

REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD

ANNUAL PLAN

2026-2027



Mae'r ddogfen hon
ar gael yn Gymraeg
This document is
available in Welsh



INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the priorities and delivery plan for the Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Board for 2026-2027.

The Board oversees safeguarding across Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan.

Our priorities were identified through our 2026 Development Day, which included a review of our progress against our previous Annual Plan for 2025-2026, an overview of safeguarding themes emerging from recent safeguarding reviews and broader horizon scanning.

Every regional safeguarding board has a statutory responsibility to carry out core functions in relation to multi-agency safeguarding.

These include:

- Contributing to the development, implementation and monitoring of protocols and procedures that support the protection of adults and children and to prevent abuse.

- Raising awareness of the board’s objectives to protect and prevent adults and children from becoming at risk of abuse, neglect and other forms of harm, and to provide information about how this might be achieved.

- Reviewing the efficacy of measures taken by agencies to implement the objectives of the board and to make and monitor recommendations.

- Undertaking Single Unified Safeguarding Reviews (SUSRs), audits, investigations and other reviews as are required in pursuance of its objectives and to disseminate learning and information arising from these reviews.

- Reviewing the performance of the board and its partners and bodies represented on the board in carrying out its objectives.

- Facilitating research into protection from, and prevention of, abuse and neglect of children and adults at risk of harm.

- Reviewing the training needs of practitioners working in the area of the board in order to identify training to assist in the protection and prevention of abuse and neglect of children and adults at risk of harm.

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WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding is about protecting children and adults from abuse, harm or neglect and educating those around them to recognise the signs to prevent abuse, harm or neglect as much as possible.

Regardless of whether we are young or old, we all have the right to:



The Welsh Government “Working Together to Safeguard People Guidance” states that **the objectives of Safeguarding Boards are:**

- To protect children within its area who are experiencing, or are at risk of abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm
- To prevent children within its area from becoming at risk of abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm.
- To protect adults within its area who have needs for care and support, and are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse or neglect
- To prevent those adults within its area becoming at risk of abuse or neglect.

It is the role of Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Board (the Board) to set the strategic direction for safeguarding and to carry out core functions in relation to multi-agency safeguarding.

The Board carries out these day-to-day functions, through policy direction, monitoring the effectiveness of safeguarding within agencies, commissioning practice reviews and disseminating learning to practitioners to ensure that safeguarding is high on the agenda at all levels of the workforce.

CORE FUNCTIONS

To deliver our priorities effectively, and to ensure robust governance foundations are in place, the Board has developed a set of essential functions. These form part of our business-as-usual arrangements and are coordinated and overseen by the Business Unit. They are critical for all Board partners, enabling us to respond appropriately to need, risk, learning, and what works.

Risk Management

A Regional Safeguarding Board [Risk Management Process](#) and Register is in place which allows for the escalation, review and mitigation of any barriers in place that impact on multi-agency partners’ ability to effectively respond to safeguarding concerns.

The aim of the risk register is:

- To provide a clear oversight of risks to board partners
- To foster multi-agency input and action in de-escalating the risks
- To take a deeper look into risks and discuss mitigating actions in a partnership context

Many of the risks are complex systemic challenges and whilst we acknowledge are difficult to resolve, can benefit from multi-agency oversight and discussion. Risks can be brought to the Board’s attention by all partners and would be issues that highlight both;

- Something that is not working to effectively safeguard in a multi-agency arrangement
- Safeguarding risks that have a multi-agency impact

Audit and QA

A [Quality Assurance and Audit Framework](#) is in place for the Board, supported by an annual audit calendar. The framework recognises that each partner agency operates its own procedures, protocols and policies for conducting internal audits, and provides guidance on how relevant learning from this activity can be shared with wider Board partners. Audit themes are also identified through the Safeguarding Thematic Continuous Review Model, and these are communicated to and monitored with the agencies involved. The annual audit calendar sets out the programme of Board-level audits that will be undertaken across partner agencies.

Self-Assessment (including Training Self-Assessment)

In line with the [Self-Assessment Assurance Framework](#), the RSB requires multi-agency partners to provide assurance on their self-assessment findings and the improvement actions they have identified. The Board also undertakes an annual Board-level self-assessment exercise, with learning and development needs captured within the annual planning cycle.

