Mid and West Wales area. Powys will be hosting a regional conference on 16th November with the theme of Mental Health in Rural Communities. This full day of presentations, workshops and information sessions will be held in the Royal Showground in Builth Wells. Other themes include work around the newly created VAWADSV strategy, counter terrorism, animal safety and nationally will include a thematic review of CPRs.

We look forward to sharing more details as they are confirmed. Follow #NSW2023 for additional updates.

PEER-ON-PEER SEXUAL HARASSMENT AMONG 16 TO 18-YEAR-OLD LEARNERS IN FURTHER EDUCATION



estyn.llyw.cymru
estyn.gov.wales

Peer-on-peer sexual harassment among 16 to 18-year-old learners in further education

June 2023



A themed inspection was undertaken across Wales by Estyn and a report of its findings was published in June 2023. It followed in person visits by Estyn Inspectors to 12 Further Education colleges across Wales in the Autumn of 2022 to evaluate peer on peer sexual harassment and review the culture and processes that were in place.

Overall the inspection concluded the issue is complex and widely underreported. Many young people choose not to report and/or are often unsure how to report an incident.

It has been identified staff in colleges need better support and training to recognise and respond to such incidences. Young people identifying as female, LGBTQ+ and learners with additional learning needs may be more likely to experience sexual harassment.

Please see link to full report on the Estyn website at <https://www.estyn.gov.wales/thematic-report/peer-peer-sexual-harassment-among-16-18-year-old-learners-further-education>

SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE AWARDS CEREMONY 2023

The dedication, resilience and hard work of safeguarding professionals was celebrated at the second Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards annual award ceremony, held this year at Dyfed Powys Police Headquarters, Llangunnor, Carmarthen.

The event recognised the contribution key workers from a variety of public sector agencies have played in keeping the most vulnerable children and adults in our communities safe. Practitioners recognised included health professionals and nurses, police officers, social workers, education professionals and care and nursing home workers and managers.

The ceremony was attended and addressed by the Chief Social Care Officer for Wales, Welsh Government, Albert Heaney who said:

“As Chief Social Care Officer for Wales, I am delighted that we are all taking the time to recognise the vital work our safeguarding professionals are doing. Their dedication to providing support and protection for the most vulnerable individuals across Mid and West Wales is to be commended.”

More information about the awards, along with nominees details and images can be found on our website at: <https://www.cysur.wales/safeguarding-practice-awards-ceremony-2023/>

WINNERS AND HIGHLY COMMENDED NOMINEES



Hywel Dda University Health Board



Eden Carlisle and Meghan Ware, Hywel Dda University Health Board



Claire Williams, Powys County Council



Group Photograph of Attendees



Karen Panter, Pembrokeshire Local Authority



Mandy Nichols-Davies, Hywel Dda University Board



Noreen Jackman, Carmarthenshire Local Authority



Natalie Hancock, Regional VAWDASV Coordinator



WAST Safeguarding Team



Lorna Milner, Carmarthenshire Local Authority



Gareth Tucker, Pembrokeshire County Council



Sharon Titley, Powys Local Authority



Cheryl Loughlin, Pembrokeshire County Council



David Jones, Ceredigion County Council



Group Photograph of Attendees



Rachael Jones, Ceredigion County Council



Veronica Jarman, Hywel Dda University Health Board



Julie Cunningham, Pembrokeshire County Council

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS AND HIGHLY COMMENDED NOMINEES IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES!

Exceptional Commitment and Dedication Demonstrated to the Safeguarding of Children
Exceptional Commitment and Dedication Demonstrated to the Safeguarding of Adults at Risk

Achievement, Innovation and/or Improving Safeguarding Practice for Children

Achievement, Innovation and/or Improving Safeguarding Practice for Adults at Risk

Participatory Practice / Co-production in the Safeguarding of Children, Families or Adults at Risk

Significant Wider Community Safeguarding – Practice That Has Had a Positive Impact on the Community in the Safeguarding of Children or Adults

Exceptional Safeguarding Practice in a Residential Establishment for Children or Adults at risk

Long Service Recognition/Lifetime Achievement Award for Contribution to Safeguarding Practice and Development for Children or Adults at Risk

CADW Young Peoples Group Awards

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE: INDEPENDENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORY (IDVA) SERVICES

The Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner, along with the four Local Authorities within the Dyfed-Powys region, recently re-tendered for the Independent Domestic Violence Advisory (IDVA) Services. The service is commissioned via funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed Powys and the Mid and West Wales Regional VAWDASV Grant.

