

# WESTERN BAY SAFEGUARDING BOARDS' ANNUAL REPORT

2018-19



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# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Western Bay Safeguarding Board annual report 2018-19.

The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWA 2014) sets out the legislative requirements for Safeguarding Boards in Wales to produce an annual report to reflect back over the work of the Safeguarding Boards against its annual plan each year.

Working Together to Safeguard People – Volume 1 underpins the legislation in relation to Part 7 (Safeguarding) of the Act: Working Together to Safeguard People was issued under sections 131 and 130 of the Act and is known as Guidance on Safeguarding.

Volume 1 sets out the requirements for Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards, including its functions and procedures and the requirements to have annual plans and annual reports.

The purpose of the annual plans and annual reports is twofold; it is to be a useful tool of accountability and to be a useful tool for evaluation. In this context accountability has three components. They are:-

- Accountability to the public;
- Accountability to the statutory agencies from which the Safeguarding Boards' partners are drawn; and
- Accountability to the inspectorate bodies.

The Guidance also sets out what is required to be included in the Boards' annual reports (and plans) and so this report, will cover all fourteen elements as set out in section 209 of the SWWA guidance. The report will highlight achievements against its set priorities for the period, the impact of those achievements and how the Boards have exercised their functions.

## FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the final annual report from the Western Bay Safeguarding Board. The footprint of our Safeguarding region will change in 2019-20 with the departure of Bridgend to Cwm Taf Morgannwg, this report reflects what was achieved as the Western Bay Safeguarding Board.

There have been many challenges over the last year and I would like to thank the members of the board for their commitment to the Safeguarding Boards agenda which is often done in addition to their day to day roles. Safeguarding has many challenges and as Chair of the Safeguarding Board I feel we have matured over the last financial year. We continuously strive to develop and improve safeguarding by building stronger links through collaboration and reliance on support from our partner agencies, Welsh Government and other Safeguarding Boards to share learning and enhance practice.

Whilst we are pleased with our achievements there is still work to be done and I look forward to the changes and challenges that the next financial year will bring.

**Andrew Jarrett**

**Director of Social Services, Health & Housing Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and Chair of Western Bay Children Board**



## SAFEGUARDING IN WESTERN BAY

Western Bay covers a total population of approximately 529,000. It is made up of three Local Authorities, Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea with approximate populations of 143,000, 141,000 and 245,000 respectively.

Looking into the future, population projections show that the population size of all three areas will increase. By 2036, the total population for Western Bay has been estimated to increase by 6.4% to approximately 563,000. (Information taken from the recent population assessment).



## ABOUT THE WESTERN BAY CHILDREN BOARD

Each Safeguarding Children's Board is a statutory body, and is part of a wider strategy for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, the duty under the Children Act 2004: section 28 where all children services authorities and their partner agencies are charged.

The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 requires collaboration across Local Authority areas to improve sustainability within the wider Health board footprint. The Western Bay Safeguarding Childrens Board (WBSCB) has been developed to build safeguarding arrangements across the Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend areas.

The WBSCB is committed to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and believes in the 7 Core Aims for Children and Young People which state they should:

- Have a flying start in life
- Have a comprehensive range of education, training and learning opportunities
- Have the best possible health, free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation
- Have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities
- Be treated with respect and have their race and cultural identity recognised
- Have a safe home and community that supports physical and emotional wellbeing
- Not be disadvantaged by poverty

The WBSCB work to relevant legislation whilst ensuring the circumstances of Children, Young people and their families are appropriately considered locally across the 3 Local Authority Areas.

WBSCB will be committed to the objectives required of all Safeguarding Children Boards established under Section 28 and 31 of the Children's Act (2004) which include:

- That key people and bodies make arrangements to ensure that their functions are discharged with regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- To Co-ordinate what is being done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority by which it is established; and
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is being done by each such person or body for those purposes

## **ABOUT THE WESTERN BAY ADULT BOARD**

Adult Safeguarding is the term that describes the function of protecting adults from abuse and neglect. The Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 will continue to drive this improvement with measures to ensure public services such as Social Services the NHS, Police and their partners share the adult safeguarding responsibility.

The Western Bay Safeguarding Adult Board (WBSAB) believes that all Vulnerable Adults/Adults at Risk should:

- Have the best possible life, free from abuse, neglect, victimisation and exploitation
- Be treated with respect and have their race and cultural identity recognised
- Have a safe home and community that supports physical and emotional wellbeing
- Not be disadvantaged by poverty



## MEMBERSHIP:

### Regional Safeguarding Children Board Membership during 2018-19

NAME	POSITION
<b>Chair</b>	
Andrew Jarrett	Director of Social Services Neath Port Talbot CBC
<b>Local Authority</b>	
Sue Cooper	Director of Social Services Bridgend CBC
David Howes	Director of Social Services Swansea CC
Aled Evans	Lead Director of Education Neath Port Talbot CBC
Keri Warren	Head of Children's Services Neath Port Talbot CBC
Julie Thomas	Head of Child and Family Services Swansea CC
Laura Kinsey	Head of Children's Services Bridgend CC
Nick Williams	Chief Officer Education Swansea CC
Kathryn Thomas	Chief Officer Education Swansea CC
Chris Frey-Davies	Principal Officer Safeguarding Adult and Child Services
Damian Rees	Principal Officer for Safeguarding and Performance Quality
Chris Millis	Head of Participation Education Neath Port Talbot CBC
Lynne Doyle	Learning, Training & Development Manager Neath Port Talbot CBC
Ali Morris	Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Coordinator Swansea CC
<b>Health Board</b>	
Cathy Dowling	Assistant Nurse Director Nursing & Patient Experience ABMU
Dr Matt Stevens	Assistant Medical Director Primary Care
Virginia Hewitt	Head of Nursing Safeguarding ABMU April –Sept 2018
Nicola Edwards	Head of Nursing Safeguarding ABMU December 2018 to date
Wendy Herbert	Assistant Director of quality and Nursing (WAST)
<b>Public Health Wales</b>	
Ian Smith	Named professional Safeguarding Children
Daphne Rose	Designated Nurse Child Protection and Looked After Children April – August 2018
Virginia Hewitt	Designated Nurse/Midwife – National Safeguarding Team Sept 2018 to date
<b>South Wales Police</b>	
Simon Belcher	Superintendent Western BCU
Claire Evans	Superintendent Central BCU



Chris Truscott	
Sue Hurley	Independent Protecting Vulnerable Person Manager
<b>Police and Crime Commissioner</b>	
Siriol Burford	Police and crime commissioner
<b>National Probation Service</b>	
Eirian Evans	Assistant Chief Executive Head of Swansea and Neath Port Talbot
<b>Wales Probation Service</b>	
Deanne Martin	Assistant Chief Probation Officer
<b>Youth Offending Service</b>	
Caroline Dyer	Youth Offending Services Manager
Huw Fife	
<b>Third Sector</b>	
Karen Minton	Service Manager, NSPCC
Tracey Holdsworth	Service Manager, NSPCC
Sarah Bowen	Strategic Manager Barnardo's
Clare Hopkins	CVS
Kelly Ahern	Barnardo's
<b>Prison Service &amp; Secure Estates</b>	
Jason Evans	Head of YOI HMP Parc
Alison Davies	Manager of Hillside secure unit
<b>Welsh Ambulance Service Trust</b>	
Wendy Herbert	Assistant director of quality and nursing