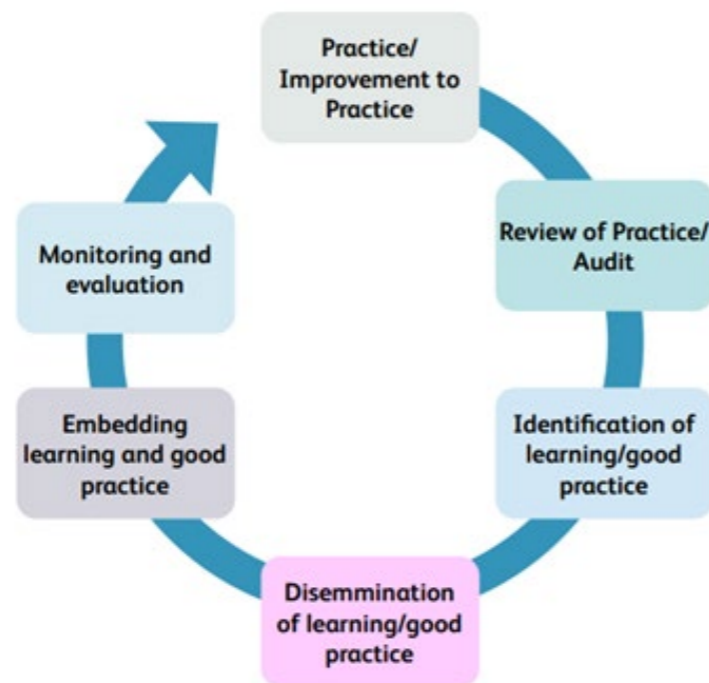
Additionally, all Board partners complete annual training self-assessments, submitting their responses for review. These assessments are analysed to identify emerging themes, trends and priority areas, with findings presented to the Board for oversight and discussion. Training completion rates are also reported to the Board, enabling ongoing monitoring of training compliance across the partnership.

Learning and Improvement – including Single Unified Safeguarding Review

The Cardiff and Vale Safeguarding Board manages Single Unified Safeguarding Reviews through a clear, consistent and multi-agency process that ensures high-quality learning and timely action. Reviews are overseen by trained Chairs and Reviewers, supported by defined governance, timescales and roles for all partner agencies. Family involvement, practitioner engagement and staff wellbeing are embedded throughout. Learning from each review is captured and disseminated through the Board’s [Learning and Improvement Framework](#), with progress against recommendations monitored through a 12-month impact review to ensure learning leads to meaningful improvements in safeguarding practice.

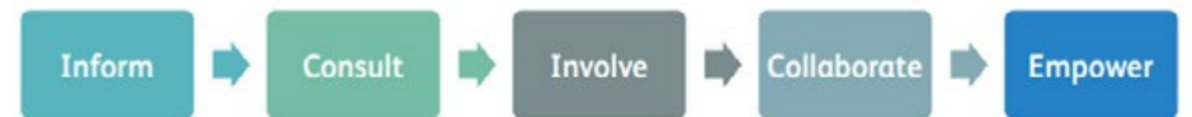
The Cardiff and Vale Safeguarding Board are committed to promoting a culture which values and facilitates learning and in which the lessons learned are used to improve future practice and partnership working.

The Learning and Improvement Framework (LIF) demonstrates how learning will be identified, disseminated and implemented in practice within a multi-agency context in order to improve outcomes for children and adults at risk within Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan.



Communications and Engagement

The Cardiff and Vale Safeguarding Board operates under a set of Communication and Engagement Principles designed to promote consistent, meaningful engagement across the region. These principles are complemented by the communication strategies and toolkits of partner organisations, ensuring alignment with existing frameworks. Each year, the Board reviews its core communications activity to ensure its work is effectively promoted to the workforce, communities and relevant partners. This includes regularly updating the Regional Safeguarding Board website with resources, guidance, Board documents and training information, ensuring it remains a central, accessible platform for anyone seeking safeguarding support or information.



Cross-Board Working

Strengthening cross-board working is essential for effectively delivering our priorities. Many of the challenges we face span governance structures, and no single board arrangement holds all the levers to address them. By working collaboratively, boards can align strategic direction, reduce duplication, and make better use of shared resources. Stronger cross-board coordination also ensures consistent responses to emerging risks, supports collective learning, and enhances our ability to drive meaningful, system-wide improvement.

In setting our priorities, we have reviewed the strategic focus areas of related boards and where appropriate and feasible, we have developed joint priorities to strengthen coordination, reduce duplication, and maximise collective impact.

Our Cross-Board Partners

- Community Safety Partnerships

- Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Board

- Youth Justice Board

- Public Services Board

- Regional Partnership Board

OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2026-2027

To ensure the Regional Safeguarding Board have a coherent, accurate and appropriately balanced picture of safeguarding effectiveness and a shared understanding of whole-system strengths, weaknesses and areas for improvement and development this year's priorities respond to the Five Domains of Safeguarding effectiveness and the fundamental question:

How are we assured that our multi-agency safeguarding processes are effective?