Five specialist domestic abuse agencies, Calan DVS, CarmDAS, Montgomeryshire Family Crisis Centre, Threshold DAS and West Wales Domestic Abuse Service have collaborated to form the Dal I Godi partnership. Dal I Godi's focus is on the early intervention, prevention, protection, and support of individuals and families experiencing domestic abuse using a service model that has been designed to ensure an efficient, safe, person-centred, needs-led and holistic experience for each service user.

Wendy Richards, IDVA Services Manager for the Dal I Godi Partnership (pictured) commenced the role in June 2023. Wendy previously worked for South Wales Police for 28 years primarily in the Domestic Abuse arena. Wendy who is employed by Calan DVS manages the IDVA staff who are employed across the four other specialist agencies who collaborate and form 'Dal I Godi' which covers the Dyfed Powys Police Area.



Wendy Richards, IDVA Services Manager for the Dal I Godi Partnership

The IDVA role holds many aspects however at the heart of the role is to keep victims of domestic abuse safe. Caseloads can be demanding and IDVA's tackle many aspects of safety planning and support. IDVA's from the Dal I Godi Partnership will shortly be co-facilitating DA Matters training together with Dyfed Powys Police throughout Autumn 2023 and will be delivering around 33 sessions primarily to front line police officers. This training is a bespoke programme for police officers and has been designed to transform the response to domestic abuse ensuring the voice of the victim is placed at the centre, and controlling and coercive behaviour is better understood.

During June and July 2023, the IDVA service received over 300 referrals across the Dyfed Powys area, with the highest number of referrals being received in Carmarthenshire.

If you would like to find out more about the IDVA service, you can contact: IDVA Advisory Service: 01267 221194 or email: DalIGodiIDVAService@calandvs.org.uk

DEALING WITH DUAL-ALLEGATIONS TRAINING (CPD CERTIFIED)

During Autumn and Winter the VAWDASV Board will be facilitating Dual Allegation Training across the region. This one day course will improve professionals' confidence and knowledge in dealing with dual allegations of domestic abuse, and identifying the primary perpetrator.

This course is suited to domestic abuse professionals such as IDVAs or MARAC coordinators, or people who are experienced in working with domestic abuse, and who would like more confidence in identifying the primary perpetrator at assessment or in multi-agency meetings and understanding complex domestic abuse dynamics.

Spaces are currently available for 28th September 2023, 18th October 2023 and 14th February 2023. The training will be from 9:30am-4pm and will be delivered virtually.

To register, or for more information please contact Natalie Hancock at: NHancock@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN MEETS CALAN DVS REPRESENTATIVES

Calan DVS had a very exciting July as they were honoured to meet with Her Majesty The Queen as part of a string of Royal engagements within Brecon. Her Majesty met Calan DVS representatives, refuge residents and their children. Her Majesty praised Calan DVS staff for their dedication, tireless efforts, and important work in creating a nurturing environment for survivors. Read more about Her Majesty's visit on Calan's website [here](#).



Pictured with Her Majesty The Queen are representatives from Calan DVS including (from left to right) Jessica Greene (Domestic Abuse Support Worker), Katie Samuel (Children and Young People Services Manager), Moyra Parfitt (Head of Operations), Sue Gardiner (Senior Specialist Domestic Abuse Support Worker/Trainer), Brid Kilmartin (Team Leader), Shakira Joyner (Chair), Jen Lawton (Trustee), Kathy Irwin (Area Service Manager), Michelle Whelan (Chief Executive), Natalie Hancock (Mid and West Wales Regional VAWDASV Advisor).