## Regional Safeguarding Adult Board Membership during 2018/19

NAME	POSITION
<b>Chair</b>	
Sue Cooper	Director of Social Services Bridgend CBC
<b>Local Authority</b>	
Andrew Jarrett	Director of Social Services Neath Port Talbot CBC
David Howes	Director of Social Services Swansea CC
Angela Thomas	Head of Adults Services Neath Port Talbot CBC
Alex Williams	Head of Adult Services Swansea CC
Jacqueline Davies	Head of Adult Services Bridgend CBC
Terri Warrilow	Safeguarding & Quality Manager Bridgend CBC
Lynne Doyle	Learning, Training & Development Manager Neath Port Talbot CBC
Chris Frey-Davies	Principal Officer Safeguarding Adult and Child Services
Ali Morris	Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Coordinator Swansea CC
<b>Health Board</b>	
Cathy Dowling	Assistant Nurse Director Nursing & Patient Experience ABMU
Karen Williams	Mental Capacity Act and DoLS
Virginia Hewitt	Head of Nursing Safeguarding April – September 2018
Nicola Edwards	Head of Nursing Safeguarding ABMU
<b>South Wales Police</b>	
Claire Evans	Superintendent Central BCU
Sue Hurley	Independent Protecting Vulnerable Person Manager
Beth Aynsley	Independent Protecting Vulnerable Person Manager
<b>National Probation Service</b>	
Eirian Evans	Assistant Chief Executive Head of Swansea and Neath Port Talbot
<b>Public Health Wales</b>	
Dr Lorna Price	Designated Doctor
Virginia Hewitt	Designated Nurse/Midwife – National Safeguarding Team September 2018 to date
<b>Domestic Abuse Representative</b>	
Bethan Lindsay-Gaylard	Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator Bridgend, NPT, Swansea
<b>Third Sector</b>	
Danielle Lock	Support Services Team Leader - SCVS
<b>Prison Service</b>	
Lisette Saunders	Director Park Prison
Graham Barrett	Governor HMP Swansea

Peter Hayworth	Governor HMP Swansea
<b>Wales Probation Service</b>	
Deanne Martin	Assistant Chief Probation Officer
<b>Wales Ambulance Service Trust</b>	
Rhiannon Thomas	Senior Professional Safeguarding Children and Adults
<b>Care Home Providers</b>	
Dianne Purnell	Home Manager/RI/Providers
Jaqueline Orrells	Home Manager/RI/Providers
Chris Rees	Home Manager/RI/Providers
Christian Heinrich	Home Manager/RI/Providers
Inti Zirga	Home Manager/RI/Providers

## ACTIONS TAKEN TO ACHIEVE OUR OUTCOMES

The Board uses a programme management approach to achieve the outcomes set out in their business plan. The Board acts as a representative group at strategic level holding overarching responsibility for safeguarding within their organisations and across the regional partnership. In order to achieve the outcomes required the Board developed a structure to ensure it is best placed to fulfil its requirements. The Boards and their management groups have terms of reference which are reviewed annually to ensure they are fit for purpose and aligned with legislation. The Chairs of the Boards also hold the statutory director roles in one of the local authorities within the Board area. All Board members have a role profile which they are required to sign at the point of induction so as to ensure they understand their agency's commitment to the work of the Board.

Each Strategic Board has a Policy Procedure Practice Management Group (PPPMG) and a Quality Performance and Monitoring Management Group (QPMMG). In addition there is a Joint Training Management Group (JTMG) and a Joint Practice Review Management Group (PRMG). This group now ensures a consistent and timely approach to practice review referrals, identifying reviewers, panel members and Chairs. The group operates on behalf of both boards to fulfil Board functions and has a quality assurance role in scrutinising practice review reports and action plans to ensure smooth sign off, completion and publication. Agencies represented on the Board take lead responsibilities by chairing management groups and so there are chairs from local authority, health board and police.

The Boards have individual business plans where overarching desired outcomes are set alongside what action is required to achieve the outcomes. Actions are separated into allocated management groups or allocated to individuals. This strategic plan is then broken down into individual management group work plans which are reviewed at each meeting, milestones checked and achieved and risks/issues and achievements reported to Board meetings using status report templates.

## HOW WE IMPLEMENTED OUR ANNUAL PLAN

The WBSB reviewed its Business plan at the end of March 2019 to determine what targets had been met. The table below identifies the status against the improvement actions required.

### Safeguarding Priority Outcomes 2018/19

<b>Safeguarding Priority 1. SAFEGUARDING PEOPLE FROM EXPLOITATION</b>						
<b>Strategic Outcome: THE WBSBs ARE RESPONDING APPROPRIATELY AND EFFECTIVELY TO THE IMPACTS OF EXPLOITATION</b>						
<b>Priority Objectives:</b>						
<b>1.1 Safeguarding is a priority consideration within the parameters of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery.</b>						
<b>1.2 People across the region are aware of the risks identified within County Lines (incl. Cuckooing) and are safeguarded from all aspects of criminal exploitation.</b>						
<b>1.3 All Children and young people who are subject to or at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation are identified and safeguarded effectively, consistently and at the earliest opportunity</b>						
<b>Priority Objectives</b>	<b>Where Are We Now?</b>	<b>What Improvements Are Needed To Fulfil Objectives?</b>	<b>Lead Safeguarding Board</b>	<b>Management Group Lead:</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Status at March 2019</b>
<b>1.1 Safeguarding is a priority consideration within the parameters of Human Trafficking and</b>	There are tentative links between WBSBs and the Western Bay Anti Human Trafficking Forum. Most First	Understand the wider impacts and issues the Modern Slavery Act has on Safeguarding.	WBSAB/WBSCB  WBSAB/WBSCB	-  Quality & Performance	May 2018  September 2018	Links have been made with the human trafficking forum and they attend QPMG meetings on a 6 monthly basis to feed in data.

<p><b>Modern Slavery.</b></p>	<p>Responders are now aware of their role in the NRM process</p>	<p>Build data collection and analysis of National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) information into Performance Frameworks. Undertake Audit Safeguarding processes linked to NRM and MARAC information</p>	<p>WBSAB/WBSCB</p>	<p>Management Groups (QPMG)</p> <p>Quality &amp; Performance Management Groups</p>	<p>January 2019</p>	<p>Training has been delivered on the NRM for first responders across NPT and Swansea. This now needs to be reviewed to ensure training has targeted the right audience.</p> <p>This action has been rolled over to the work plan 2019/20 to audit alongside the exploitation guidance and new Wales Protection Procedures.</p>
<p><b>1.3 All Children and young people who are subject to or at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation are identified and safeguarded effectively, consistently and at the</b></p>	<p>Regular data is collected and analysed for WBSCB. A Child Sexual Exploitation and Missing Persons (CSE MISPERs) group meets regularly and makes links with local Multi Agency Sexual</p>	<p>Work with Welsh Government in the development of revised guidance for safeguarding children at risk of CSE</p> <p>Establish links with specialist providers to capture the experiences from children and young</p>	<p>WBSCB</p> <p>WBSCB</p> <p>WBSCB</p>	<p>Policy Procedure &amp; Practice Management Group</p> <p>Communications and Engagement Group</p>	<p>June 2018</p> <p>Sept 2018</p> <p>March 2019</p>	<p>Policy group have been involved in the consultation and have provided feedback to the guidance produced by Welsh Government.</p> <p>This objective has been rolled over into 2019/20 plan and sits under the exploitation group.</p>

<p><b>earliest opportunity</b></p>	<p>Exploitation (MASE) groups.</p>	<p>people affected by CSE</p> <p>Review the impact of Barnardo's Gwella Project</p>		<p>Policy Procedure Practice Management Group (PPPMG) (CSE/MISPERS sub group)</p>	<p>Gwella provided information to the policy group which will be analysed and considered at their next meeting.</p>
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## Safeguarding Priority 2. Safeguarding People in Care Settings

### Strategic Outcome: EFFECTIVE QUALITY MONITORING AND ASSURANCE IS IN PLACE TO SAFEGUARD PEOPLE IN CARE SETTINGS

#### Priority Objective:

- 2.1 All adult's & Children's residential and nursing care homes in the region are compliant with the Regulation and Inspection Act and strive to meet the highest safeguarding standards required to safeguard people's wellbeing.
- 2.2 There is a consistent approach to commissioning and monitoring arrangements throughout Children's and Adults' residential care settings.
- 2.3 All contracting and commissioning arrangements include safeguarding standards as a routine requirement.

