



## National Safeguarding Week 2024

### SUMMARY REPORT



#SafeguardingWales



# NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING WEEK

11TH – 15TH NOVEMBER 2024

Safeguarding Week is an annual event that is supported by both Welsh Government and the National Independent Safeguarding Board (NISB), with the aim of raising awareness amongst professionals and the community of key safeguarding messages, through the delivery of a range of both virtual and in-person events. This year, Cardiff and Vale Safeguarding Board chose 'Neglect' as our local theme and hosted and coordinated a programme of successful awareness raising events which were delivered across the region.

## 'Child and Adult Neglect'

Neglect was chosen as the theme for this year's National Safeguarding Week, with a key thematic focus on capacity and consent, in order to raise awareness and ensure neglect is appropriately identified. It was also an opportunity to highlight the significant amount of work that has been undertaken across the region to address this issue and to provide practitioners with the confidence and support in working with children, families and individuals who experience neglect.

Findings from a thematic analysis undertaken of both child and adult practice reviews throughout Wales, identified significant findings in relation to 'neglect' and highlighted that there is also a growing need to consider how we respond to self-neglect.

As a result of learning identified, the Cardiff & Vale Safeguarding Board developed Child and Adult Neglect Toolkits ([CVSB Child Neglect Toolkit](#); [CV-RSB-Adult-Neglect-Toolkit-Final.pdf](#)) which were formally launched as part of National Safeguarding Week 2024.

12

Events took place  
across the week

Over 40

different  
organisations were  
represented at events  
across the week

184

people attended the  
Safeguarding Week  
Conference



# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

A coordinated programme of events, providing a range of both virtual and in-person training and awareness raising events, was widely disseminated across the region and included the following events:



- Social Care Wales – ‘Reflecting on Evidence: Supporting people to make decisions about their care’
- NSPCC Cymru – ‘Listen Up, Speak Up Campaign’
- CVUHB Mental Capacity Team - Awareness Raising / Information Stand re Mental Capacity Act (MCA)
- NSPCC Cymru – ‘Let’s Talk PANTS Information Session’ – (including a Welsh Language Version as a one-off session held throughout Wales)
- WCVA and EYST – ‘Recognising and Responding to the Signs of Neglect’ – Webinar
- Webinar: ‘Launch of Safeguarding E-Self Assessment’
- Minus Violence – ‘Vigilant’ Workshops for Boys and Men’
- CVUHB Mental Capacity Team - ‘Mental Capacity and Self-Neglect’ - Multi-Agency Training
- NSPCC Cymru – ‘Talk PANTS Information Session’
- WCVA and EYST – ‘How to Safeguard your Volunteers’ – Webinar
- Children’s Society – ‘Safeguarding Transgender Young People from Exploitation (Wales)’
- CVSB Safeguarding Conference Theme: Neglect

In addition to the above regional events, an online NISB National Safeguarding Conference Wales was held on Thursday 21st November, entitled '**Adult Safeguarding in Wales and England- Learning from Practice Reviews**'. The conference explored the learning from Adult Safeguarding including reviews and inspections, to identify the key issues, good practice and challenges, with a focus on what needs to happen next.



# CARDIFF AND VALE REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD CONFERENCE 2024

As a fitting finale to the week, a CVSB Conference was held at The Village Hotel, Cardiff with a key focus on both child and adult neglect, including theatics around capacity and consent, which was reflective of the Board's annual plan.

The conference was opened by Sarah McGill, co-chair of the Cardiff and Vale Safeguarding Board. There were keynote speakers who spoke about both child and adult neglect. Interactive workshops were held as part of the afternoon session and 160 people who signed up to attend.