THEMATIC REVIEW OF CHILD PRACTICE REVIEWS IN WALES

The National Independent Safeguarding Board (NISB) in Wales is pleased to be able to share its analysis and findings as a basis for shared learning and debate about how best to strengthen safeguarding effectiveness for children at risk across Wales and to further reduce the likelihood of significant harms occurring in future. The Report will form a central part of a forthcoming conference to be hosted by NISB together with Manchester Metropolitan as part of National Safeguarding Week events, on 15th November, where practitioners and senior professionals will have the opportunity to consider its findings and identify potential next steps in terms of taking the recommendations from the review forward in their respective roles, agencies and regions.

The Thematic Review of Child Practice Reviews in Wales, has made key recommendations on changes to the process of Child Practice Reviews and legislative guidance, and also on key training to be prioritised to safeguarding practitioners across Wales. The review, commissioned by the National Independent Safeguarding Board (NISB) was undertaken by Professor Michelle McManus and Emma Ball (Research Associate) of Manchester Metropolitan University, and Professor Louise Almond (University of Liverpool).

The Report sets out the findings of an analytical review of 33 Child Practice Reviews (CPRs) that were undertaken by the six Regional Children's Safeguarding Boards (RCSB) in Wales between 2013 and 2021. The full report is available to view from 2nd October on the NISB website: <https://safeguardingboard.wales/2023/10/02/risk-response-and-review-multi-agency-safeguarding>

BUILTH WELLS EVENTS SAFETY GROUP (BWESG)

Keep your



together

**LOOK AFTER
YOUR MATES**



**HAVE FUN
TAKE CARE
STAY SAFE**

The Builth Wells Events Safety Group (BWESG) was established in 2017 following the tragic death of a young man who was visiting Builth Wells for the Royal Welsh Show (RWS). It is made up from representatives from Powys County Council service areas, Powys Teaching Health Board, Dyfed Powys Police, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust, St John Cymru, Street Pastors, North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent, Builth Wells Town Council, Wales Young Farmers Clubs, Severn Valley Events, Royal Welsh Agricultural Society, and Penmaenau Farm Camping. The partnership has 5 key areas of focus: Transport and infrastructure, Licenced premises, Health and wellbeing, Open spaces and Command and control.

Since its inception, the Group has enabled strategic oversight of safety measures in place for the Royal Welsh Show, co-ordinates meetings to share ideas and address concerns raised by members of the group, and where no responsible body exists has implemented measures to increase public safety and reduce risk of harm.

During this years event in July, the Builth Wells Help Point was established in the Strand Hall. This facility operating 24 hours in partnership with St John Ambulance Cymru (SJAC), provided medical and welfare services, and treated 118 patients over the course of the event, of these 11 were conveyed to hospital for further treatment (9 by SJAC and 2 by Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust). PCC Open Access Youth Workers were present in the town each evening from their gazebo at the Groe Car Park, they provided welfare support, and signposting to all those who needed it, with over 2,000 interactions recorded throughout the week. The Youth Workers also distributed two pallets of bottled water, which was kindly donated by Radnor Hills. The Street Pastor charity also volunteered their time for the week, and offered support to 157 people.

A video highlighting the work of the group can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=al_dHBoxvkc&t=17s



Powys County Council Youth Workers at the Groe Car Park



Some of the operational team outside the Builth Wells Help Point

PUBLICATION OF ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION STATUTORY GUIDANCE

Statutory Guidance to support children who are electively home educated was published in Wales in May 2023. The guidance sets out responsibilities for Local Authorities, Schools and parents in a variety of areas including, safeguarding children who may be at risk of harm, children's rights, extra support available for parents and children



who are electively home educated including access to services, enhanced monitoring responsibilities for local authorities including children who may not be known and responsibilities for schools when elective home education is being considered by parents or carers as an option for their children.

The statutory guidance helps to ensure that all children are supported to access the universal services and benefits normally available to children and young people in mainstream education. It also helps clarify existing requirements in law and the respective responsibilities upon parents and local authorities to ensure consistency of practice for all children irrespective of how they receive their education.