Priority Objectives	Where Are We Now?	What Improvements Are Needed To Fulfil Objectives?	Lead Safeguarding Board	Management Group Lead:	By When	Status at March 2019
2.1 All adult's & Children's residential and nursing care homes in the region are compliant with the Regulation and Inspection Act and strive to meet the highest safeguarding standards required to safeguard people's wellbeing	The regulation and inspection Act comes into force on 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2018	Work with Care Inspectorate Wales to understand the level of Care provision available across the region.	WBSAB	-	May 2018	Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) have provided details of Care Homes complaint with the Act across NTP & Swansea. Ongoing Western Bay Care Homes Sub Group to be invited to QPMG to forge links.
	The WBSBs have not had direct oversight of the numbers of care settings across the region.	Work with the Western Bay Care Homes Sub Group to have oversight on the implementation of actions following the Older People's Commissioner's report – A Place Called Home	WBSAB	Quality & Performance Monitoring Management Group	April 2018	The Board provided feedback to South Wales Police (SWP). <i>On memorandum not yet implemented.</i>
			WBSCB	Quality & Performance Monitoring Management Group	April 2018	

		<p>Have oversight of the Memorandum of Understanding between SWP (Western BCU) and local care homes to quality assure its effectiveness</p> <p>Undertake an audit/engagement exercise to audit Wellbeing in Care Settings</p>	WBSAB/WBSCB	Quality & Performance Monitoring Management Group	January 2019	
<p><b>2.2 There is a consistent approach to commissioning and monitoring arrangements throughout Children's and Adults' residential care settings</b></p>	<p>The Boards do not currently have sight of contracting and commissioning arrangements and are not fully sighted on the numbers of care homes in the region.</p>	<p>Undertake Mapping exercise of the quality monitoring processes across Adults' &amp; Children's' residential Care settings</p> <p>Identify areas for unification of process in quality monitoring</p> <p>Develop a unified process for quality monitoring and Safeguarding Board oversight</p>	<p>WBSAB/WBSCB</p> <p>WBSAB/WBSCB</p>	<p>Q&amp;PMMG</p> <p>PPPMG</p>	<p>June 2018</p> <p>June 2018</p> <p>December 2018</p>	<p>Commissioning teams from Swansea and NPT have had shared case examples to QPMG for both children and adults. This has led to work being undertaken to draw together an escalating concerns protocol for children's care homes.</p> <p>Swansea to consider developing a more proactive monitoring arrangement to adult care homes as in the case in Neath.</p>

						Commissioning to feed into QPMG bi-annually with themes, issues, concerns re. Safeguarding across care homes in Wester Bay.
<b>2.3 All contracting and commissioning arrangements include safeguarding standards as a routine requirement</b>	Safeguarding Standards were developed to sit within the Regional Quality Framework following the Operation Jasmine workshop.	<p>Develop and Promote WBSBs as a Brand</p> <p>Develop Practice Guidance for Embedding Safeguarding into Contracting and Commissioning Arrangements</p> <p>Develop an implementation plan for new and renewed contracts for audit purposes</p>	<p>WBSAB/WBSCB</p> <p>WBSAB</p> <p>WBSAB</p>	<p>Joint Strategic Training Management Group (JSTG) /Communication and Engagement Group</p> <p>Policy Procedure &amp; Practice Management Group</p> <p>Quality &amp; Performance Monitoring Management Group</p>	<p>June 2018</p> <p>September 2018</p> <p>March 2019</p>	<p>Polices developed by the Board are used by both Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.</p> <p>Safeguarding is written into the contracts for homes and is regularly monitored by Commissioning.</p> <p>Complete as is notes above.</p>

## HOW HAVE WE MADE A DIFFERENCE?

The **Safeguarding Children Board** whilst continuing to recognise the impact of Child Sexual Exploitation acknowledged the emerging concerns around exploitation in general. This includes, for example, issues around County Lines, Modern Slavery and Radicalisation. As a result the CSE/Misper'S group has been developed into an Exploitation sub group covering children and adults. The data being gathered now includes other data relating to exploitation e.g. the number of National Referral Mechanism (NRM) referrals made. An overarching Exploitation policy is being developed encompassing children and adults. The intention is that this will help practitioners and inform practice.

All of the child and adult sub-groups – PPPMG, QPMMG, JSTMG, PRMG have now come together, thus allowing a cross fertilisation of ideas across child and adult areas of practice.

Under the Boards' theme of "exploitation" an interactive training package was developed to encompass awareness of county lines, child sexual exploitation, harmful sexual behaviour, human trafficking, modern slavery, radicalisation and hate crime for both adults and children. There are common themes of vulnerabilities, risk factors, grooming, methods of coercion and control and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) across all of these issues and will also emphasise their links with 'safeguarding'.

There will be an established pool of agency based trainers who can deliver this training across Western Bay. 50 trainers in total attended a train the trainer day in March 2019. A sub group of 17 trainers will be accredited with the Education and Training Award (EAT) qualification and further specialist input to deliver a bespoke 'exploitation' awareness raising package across the region. Agencies involved include the three Local Authorities of Western Bay, South Wales Police, Health, Probation and Third Sector Partners. A session plan and full resources will be provided to trainers. The training has been piloted to 11 members of the Neath Port Talbot Education Wellbeing Team in February 2019 and will be rolled out across the region in the autumn.

## **Quality and Performance Management Group**

The Quality & Performance Monitoring Management Group (QPMG) has now merged Children and Adults. This is timely as the footprint of the Board has changed with the exit of Bridgend. It has also led to a revision in membership across the group. To reflect the changes to the footprint and the group the Performance Framework for the Safeguarding Board has been revised to cover both Children and Adults and has been brought in line with the new Self-Assessment Improvement Tool (2019). Oversight of both Children and Adults at QPMG has led to the identification of gaps in responses to overseeing Care Homes; one such gap being that there is currently no Escalating Concerns protocol in children's social care as there is in Adults. This gap is currently being considered and an escalating concerns protocol for Children is in draft for consultation with partner agencies. Having oversight of the Commissioning and Monitoring arrangements across the region has revealed some differences in practice in respect of the monitoring visits. The latter may account for more homes in Neath & Port Talbot (NPT) (n3) being under escalating concerns than Swansea (n0). There is clearly a more proactive response to monitoring Care homes across NPT.

Over the past year the Section 28 audit has been revised to include adults also. The audit tool is sent out to certain persons and bodies (member agencies of the Board) to complete to allow the Board to have oversight and assurances of arrangements made for ensuring that those persons or bodies functions are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The audit tool has been renamed, Section 135 audit and has been distributed to partners of the Safeguarding Board. The results of this audit, covering 2018/19 were being compiled at the time this report was written.

Hillside Secure Children's Home continues to undergo annual audit into the use of Physical Restraint.

It is pleasing to note that the group now has stronger links with the Human Trafficking forum with data being regularly (every quarter) shared to QPMG and the Exploitation sub-group. This arrangement will continue as the Board works towards achieving strategic priority 1, To tackle exploitation across the region.

The group has been provided with assurances from Swansea Bay University Health Board and its response to: the Lessons for Learning Report: Tawel Fan and the HIW report (KW). The group recently reviewed an emergency response by police to Hillside Secure Children's Home. The learning was then shared with senior management at Hillside and the Police and has resulted in a change in practice.

Representatives of the Swansea and NPT Youth Offending Team sit on QPMG and planning ahead QPMG will have oversight of and support colleagues through the changes that will follow the most recent (2019) inspection of this service.

QPMG is currently reviewing the Multi-agency performance data received and analysed.

### **Policy, Procedure and Practice Management Group**

The main focus of the Policy, Procedure and Practice Management Group (PPPMG) has been developing revising the birth planning multi agency policy. This was completed and signed off at Board. We have also reviewed the Resolution of Professional difference protocol. The group have reviewed the work plan to identify the work they have carried out in line with the priority objectives.