Workshops included:

- **CVSB Adult Practice Reviews – Neglect / Self Neglect Learning**
- **Consent, Capacity, and Individual Rights**
- **CVSB Child Practice Reviews – Embedding Learning into Practice**
- **Adult Neglect Toolkit Workshop**





Opening of conference by CVSB Co-chair Sarah McGill



Vicky Sharley



David Orr





# CARDIFF AND VALE REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD CONFERENCE 2024

The conference concluded with the official launch of the Cardiff & Vale Safeguarding Board Child and Adult Neglect Toolkits. The multi-agency toolkits were developed in response to feedback from practitioners and learning from child and adult practice reviews. The toolkits were piloted earlier in the year in the lead up to their official launch. A series of virtual lunch and learn workshops were held across the region, in order to raise awareness and to support practitioners in their use of both toolkits. The toolkits will provide practitioners with the confidence and support in working with children, families and individuals at risk of neglect and improve partner agencies collective response to neglect.

Information stands





# FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM PARTICIPANTS AND SPEAKERS

“It was really interesting to hear about self-neglect in adults”

(conference participant)

“It was really helpful to highlight that all agencies involved with someone where there is concern about neglect need to communicate”

(conference participant)

“Really enjoyed the passion/ personal anecdotes from David Orr, Senior Lecturer in Social Work - informative and inspiring and so articulate”.

(conference participant)

“Thank you for so much for inviting me to contribute today – I had lots of lovely connections and conversations with people afterwards”

(Dr Vicky Sharley, University of Bristol)

“Thank you sincerely for the chance to speak to the inspiring and committed practitioners in your area”.

(Dr David Orr, Sussex University)

“Learning about co-operation, multi-agency work, case reviews and everyone working to a common goal. Also signs of neglect”.

(Barnardo's, conference participant)

“Good to be able to network with other professionals”

(conference participant)





# COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

A number of targeted communications and staff briefings were disseminated to partner agencies and 3rd sector in the lead-up to NSW, in order to promote and raise awareness of the programme of events. There were also several communication packages developed and disseminated to raise awareness of the National campaigns that were launched as part of the week's activities.

## Talk PANTS and Listen Up, Speak Up



Two key bilingual campaigns, '**Talk PANTS**' and '**Listen Up, Speak Up**' Campaigns, were delivered by NSPCC Cymru as part of the week's events, with information and targeted messages disseminated across primary schools and Early Years practitioners across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. Resources were also shared, which included a bilingual poster, along with suggested social media posts. The 'Talk PANTS' information session was also delivered as an additional Welsh language version which was offered across all of Wales.

## Listen Up, Speak Up

Due to the support of the Regional Safeguarding Boards throughout Wales, it was reported that the NSPCC were able reach over 600 professionals across Wales to share important messages that will help keep children safe.





NSPCC Cymru will also be launching a second Talk PANTS Campaign week in January (27-31st January 2025) and have circulated a 'Save the Date'. This has been disseminated to schools/early years and professionals working with children in order to educate professionals on how to effectively communicate these important messages to children, thereby preventing abuse.



## Mental Capacity Act Campaign



The CVUHB MCA Team used National Safeguarding Week as an opportunity to raise the awareness of the general public about their rights under the MCA, through a social media campaign and a face-to-face event held in the concourse at the University Hospital Wales, to share resources and answer questions.

**There were 23 interactions throughout the 4-hour period which was really positive:**

### PUBLIC:

9 stopped to ask an LPA query

5 took leaflets.

14 total

### STAFF: (in a personal capacity)

8 Leaflets were taken

1 query

9 total

Links to a number of websites and digital resources were also shared providing support and guidance around the MCA process and practice. These will be available to access from the [www.cardiffandvalersb.co.uk](http://www.cardiffandvalersb.co.uk) website.

The CVUHB Mental Capacity Team also extended a regional opportunity for partner agencies to attend 'Self Neglect and Mental Capacity Act' Lunch and Learn sessions which were held over a number of weeks following National Safeguarding Week.



Bwrdd Diogelu Caerdydd a'r Fro  
Cardiff & Vale Safeguarding Board

**The Cardiff and Vale Regional Safeguarding Board would like to express their thanks to all those who helped to make the week's events such a success.**