The guidance has been developed following online consultation and engagement with a range of stakeholders, including home educated children and families.

The guidance acknowledges that the approach home educating parents take to ensure their child is receiving a suitable education is likely to be influenced by their own philosophy or views, and notes that progress, over the long term, may take a variety of forms.

The guidance sets out the Welsh Government expectation that in order to determine whether the education provided by a parent is suitable, the local authority should see and communicate with the child. Seeing and communicating with the child not only provides an opportunity for the local authority to better understand how the child learns and what areas of learning they are interested in, it also provides an opportunity for home educated children to share their views on the education they are receiving. This is key to upholding the right of all children to participate in decision making that affects their lives.

The published guidance is available to view at <https://www.gov.wales/elective-home-education-guidance>

DOMESTIC ABUSE VIRTUAL RESPONSE UNIT (DAVRU)

Since 24th April 2023 Dyfed Powys Police have been running a pilot based in Carmarthenshire where victims of suitably risk assessed domestic abuse incidents are offered a service which allows them to engage there and then with a police officer via a video call. The department is called 'Domestic Abuse Virtual Response Unit' (DAVRU).

The video call is recorded and during the call the officer will complete a statement with the victim, obtain images of injuries/ damage, screenshots of any evidence, and complete a DASH risk assessment which enables them to identify the risk, provide safeguarding advice and make any relevant referrals. Since the pilot commenced, officers have engaged with over 300 victims of Domestic Abuse.

Many victims have expressed that they prefer this service as it prevents a police car being outside their address resulting in neighbours talking, and enables them to provide their account from the comfort of their own house. There have been numerous cases where the victim has engaged with police via video call resulting in the suspect being arrested and, on some occasions, remanded in custody.

The team currently consists of six Police Constables and 2 Police Sergeants who work between 9am and 8pm, Monday to Friday.

Officer's feedback has also been very positive. Some examples include:

- ⇒ "I feel the department has been invaluable in, not only assisting response officers with their workload, but first and foremost in providing an excellent service to victims of Domestic abuse".
- ⇒ "All the staff in the department are keen and committed to their work, which has no doubt had a positive effect on the difference the department is making to those victims, and to the officers who receive the handovers"
- ⇒ "DAVRU officers can invest more time ensuring every element of a Domestic Abuse report is investigated thoroughly and meaningful safeguarding advice offered and provided thus offering a much-improved service to victims of domestic abuse"
- ⇒ "Having done front line policing for 17 years I see this pilot as a breath of fresh air to victims. We are able to deal with them much quicker than response can and the feedback I have had has been nothing but positive.
- ⇒ "From my time on response, my views and time spent on these types of calls would be vastly different to how I have dealt with them in this department. My view is that it has made a huge difference."
- ⇒ "DAVRU can offer a better service to the victim by investing more time with the victim. From my experience victims are more ready to talk and feel more comfortable when speaking about complex and historic domestic abuse cases."

The next stages for the department is to conduct an evaluation to ascertain whether this will be implemented as a permanent aspect of the policing response in Dyfed Powys Police.

NEW PRACTICE GUIDANCE

New Multi-Agency Practice Guidance for dealing with cases of domestic abuse and sexual violence to safeguard adults with care and support needs has been published on the Polices and Procedures page of the CYSUR website.

This document provides guidelines to assist partners of the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board to work together to address the issues of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) where they affect adults with care and support needs and also where these referrals fall outside of the adult at risk threshold.

Access this new Practice Guidance on the Regional Policies and Procedures page of our [website here](#).



**Multi-Agency Practice Guidance for
Dealing with Cases of Domestic Abuse
and Sexual Violence to Safeguard Adults
with Care and Support Needs**

THE MID AND WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING
BOARD

NATIONAL RAPID REVIEW INTO CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES



Rapid review
of child protection
arrangements
Interim findings
June 2023

Following the circumstances surrounding the tragic death of Logan Mwangi in Bridgend and the subsequent publication of the child practice review, the Welsh Government have commissioned a national review of child protection services across Wales.