*Point 1.2 – People across the region are aware of the risks identified within County lines (incl. cuckooing) and are safeguarded from all aspects of criminal exploitation.*

- The Police and Education have worked together to raise awareness of County Lines at schools.
- County lines has been presented to professionals at the Western Bay Safeguarding Event in Liberty stadium on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2018.
- Police have also been raising awareness to members of the public regarding the dangers of County lines.

*Point 1.3- All Children and Young people who are subject to or at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation are identified and safeguarded effectively, consistently and at the earliest opportunity.*

The Wales Safeguarding Procedures for Wales are still being drafted and will likely be carried forward onto next year. The group's policies will be amended to align with these.

The Review impact of Barnado's Gwella Project has taken place and Barnado's have submitted their findings for the group to consider. This is ongoing and will continue into the next year.

*Point 2.2- There is a consistent approach to commissioning and monitoring arrangements throughout Children's and Adult's residential care settings.*

The group highlighted that Data has been received on the care homes in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot, Police have a memorandum.

BMU will be contacting commissioning officers throughout Western Bay in order to identify the commissioning policies for all care homes in Western Bay including safeguarding. These will be circulated for consideration to be discussed at the next meeting.

In addition the Exploitation Group report to the PPPMG. This group met twice since the last Board meeting. It was highlighted that the level of attendance was an improvement following the last meeting.

The group have renamed the group from CSE MISPERs to Exploitation. Although the long term focus was CSE the group feel that it is important to address all themes of exploitation, and to identify the work that is being carried out on exploitation. Thus resulting in the change of the scope of the meeting to Exploitation.

The group have amended their Terms of Reference (TOR) as well as reviewing their membership.

The group have analysed the current CSE Headline Data and will be reflecting on any trends and developments at the next meeting.

Swansea have received funding for the contextual safeguarding meetings in which Western Bay will be included. The plan will be over 3 years and will link in with contextual safeguarding and the new Wales Safeguarding Procedures.



## **Practice Review Management Group**

Part 7 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 sets out the provisions for Safeguarding Adults and Children for all partner agencies. Volumes 2 & 3 clearly sets out the statutory guidance which requires Safeguarding Boards to undertake Child Practice Reviews and Adult Practice Reviews as identified. The West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board's Practice Review Management Group (PRMG) has a key role in achieving these functions of learning, reviewing and improving safeguarding practice. The Practice Review Management Group will be the platform from which these reviews will be undertaken on behalf of the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Children Board and the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Adults Board.

The PRMG is continually striving to professionalise the way we conduct business despite having gone through quite a radical change in both personnel and responsibilities. A Chair and Vice Chair have been appointed to ensure that there is resilience within the group.

The group have successfully embedded the decision making and monitoring of both the Adult Practice Review Referrals and Child Practice Review Referrals into the PRMG. This provides for greater consistency around the review process and has allowed for Adult Practice Reviews to be given the same amount of focus as the Child Practice Reviews.

The group has reviewed and developed/improved their terms of reference and role profiles for members ensuring they are fit for purpose. These have been shared with the board who have agreed that their appointed agency representative are at the right level to make decisions for their agency and they have the requisite skills to carry out their functions within the group.

A task and finish group has developed a toolkit to assist reviewers and chairs of Child and Adult practice reviews. That toolkit is all encompassing from role profiles, templates of all the documents and letter required to allow for a robust review together with a flow chart to assist in visualising the review process all of which is in accordance with the guidance.

The group have also had a task and finish group which includes the chair of the training sub group to prepare a seminar. That seminar will allow for further

cascading and dissemination of the learning on a multi-agency basis from 4 reviews which have been completed and published. That event will take place on safeguarding week and involves the 4 reviewers from each review. This seminar will also be an opportunity to raise awareness of Practice Reviews and the expectations of the practitioners which will enhance the quality of future reviews.

The group now use 7 minute briefings for the purpose of presenting completed practice reviews. These capture the learning effectively and ease the process of disseminating this learning by respective agency leads to the practitioners in a timelier manner.

During 2018-19 the Western Bay Safeguarding Practice review management group received:-

6 Child Practice Review referrals – 1 Progressed into CPR, 1 Multi Agency Professional Forum (MAPF) and 4 didn't meet the criteria.

3 Adult Practice Review referrals – 1 progressed into APR and 2 didn't meet the criteria.

During 2018-19 the Safeguarding Board completed and published 1 CPR and 2 APR's.

## **South Wales Police**

Western BCU has a dedicated Public Protection Unit that covers the Swansea and Neath Port Talbot Local Authority areas.

The unit has a number of experienced Police Officers and Staff that are committed to protecting the vulnerable.

We also have a Public Protection Unit based at Headquarters which is led by a Detective Superintendent and they have a clear view of Public Protection matters locally, regionally and nationally to ensure that best practice and learning is captured and disseminated across the South Wales Police area.

Western PPU has 3 Detective Inspectors that oversee specific areas as follows;

- . Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable Adults
- . Management of Sex and Violent Offenders
- . Child Abuse Investigation Unit

The officers within these team focus on managing threat, risk and harm on a daily basis and developing long term strategy's to prevent abuse occurring. All receive bespoke training for their roles.

Over the last year the unit have been involved with partners in managing;

- . Over 500 Child Protection Strategy Meetings
- . Over 850 Child Protection Case Conferences
- . Managing children that are subject to the CSE Risky Behaviour Protocol
- . Over 180 CSE/ Missing Person Child Protection Conferences
- . Over 400 different children reported missing which accounted for 1642 missing person occurrences
- . The increasing number of registered children's homes in the Western Bay footprint.
- . Over 400 people from outside of Western Bay have been arrested for County Lines related drug dealing
- . Over 1000 High Risk victims of Domestic Violence discussed between the Swansea and NPT Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

South Wales Police are committed to working in partnership to tackle these issues and provide a co-chair to the WBSB, a chair for the Practice Review Management Group and ensure the attendance of senior managers at a number of strategic groups.

We are also developing a protocol for Children's care homes and their duties in relation to Missing Persons.

## **NHS Safeguarding Security Matrix**

The NHS in Wales is committed to protecting and safeguarding the welfare of vulnerable children and adults. NHS Wales has an essential role in ensuring that all adults and children receive the care, support and services they need in order to promote a healthy, safer and fairer Wales.

The Safeguarding Children Quality Outcome Framework (QOF) was developed in October 2012 and reported annually for three years. In 2017 it was agreed at the Chief Nursing Officer's Nurse Directors Forum, that an all age revised document be developed via the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network. This opportunity to refocus the purpose of self-assessments and to modernise the tool, led to the development of the NHS Safeguarding Maturity Matrix (SMM).

The SMM has five key elements:

- . Governance and Rights Based Approach
- . Safe Care
- . ACE Informed
- . Learning Culture
- . Multiagency Partnership working

Swansea Bay University Health Board completes and submits its improvement plan and score annually to the National Safeguarding Team which informs the national picture report through the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network to Chief Nursing Officer in Welsh Government. The aim of capturing and collating a national SMM is to provide assurance, share practice and drive improvements towards a 'Once for Wales' consistent approach to safeguarding across Wales.

The Board were asked to focus on recognition of issues within agencies and escalating concerns through the Safeguarding Board.

## Hillside Secure Children's Home

Hillside has been under significant scrutiny during 2018-2019 from H&S Executive, Care Inspectorate Wales and the Youth Custody Service (YCS).

Improvement Board driven by the Head of Children and Young Peoples services, was established in December 2018 to address areas of non-compliance.

New senior management team in place from January 2019. The team have driven significant improvements which have resulted in:

- Care Inspectorate Wales re-inspected the service in March 2019 and lifted all areas of non-compliance
- Positive Health & Safety inspection
- YCS renewed confidence in the systems and processes in place in Hillside and will be recommencing placements from June 2019

Improvement Board continues to meet monthly and monitor developments.

New management team, supported by the improvement board, continues to focus on improving practice and establishing Hillside as a national centre of excellence in 2019.

Regular unit meetings are held with the young people resident, with additional groups set up to gain the views of the young people on areas such as décor of the units, unit rules and the incentive scheme. Young people are also encouraged and offered regularly if they wish to make a complaint or compliment.

The care afforded to young people has regularly been commented on by the young people themselves, their families, professionals supporting them and other individuals, such as one Judge who makes orders to send young people to Hillside visiting the centre at the start of 2019, the Judge was able to see first-hand the difference it had made in one young person in particular who he had made the order for them to reside in Hillside, in his words "I left with a deep sense of dedication by you and your staff and also with the knowledge that these unfortunate young people have a real chance of rebuilding their lives under your leadership. I have now had first-hand experience of how you change the lives of young people for the better."

Extensive training is undertaken by all staff at Hillside to ensure they can meet the needs of the young people residing there. Most recently Outcomes Training has been provided to a number of staff to help facilitate the service in working in an outcome focussed way in line with the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (2014) Wales

Another example of Hillside supporting a young person moving on from Hillside to supported accommodation:

*I would just like to share some good practice with you. As you are aware, child A transitioned from Hillside in February 2019. Prior to this, involved professionals met with the providers to determine if child A would be offered a placement with them. Outreach support from Hillside and intensive support from the LA was a stipulation of the provider in determining whether child A would be offered a placement. Therefore, Hillside's agreement to this, helped reassure the provider of our shared commitment in supporting the placement. This level of commitment from Hillside to assist me in supporting the new placement has been invaluable and child A also tells me that it is helping to alleviate some difficult emotions that she is experiencing during this transition period, stating:*

*'I've got abandonment issues and I think no one really cares about me sometimes or that everyone I build up a relationship with will end up turning their back on me or leaving me'.*

*So I just want share how grateful I am as child A's social worker of this ongoing support from Hillside and the continuity they are providing child A at this difficult time in her transition to a community setting, whilst she is still trying to form trusting relationships within her current placement.*

## **Neath Port Talbot Youth Offending and Early Intervention Service**

### **Background to disaggregation:**

Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea youth offending teams had been merged service since 29 May 2014 when the first Western Bay Youth Justice

Service (WBYJ) and Early Intervention Service (EIS) Management Board was held and all local management boards ceased to exist. The previous Management

Board was chaired by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council's Director of Social Services Health and Housing, and had a membership in line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act including cabinet members from all three local authorities.

It is well documented that the root causes of crime are multifaceted and tackling these factors requires input from a range of agencies and services at both a strategic level (planning & delivering local service provision) and a practical level (planning & delivering interventions).

Following an inspection report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) in March 2019 (although the inspection was carried out in October 2018), on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 - the Youth Offending teams across Western Bay disaggregated and NPT now hosts a stand-alone service for youth Offending and early intervention. A new management board has been created which serves NPT alone. A service mirroring this has also been created in Swansea for Swansea Youth Justice Service (YJS).

The rationale for disaggregation is that the Youth Offending Teams (YOT) need to focus on their own geographical areas and the demographic of those areas, providing services for the young people of Neath and Port Talbot.

Following publication of the final HMIP report in March 2019 and combined with the planned exit of Bridgend who are going to be part of Cwm Taf health board, it was felt that the best way forward is to return to single Youth Justice Teams across Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

The Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service (YJEIS) is on an improvement journey, draft action and improvement plans have been presented to the Management board and are being finalized, they will also be presented to the WGSB. The YJEIS are being monitored by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and are working to strengthen the service in terms of concerns raised by the inspectorate.

Moving forward NPT will need to evidence its ability to deliver the statutory functions laid out in the Crime & Disorder Act and subsequent legislation independently of the other two localities



Andrew Jarrett is the Director of social services and will have Overall governance of disaggregation for NPT, The YJEIS is headed by Principal Officer and strategic lead Ali Davies who reports to Keri Warren Head of Children services. The Operational Manger is Amanda Turner.

Principal Officer Ali Davies is the current chair of Taith and Better futures partnership (Barnardo's) which is the multi-agency partnership which deals with CSE, Harmful Sexual Behavior (HSB), Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) and has membership from all neighboring local authorities. The information in relation to the partnership will be provided to the WGSB

Ali Davies, is the vice chair of the Contextual Risk Panel (CRP), which has been set up to replace the Risky Behaviour Panel she set up four years ago. CRP shifts the focus from the behavior of the young person to focus upon, address and disrupt the context (the alleged/suspected perpetrator, location and place).

Ali Davies sits on the exploitation sub group, the practice review subgroup, the community safety partnership, and is a member of the Regional Safeguarding Board.

The membership of these subgroups will ensure that the YJS voice is heard in relation to safeguarding, contextualized safeguarding CSE and Risky behaviors.

Our YJS young people will be referred into these resources in collaboration with Children' services and our statutory partners.

As stated above, The NPT YJEIS also have a new statutory management board which met for the first time in July 2019. Andrew Jarrett is the chair of this board. We are providing evidence to that board our commitment to working closely with the WGSB. Safeguarding is a priority for NPT YJEIS.

The voice of the young person is also central to all work going forward with Neath Port Talbot Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service. We are working closely with our young people to elicit their views about what they want and need from Their Youth Justice Service. Participation events and interventions have been scheduled throughout the summer.



## SAFEGUARDING THEMES

### Safeguarding Children and adults in the region – Performance Data

The following data provides an insight into the children and adult protection referrals received within the Western Bay Region.

#### Children:

Category of Abuse	Bridgend	Neath Port Talbot	Swansea
Emotional Abuse	82	72 (predominantly DVA)	71
Neglect	66	76	78
Neglect, physical abuse	15	5	22
Neglect, sexual abuse	8	1	5
Neglect & Financial abuse	3	0	0
Physical abuse and sexual abuse	1	0	3
Physical abuse	4	25	39
Sexual abuse	11	10	5
Grand Total	190	189	223

#### Adults:

Category of Abuse	Bridgend	Neath Port Talbot	Swansea
Emotional	56	77	309
Financial	53	39	209
Neglect	123	80	495
Physical abuse	85	103	430
Sexual	17	25	63
Other	0	0	60
Blank	0	0	6
Grand Total	334	324	1572

# TRAINING AND LEARNING

## Annual Business Plan & Work Plan 18/19

Following the development of the Western Bay Joint Annual Plan 2018/19, a work plan for the Strategic Training Management Group was produced, to reflect the outcomes of the Boards' Plan. Priority areas for training at national, regional and local levels included:

### **Safeguarding People from Exploitation:**

- Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery
- County Lines
- Child Sexual Exploitation

### **Safeguarding People in Care Settings:**

- Regulation & Inspection Act
- OPC Report; review into Care Homes
- Regional Quality Framework.

### **National Training Framework on Violence Against Women**

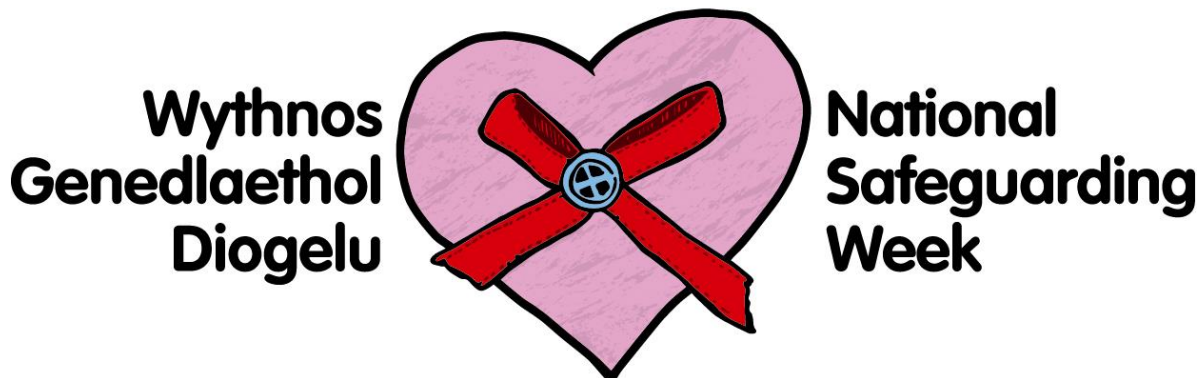
### **Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Act (VAWDASV):**

### **Workshops to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP)**

Under the Boards' theme of "exploitation" we developed an interactive training package which will encompass awareness of county lines, child sexual exploitation, human trafficking, radicalisation and hate crime for both adults and children. There are common themes of vulnerabilities, risk factors, grooming, methods of coercion and control and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) across all of these issues and will also emphasise their links with 'safeguarding'.