This review was undertaken by Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Health Inspectorate Wales (HIW) and Estyn. The purpose of the review is to determine to what extent the current structures and processes in Wales ensure children are appropriately placed on, and removed from, the Child Protection Register (when sufficient evidence indicates it is safe to do so).

The full findings of the review have now been published as a national report with multi-agency recommendations. This is available to download at: <https://www.careinspectorate.wales/we-have-published-joint-rapid-review-child-protection-arrangements-wales>



KEEPING BABIES AND CHILDREN SAFE AROUND PETS

Powys Teaching Health Board have produced a number of resources following several recent safeguarding queries around pet safety and dog bites, and the national increase in reports of serious dog attacks.

This includes information leaflets to share with clients who are pregnant and those who have children, plus a 7-minute briefing which outlines staff information and actions to take if a child is bitten or if there are concerns around pets in the home or community. They advise that “These conversations need to start early in the antenatal period and continue as the child grows for parents and carers to be aware of how they can reduce the risk of harm and to ensure pets and children live together happily.”

Public Health Wales Child Death Review Programme completed a Rapid Review where it was concluded that the single, most important advice for members of the public is: ‘Never leave a baby or young child unsupervised with a dog, even for a moment, no matter how well you know that dog.’

Leaflets can be downloaded from a pet safety page on our website. For other useful resources visit:

- ◆ **Dogs Trust:** www.dogstrust.org.uk
- ◆ **Blue Cross:** www.bluecross.org.uk
- ◆ **RSPCA** www.rspca.org.uk (The RSPCA also runs a 24-hour help line, call 0300 1234 9999 to report cruelty or an animal in distress).



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd
Addysgu Powys
Powys Teaching
Health Board



Safeguarding Children from Dog Bites – June 2023

(Adapted from 7-minute briefing produced by Hywel Dda IHB)



Bwrdd Iechyd
Addysgu Powys
Powys Teaching
Health Board

1 Background

Dogs are valued companions and play an important part in society and family life.

Thankfully, dog bites and attacks occur rarely; however, 2022 saw a sudden jump in the number of people in England and Wales dying because of dog bite injuries.

While a typical year records three fatal attacks, the death toll in 2022 totalled 10. Four of the victims were children.

Official data indicated that there were 8819 hospital admissions from dog attacks between 2019-2022, a 49% increase on 5919 in 2019-2020.

2 Situations where children are more likely to be at risk

Bites on 0-4 year olds are usually on the face and head and by a familiar dog in family setting, whereas older children are more likely to be bitten on the hand or arm, by an unfamiliar dog.

In a number of cases, death from a dog attack has occurred when the child is in the care of another (e.g. grandparents). Serious dog bites or attacks, requiring hospitalisation, are more frequent among children from more deprived areas than children from less deprived areas.

The owner of the dog is often not present when the fatal attack occurs and in some cases the attack has occurred when the dog has had unsupervised access to the child.

3 Preventing bites and attacks

All professionals who come into contact with a family with dogs should emphasise the importance of ensuring babies and young children are never left alone with a dog, no matter how familiar the dog is to the family, and ensure the advice given is documented in the child's health records.

As well as the Powys Teaching Health Board Keeping babies and children safe around pets in the home and community leaflet, a range of resources about keeping children safe from dogs is available from the Dogs Trust, Blue Cross, and RSPCA. Practitioners should give, or direct, any families with a dog to those resources.

4 Effective assessment of risk

Dogs that have been ill-treated, abused or kept in inappropriate conditions are more likely to be aggressive.

Dogs that are kept and/or bred for the purpose of fighting, defending, or threatening are likely to present more risks than genuine pets.

Families, who experience high levels of aggression and domestic abuse, are more likely to trigger excitement and possible attacks by dogs.

Very young children living in chaotic and/or dysfunctional families are likely to be especially vulnerable through lack of supervision and care.

7 Useful Resources

PTHB Keeping babies and children safe around pets in the home and community.