A group of trainers across Western Bay were accredited with the Education and Training (EAT) qualification and further specialist input to deliver a bespoke 'exploitation' awareness raising package across the region. There is now an established pool of agency based trainers who can deliver this training across Western Bay. Agencies involved include the three Local Authorities of Western Bay, South Wales Police, Health, Probation and Third Sector Partners.

## National Safeguarding Week



National Safeguarding Week took place from 12th - 16th November 2018 and a varied programme of events was compiled with the aim of raising awareness of the safeguarding agenda and, more specifically the theme of 'exploitation'.

A conference aimed at practitioners across the whole region took place on Monday 12th November in Swansea's Liberty Stadium. A range of guest speakers highlighted topics such as County Lines, Radicalisation, Coercion and Control and Modern Slavery. In total, almost 600 professionals working in social care, schools, law enforcement and community organisations across the Western Bay area attended the event.

Child Sexual Abuse Awareness training for parents, carers and foster carers took place between November 2018 and March 2019 in venues across Western bay. Its purpose was to raise awareness about risk indicators in relation to children who may be vulnerable to child sexual abuse as well as behaviours in relation to the grooming process.

# COLLABORATION

## **How we have collaborated around Safeguarding**

The Western Bay Safeguarding Board have a large network of organisations and partnerships who are engaged with nationally, regionally and locally. There are structures in place to work alongside the National Independent Safeguarding Board and Welsh Government to ensure a strategic function and national collaboration. The Safeguarding Boards have established a partnership reporting framework whereby at each meeting the local and regional partnerships feed into the Board on the work that they do, and any relevant safeguarding matters that may have arisen through the local Community Safety Partnerships, Western Bay Anti Human Trafficking Forum, Domestic Abuse Forums and the Area Planning Board. This has given the Board a connectivity and understanding of the focus of other partners and partnerships and enabled it to limit duplication and ensure a full safeguarding response is undertaken when required. This also allows the Board to link the annual planning arrangements with the priorities of others and therefore able to focus on what is important both locally and regionally.

## **City & County of Swansea**

The City and County of Swansea is a proactive member of both Safeguarding Boards; provides a significant financial contribution; with membership prioritised by the statutory Director of social services, who co-chairs the Adult Safeguarding Board and the Heads of both children and adult services.

The various sub groups are supported by officers of the Council from across social services, education and corporate services including that one sub group is led by Swansea's Principal Officer for Safeguarding.

Through the varied participation of officers, the work and products of the board are disseminated and embedded within business as usual policy and practice of the Council.

Routine updates on the work of the board are provided to the Corporate Safeguarding Board (Co-chaired by the statutory Director and responsible Cabinet Member), the Public protection Executive Board (chaired by the Chief Executive) and Scrutiny committees.

Safeguarding is the number one priority of the Council, embedded within the Corporate Plan and with wide ranging performance information routinely monitored by the Corporate Management Team and Cabinet.

The City and County of Swansea have provided safeguarding training for more than 95% of its staff and Elected Members and there are safeguarding leads identified across every area of the Council. The Council's safeguarding training has recently been reviewed and updated to ensure that it reflects new and emerging issues.

Swansea have adopted the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and have implemented the Signs of Safety Child protection practice framework within children social services and a signs of well-being equivalent within early help. Swansea Children Services has been chosen as a pilot site for the roll out of an innovative approach to contextual safeguarding. These initiatives are helping us to ensure that the voice of the child is absolutely at the heart of our safeguarding approach with families.

We are continuing to implement an adults equivalent approach – Swansea's 'doing what matters' practice framework with a similar ambition of ensuring adult voice, choice and control are at the centre of our safeguarding arrangements for adults, their families and carers.

### **Swansea Education (Children Board only)**

Swansea Education Department has demonstrated complete commitment to the priorities of the Safeguarding Board. Representatives have attended meetings and participated in Child Practice Reviews as required. Officers have contributed to planning practice reviews and learning events as well as



preparation of reports for publication in relation to child practice reviews both for Swansea cases and as reviewers and panel members for other reviews. Officers have prepared school and education staff in order to ensure that outcomes at child practice review learning events has been meaningful and objectives have been met.

The benefit of officers' participation in Board and sub group meetings/activities is considered to be essential to ensure that up-to-date guidance and policy can be disseminated to schools and it is worth noting that no Swansea school has been identified with any safeguarding issue during Estyn inspection in the last academic year.

## **Welsh Ambulance Service**

The Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST) achieves the Safeguarding objectives of each Regional Safeguarding Board by effectively working together to ensure good outcomes for people who have contact with our service within the Board Region.

Our activity during 2018-19 to prevent, protect and support individuals and their families within the Western Bay Safeguarding Board region has included the following:

WAST Child at Risk Referrals to Local Authority	378
WAST Adult at Risk Referrals to Local Authority	125
WAST Adult Social Care Need Referrals to Local Authority	210

WAST opportunity for increased engagement has been promoted by attendance at the Regional Board meetings and involvement in the associated work plans. This has included participation as panel members in Adult Practice Reviews, Child Practice Reviews and a Domestic Homicide Review.

Learning from the Reviews is coordinated by WAST Safeguarding Strategic Group to ensure dissemination throughout the organisation. WAST staff have attended the Learning Events held which has ensured the voice of our practitioners has directly contributed to the Review, that practitioners can hear the perspectives of the family and that with other Multi agency attendees they are able to reflect on what happened and identify learning for future practice. All Learning is incorporated into WAST Safeguarding training, policies and procedures as appropriate.

### **Neath Port Talbot Youth Offending and Early Intervention Service**

The principal officer for the Youth Justice service is the current chair of Taith and Better futures partnership (Barnardo's) which is the multi-agency partnership which deals with CSE, HSB CSA and has membership from all neighbouring local authorities. The information in relation to the partnership will be provided to the WGSB

The Principal Officer for the YJS Ali Davies, is the vice chair of CRP contextualised risk behaviour panel, (which she set up 4 years ago as the risky behaviour panel) to address high risk behaviours in young people and contextualised safeguarding.

The Principal Officer for the YJS Ali Davies sits on the exploitation sub group, the practice review subgroup, the community safety partnership, and is a member of the LSCB.

The membership of these subgroups will ensure that the YJS voice is heard in relation to safeguarding, contextualised safeguarding CSE and Risky behaviours. Our young people will be referred into these resources in collaboration and with Children's services.

The NPT YJEIS also have a new statutory management board which sits in July. Andrew Jarrett is the chair of this board. We are providing evidence to that board our commitment to working closely with the WBSB. Safeguarding is a priority for NPT YJEIS.

## **NSPCC**

The NSPCC are full members of the main board and are also represented on all sub groups including the Exploitation safeguarding group. The NSPCC representative shares information with the board as appropriate. The NSPCC representative will support the work of the board by undertaking specific tasks such as audit activity; Child Protection Registration appeal boards and supporting other activities as required. The NSPCC rooms are available as a resource to the Board and sub groups where required.

## **National Probation Service (NPS)**

Our Local Delivery Unit (LDU) covers two safeguarding boards, Cwm Taf Morgannwg and Swansea Bay. All relevant Safeguarding information and policies are cascaded to managers and staff at our monthly strategic and operational management meetings. We attend all relevant APR and CPR panel meetings and we are currently chairing a MAPF. On a National basis all learning from APR and CPR's from both England and Wales are collated by our public protection team and themes of learning are disseminated throughout the organisation. NPS across the board understand how instrumental safeguarding is to our daily business of public protection and victim safety. This permeates from the Senior Managers to operational staff who recognise that safeguarding is a fundamental part of their day to day work. This ensures staff prioritise attendance at child protection conferences, contributing to core groups, and sharing of information pertaining to risks with all the necessary agencies.

The National Probation Service in Wales was subject to its first annual inspection late in 2018 as part of the new HMIP framework and the report from this has recently been published. We are pleased that we were rated as **Good** overall which is comparable with the other NPS Divisions inspected as part of the current inspection programme.

The inspection reviewed our work across three domains, Organisational Delivery, Case Supervision and NPS specific work which was court and statutory victim work. We were delighted to receive a rating of **Outstanding** for our services to victims and our sentence plan reviewing practice.

In Wales, we are progressing with the proposals to bring Offender Management into the National Probation Service and developing options for how we want Accredited Programmes, Community Payback, Rehabilitation and Resettlement services to be delivered in the future. We have brought forward our original timescale for the transition of Offender Management in Wales to now be completed by December 2019. We are working closely with our CRC colleagues to oversee the transition of staff and cases whilst maintaining a clear focus on business as usual delivery. During this transition period we will ensure that Safeguarding continues to be a priority.

## **Neath Port Talbot Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Directorate**

The Directorate continues to prioritise its safeguarding responsibilities and as such takes a proactive role in the work of the Board. The Directorate's new safeguarding officer took up her role in July 2018 and quickly became an active member in the Policy, Procedure and Practice Group; Quality and Performance Management Group, Joint Strategic Training Management Group and Practice Review Management Group. She has become co-chair of the Practice Review Management Group and has been a panel member on one review.

As part of the Policy, Procedure and Practice Management Group she has become chair of the Exploitation sub group and has been working to increase the membership and buy in from other agencies as well as developing an overarching Exploitation policy covering all aspects of Exploitation for children and adults.

As part of the Joint Strategic Training Management Group she has worked with a Local Authority training officer to develop a train the trainer pack on the topic of Exploitation. This was piloted to a group of ELLLS Wellbeing staff and then

delivered to 50 trainers who will be responsible for delivering the pack to a range of agencies across the Safeguarding Board area.

The Board's business priorities and the promotion of safeguarding awareness topics are included as part of the Directorate's peer review school safeguarding reviews that every school in Neath Port Talbot is required to undergo every two years. The Safeguarding Review process has been adapted to comply with an audit tool developed by the All Wales Safeguarding in Education Group (SEG). Peer reviewers consider all elements of safeguarding and this dovetails with the Board's business priorities seamlessly. Action plans are developed at the end of every review and any schools raising particular concern are monitored closely as part of this action plan.

The Directorate and a number of schools took an active part in safeguarding week. During 2018/19 safeguarding week coincided with anti-bullying week and so schools undertook activities that cut across the safeguarding priorities and the anti-bullying agenda. This included themed assemblies, involving partner agencies e.g. NSPCC and Police liaison officers. School councils were working hard during this week and many schools were highlighting a rights respecting approach within their plans.

The Directorate's secondary school pupils have also been active members of a newly formed Junior Safeguarding Board which meets regularly in our secondary schools.

The Safeguarding Officer has updated the basic safeguarding training that is delivered by designated leads to the whole staff annually. The training references some of the upcoming themes around adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) as well as revisiting all aspects of safeguarding and child protection in schools. The Safeguarding Officer has also been reminding schools of the training requirements around Prevent and Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) including delivering some face-to-face sessions for schools.

The Directorate maintain its high level of commitment to, and engagement with, Board Priorities and activities.

## **Barnardo's Cymru**

Barnardo's Cymru continues to ensure the work of the board is distributed across the organisation at a National and Regional level. As Assistant Director for Western Bay services I chair a quarterly Locality meeting whereby I bring together operational, support and corporate staff across the Swansea, Neath and Bridgend areas where information is cascaded and discussed. As the National Safeguarding Lead for Cymru I participate in an UK Safeguarding forum where I also highlight good practice from the region. Learning from CPR's are shared both at a strategic and practitioner level. Reflective practice sessions are held in team meetings to develop not only better understanding and standards, but also how to implement learning into services. This year Barnardo's Cymru has focused on the development of the National Safeguarding and Recording Operations group. Although this group has been in existence some years, we have reviewed membership and developed a refreshed work plan. The group is in the process of revising our risk management process and tools, as well as developing Cymru specific recording training and a reflective supervision toolkit.

## **ABMU HB**

The ABMU Health Board has continued to engage and actively contribute to the Western Bay Safeguarding Adult and Children Regional Boards and its sub groups. This work has included:

- Participation in the consultations of the rewrite of the All Wales Adult and Children Protection Procedures
- Assistant Director of Nursing and Patient Experience elected as Co-Chair of the Safeguarding Adult Board
- During National Safeguarding week 2018, the Corporate Safeguarding team arranged lunch and learn sessions on Child Sexual Exploitation, County Lines and awareness stands were arranged across all Health Board

- The Corporate Safeguarding team contributed to the arrangements, promotion and facilitation of regional events during National Safeguarding Week
- An awareness stand/cake sale was held on White Ribbon Day
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) collaborative work has continued, the regional DoLS sub group is chaired by the Health Board Interim Deputy Head of Safeguarding
- Contributed to the review of regional multi-agency policies
- Working together within Adult and Child Practice Review processes as panel members, chairs and reviewers
- Participating in Learning Events and facilitation of learning outcomes/recommendations
- Presentation to Regional Board sub group and seven minute briefing related to Sudden Infant Deaths
- Contributed to the development of a regional integrated reporting form and guidance document for referrals into Local Authority
- Sharing the learning from the Healthcare Inspectorate Wales Review of ABMUHB handling of the employment and allegations made against Mr W

ABMU has continued to take a proactive approach to collaboration, and works closely with the Western Bay Safeguarding Boards on many levels to ensure contribution and commitment to fulfilling the functions of the Board.

## **Bridgend CBC**

Bridgend County Borough Council has been a proactive member of both the Children's and Adults Boards since 2013. The Statutory Director of Bridgend was the chair of the Western Bay Safeguarding Adults Board until the boundary change on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. Since April 2019, Bridgend is now a member of Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board.

Safeguarding is always a priority for Bridgend Council which is reflected in the Corporate Safeguarding Policy. This policy covers all functions and services of the Council and applies to all Council employees, elected members, foster carers, individuals undertaking work placements and volunteers working within the Council.

## **Neath Port Talbot Council**

Neath Port Talbot Council is a dedicated member of both Safeguarding Boards; with the Director of Social Services chairing the Children's Board and membership prioritised by the Heads of Services for both children and adult.

Safeguarding is the main priority of the council and is embedded within the corporate plan. Performance is consistently monitored by Cabinet, Scrutiny Committees and the Corporate Performance Team.

The various sub groups are attended by representatives from across the Council who are actively involved in disseminating and embedding the work of the Board within every day practice of the Council.

Neath Port Talbot Council have provided Safeguarding training to its staff both within adults and children's services and to its Elected members. This is a rolling programme to ensure that both current and new staff receive up to date training.

Neath Port Talbot are leading the way in Wales in relation to gathering people's personal outcomes with the view of working with people to develop their unique care plans. The council are successfully working closely with partner agencies to embed Outcome Based Practice across Neath Port Talbot, so that service users have a voice in relation to what matters to them.



## PARTICIPATION

Both Safeguarding Boards routinely invite people to participate in its work through engagement of families subject to Practice Reviews. A high proportion of families invited to contribute meet with the reviewers and give a view on how services and interventions could have been improved but also what went well.