These websites contain a range of information and resources about dogs, pet care and safety:

DOGS TRUST www.dogstrust.org.uk

BLUE CROSS www.bluecross.org.uk

RSPCA www.rspca.org.uk

The RSPCA also runs a 24-hour help line, call 0300 1234 9999 to report cruelty or an animal in distress or contact online as above.

Powys Dog Warden: 01597 827467

Powys Front Door: 01597 827466 or cat@onboard@powys.gov.uk

6 When to contact the Police

Dialled Police should be contacted on 101 if:

- At any point a dog bites a child.
- You consider a dog is a serious risk to a child or a banned/prohibited dog.
- Any professional that becomes aware of a dog that could be prohibited or considered dangerous should collect as much information as possible to pass on to the Police:
 - The dog's name and breed
 - the owner
 - Any other family members particularly young children
 - The reason for keeping the dog.

5 When to report to Children's Services

A child injured by dog bite is under five years of age.

The child/young person is under 18 years of age, injuries have required medical treatment and initial information suggests the dog responsible could be prohibited and/or dangerous or the parents have not acted responsibly.

Where parents/carers are believed to be neglecting a child or failing to protect a child from a dog who is believed to be dangerous or banned/prohibited.

Where parents/carers have been advised not to have a baby or young child unattended with a dog and continue to do so.

7 Minute Briefing

FREE TRAINING: OLDER PEOPLE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

New Pathways are currently working with some of their older clients to develop a pilot course entitled Older People and Sexual Violence. Later in the year they intend to deliver two of the courses which will be free for anyone to attend.

Aim of the course: Although accurate data on prevalence is difficult to obtain, it is likely that older people are under-represented in specialist sexual violence services. This course examines the reasons for this and explores ways of responding more effectively to the needs of older people affected by sexual violence.

Who should attend: It is suitable for practitioners and managers from the health, social care and criminal justice sectors who work with older people.

Dates and booking information:

1st November 2023: 10.00am – 1.00pm (online) or 6th November 2023: 2.00pm – 5.00pm (online)

For more information visit: <https://www.newpathways.org.uk/>

SAFER SLEEPING - GUIDANCE

Safer Sleeping

The sudden and unexpected death of a baby is usually referred to by professionals as 'sudden unexpected death in infancy' (SUDI) or 'sudden unexpected death in childhood' (SUDC), if the baby was over 12 months old. Although there are no definitive explanations for some of these deaths, there is reliable evidence that links issues with an infant's sleep environment and an increased risk of a sudden unexpected death.

To share information around this important topic, we have established a new page on our website to host resources that are useful in this area. This has links to resources from the Lullaby Trust which includes publications that provide support and advice (some are available in multiple languages), information and resources for professionals working with parents with young babies and bereaved families, and safer sleep advice.

Other useful links and information include:

- NHS Advice - Reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)
- A safer sleep, 7 Minute Briefing created by Powys Teaching Health Board.
- Tommy's Afterbirth advice for parents
- Co-sleeping and SIDS, a guide for Health professionals

To access the website see: <https://www.cysur.wales/resource-hub--dashboard/safer-sleeping/>

The ABCs of Safer Sleep

A Always sleep your baby...
B ...on their back...
C ...in a clear cot or sleep space.
(free of bumpers, toys, pillows and loose bedding)

Safer sleep for baby, sounder sleep for you

Following the ABCs for every sleep day and night will help to protect your baby from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) giving you the peace of mind to enjoy this special time.

For support and advice on sleeping your baby safely The Lullaby Trust can help
Visit: www.lullabytrust.org.uk
Contact us on: 0800 802 6869
Email: info@lullabytrust.org.uk

the lullaby trust
A CHILDREN'S TRUST

UPCOMING AWARENESS DAYS

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

October

1st October	International day of the older person
9th – 15th October	Baby loss awareness week
10th October	World Mental Health Day
11th October	International Day of the Girl
16th – 22nd October	National adoption week

November

13th - 19th November	National Safeguarding Week
19th November	International Men's Day
20th November	World Children's Day
20th - 26th November	Safeguarding Adults
23rd November	Carers Rights Day

December

3rd December	International Day of People with Disabilities
5th December	International volunteer day

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

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