The Adult Board links with a regional citizen panel set up to invite the general public to contribute and be consulted on the work of agencies around them.

### **Junior Safeguarding Board (JSB)**

During January 2019 NPTCBC's Participation and Engagement Officer and the Director of Children's Rights Unit (CRU) invited all secondary schools to establish a Junior Safeguarding Board (JSB). Each secondary school was represented by two young people who sit on their school council respectively. The JSB meet on a monthly basis to discuss safeguarding issues. These meetings promote a safe and private environment where children and young people raise issues affecting their lives. The members of the JSB feed issues and concerns from their school into the agenda and disseminate information back to children and young people in their school.

To date there have been five JSB meetings which are hosted by the schools involved. The group are working to create community links. More recently South Wales Police have started attending the meetings and staff from the Children's Commissioners' office. Issues raised by young people include;

- School buses
- Online bullying
- Sex education
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) community

- Online abuse – parent training
- A lot of emphasis on adult support which consequently effects children & young people.
- Blind spots in school
- Mental Health
- The need for more teacher training on issues such as LGBT+ & sex education.

The JSB's first project will be to raise awareness of appropriate behaviour of adults at junior sporting events across the county in order to improve children & young people's wellbeing and maintain participation in sporting activities. The JSB have plans to collaborate with South Wales Police, Safeguarding Officers from local sports clubs, Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) and professional sports clubs to raise awareness. Members have also expressed a wish to facilitate an annual safeguarding event. Suggestions for the event included;

- A day of workshops/training and fun activities for council members. This learning would be taken back to schools and messages/good practise shared.
- A roadshow of events/assemblies visiting schools.

The proposed events would be supported by the emergency services and relevant organisations to help deliver messages. Once the JSB has been established it has been proposed that the meetings take place quarterly. Throughout the year the Participation and Engagement Officer and Director of the CRU will visit school councils and other groups throughout NPT to increase participation and gather the voice of the child and young people and include minority groups.

Contact has been made with counterparts in Swansea CBC in order to collaborate on future projects and share the views and opinions of our children and young people from across the West Glamorgan area.

## BOARD MEMBERS AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS

The Western Bay Safeguarding Board partners have a responsibility to ensure the Board is functioning effectively. Attendance at Board meetings is monitored against the role profiles which members sign up to. The role profile indicates that members agree to attend 75% of Board meetings.

The chairing arrangements for the Board are as follows:

<b>WBSAB</b> Swansea Social Services ABMU	<b>WBSCB</b> Neath Port Talbot Social Services South Wales Police
<b>Practice Review Management Group</b> South Wales Police	<b>Joint Strategic Training Group</b> Neath Port Talbot CBC - Training
<b>Policy, Practice and Procedure Management Group (Adults)</b> Swansea Social Services	<b>Policy, Practice and Procedure Management Group (Children)</b> ABMU
<b>Quality &amp; Performance Management Group (Adults)</b> Bridgend Social Services	<b>Quality &amp; Performance Management Group (Children)</b> Youth Justice & Early Intervention Service
<b>DoLS</b> Bridgend Social Services	<b>CSE MISPERs</b> Barnardo's

During 2018-19 the WBSB met on 4 occasions. There was good attendance from our partners as detailed below:

### Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board

Agency	24/08/2018	23/07/2018	27/11/2018	04/203/2019
Neath Port Talbot LA	✓	✓	✓	✓
Swansea LA	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bridgend LA	✓	✓	✓	✓
ABMU	✓	✓	✓	✓
South Wales Police	✓	✓	✓	✓
CVS Swansea	✓	✓	✓	✓
National Probation Service (NPS)	✓	✓	✓	✓
National Independent Safeguarding Board Wales (NISB)	✓		✓	
NSPCC	✓			✓
Western Bay Youth Justice Early Intervention Service (WBYJEIS)	✓			
Public Health Wales (PHW)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Barnardo's		✓		✓
HMP Parc		✓		✓

### Western Bay Safeguarding Adult Board

Agency	24/08/2018	23/07/2018	27/11/2018	04/203/2019
Neath Port Talbot LA	✓	✓	✓	✓
Swansea LA	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bridgend LA	✓	✓	✓	✓
ABMU	✓	✓	✓	✓
South Wales Police	✓	✓	✓	✓
CVS Swansea	✓	✓	✓	✓
National Probation Service (NPS)	✓	✓	✓	✓
National Independent Safeguarding Board Wales (NISB)	✓		✓	
Public Health Wales (PHW)	✓			✓
HMP Swansea			✓	
HMP Parc	✓			✓
Welsh Ambulance Service Trust (WAST)	✓			
Wales CRC (Community Rehabilitation Company)	✓			

In 2018/19 the Western Bay Safeguarding Board used the national formula for financial contributions from statutory partner agencies as follows:

<b>Agency</b>	
<i>City &amp; County of Swansea</i>	60%
<i>Neath Port Talbot CBC</i>	20%
<i>Bridgend CBC</i>	20%
<i>ABMUHB</i>	25%
South Wales Police	10%
National Probation Services	2.5%
Community Rehabilitation Services	2.5%
<b>Total Funding £190,290</b>	

## RESOURCES

The above contributions fund the regional safeguarding business unit which consist of a Business Manager, Adult Co-ordinator and Childrens co-ordinator and a part time administrator. The specific costs are set out below:

Total costs – £148,681

Staffing	£120,367
APR/CPR's	£2,890
Development (Conference, learning events and training)	£21,909
Admin	£3,515

It is acknowledged that resources used to support the work of the Regional Safeguarding Board 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 their time to support the Board and its work. This is often in addition to their identified professional roles and day to day responsibilities. The variable and diverse nature of 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, as well as the development of regional policies and protocols are just some examples of Safeguarding Board work and projects that require high levels of professional input, knowledge and expertise.

## OTHER BOARD ACTIVITIES

### **Adult Protection & Support Orders**

Adult Protection and Support Orders (APSOs) have been developed within Part 7 of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act to improve the ability to protect adults who may be at risk.

The purpose of an ASPO are:

- (a) To enable the authorised officer and any other person accompanying the officer to speak in private with a person suspected of being an adult at risk.
- (b) To enable the authorised officer to ascertain whether that person is making decisions freely, and
- (c) To enable the authorised officer properly to assess whether the person is an adult at risk and to make a decision as required by section 126(2) on what, if any actions should be taken.

Regulations specify that Safeguarding Board annual reports should include information on the number of APSOs applied for, how many were made and how effective they were.

To date, the Western Bay Safeguarding Board or its partner agencies within have not applied for an Adult Protection and Support Order.

### **Guidance and Advice received from Welsh Government and National Independent Safeguarding Board (NISB)**

The Safeguarding Board welcomed the Practitioners Guide to Basic Legal Principles and has circulated to our partners.

The Safeguarding Board has actively responded to Welsh Government consultations.

The Board would also like to thank the NISB for their support and attendance at our meetings and annual conference and we look forward to working with the new Board members in future.

## **Section 137 Requests for information**

Section 137 of the SSWA provides a Safeguarding Board with the power to request specific information from a qualifying person or body provided that the purpose of the request is to enable or assist the Board to perform its functions. A “qualifying person or body” must be likely to have a real possibility that they hold information which enables the Board to fulfil its functions.

Since enactment the Western Bay Safeguarding Boards have not formally used its powers under Section 137 of the Act. So far the Boards and their management groups have been able to request information using the agreements within the terms of reference for each and has therefore made many requests for information to support its work in audit, quality assurance and practice reviews. These requests for information have always been acknowledged and information supplied.

It was noted in the last report that it was anticipated that the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) implemented in May 2018 may impact on how information was shared with the Board. To date the Board has encountered no such issues and nor has it been apprised of any issues from its members following the introduction of GDPR. As is noted above should issues arise in respect of this area then, in the spirit of collaboration, a solution locally will be sought prior to the Board using powers under Section 137.



# WBSAB



Safeguarding and keeping safe

Western Bay Safeguarding Adult Board