PRIORITY 1:

Safeguarding Process

PRIORITY 2:

Multi-agency Activity And Data

PRIORITY 3:

Responding To Safeguarding Themes (Thematic Hotspots)

PRIORITY 4:

Real Voices And Real Experiences

PRIORITY 5:

Workforce Information

PRIORITY 1: SAFEGUARDING PROCESS

OUTCOME:

Effective governance arrangements are in place to ensure robust oversight and accountability of safeguarding arrangements across the region. Improved mechanisms are in place to effectively respond to learning, leading to improved decision-making, enhanced risk management, and improved outcomes for children and adults at risk.

GOVERNANCE AND CORE BUSINESS

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Strengthen Section 5 assurance and multi agency oversight by reviewing and updating Section 5 guidance so the Board sets clear expectations, timelines and evidence requirements; ensuring consistent visibility of agency performance; and working with the Wales Safeguarding Procedures Board and Social Care Wales to develop, roll out and embed Section 5 training supported by a robust training self assessment process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 5 Guidance/Policy is fully reviewed, updated and approved, with explicit and embedded opportunities for the child's voice throughout. The guidance aligns with Wales Safeguarding Procedures and reflects current national expectations. Section 5 data becomes a core dataset within the multi agency performance framework, ensuring that the Board has robust visibility of trends, thresholds and cross agency responsiveness. Practitioners report clearer expectations and improved confidence when managing allegations/concerns against people in positions of trust
<p>Improve information-sharing practice regionally by developing a Regional Board Information Sharing Protocol that enables the reviewing and addressing of barriers, clarifies statutory responsibilities and permissions. Embedding information-sharing standards into multi-agency training and Board assurance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agencies have a clear, shared understanding of information-sharing responsibilities, permissions and legal duties. Information-sharing principles are consistently embedded into multi-agency training and Board assurance processes.

GOVERNANCE AND CORE BUSINESS

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Increase the timeliness and completion rate of recommendations and actions arising from safeguarding reviews to ensure learning is implemented effectively across agencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A higher proportion of recommendations and actions are completed within agreed timescales, demonstrated through improved performance reporting to the Board. • Agencies provide clearer evidence of implementation and impact, showing how completed actions have strengthened safeguarding practice.
<p>Strengthen strategic links and appropriate collaboration with the suicide & self harm programme, raising awareness of the programme's priorities, delivery plan and cross-cutting safeguarding agenda.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is visible, ongoing dialogue between safeguarding and colleagues from the Suicide and Self-harm Prevention Programme to align shared priorities. • Formal links between the Board and the Suicide & Self Harm Prevention Programme are established. • Board members and wider workforce have awareness of appropriate safeguarding programme developments.

EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDING REVIEWS (SUSR)

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Create and deliver locally tailored SUSR training options to ensure the training programme remains sustainable, relevant and accessible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A local training package is developed and regularly updated to reflect regional learning and practice. • Practitioners report increased confidence and readiness to participate in SUSR roles. • Reduced reliance on external training providers, with improved continuity and cost-effectiveness.
<p>Produce and share a report outlining the progress and impact made against recommendations generated for SUSRs 12 months post publication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consistent 12-month review report is produced for every SUSR and shared with partners and the Board. • Agencies can evidence progress against actions, with demonstrable improvements to safeguarding practice. • Learning from SUSRs is embedded into multi-agency training, policy updates and assurance reporting.
<p>Ensure strong wellbeing mechanisms are in place for all staff involved in SUSRs, including formal links with specialist support services such as 2Wish.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff receive timely, accessible wellbeing support before, during and after SUSR involvement. • Clear referral pathways to services like 2Wish are understood and used by practitioners.
<p>Ensure effective family support, engagement and communication remain embedded throughout the entire SUSR process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families report that they feel listened to, supported and appropriately involved throughout the SUSR.

EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDING REVIEWS (SUSR)

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Increase the number of trained and available SUSR chairs and reviewers across the region and partner agencies, supported by a minimum standards agreement to clarify expectations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training plan in place • Increase in available chair. A wider, multi-agency pool of accredited chairs and reviewers • Reported increase in understanding is established and awareness of SUSR and the referral criteria utilised across the region. • Minimum standards are agreed, published and consistently applied across all partner organisations. • SUSR processes experience fewer delays due to chair/reviewer availability, with improved timeliness and quality.



SHARING AND EMBEDDING LEARNING

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Develop improved, innovative mechanisms for sharing safeguarding learning and updates widely, reviewing existing communication methods and adopting the most effective formats (e.g., bitesize, visual, interactive) to maximise practitioner engagement and accessibility.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practitioners report improved access to learning through a wider range of engaging and accessible formats. Learning and safeguarding updates are consistently reaching a broader audience.
<p>Establish a robust, integrated assurance loop process that tracks how learning from reviews is cascaded, understood and embedded within agencies, fully aligned with existing governance arrangements and the RSB Learning & Improvement Framework.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agencies can evidence that key learning has been disseminated and embedded through audits, feedback and practice change. The Board receives clear, consistent assurance reports showing the impact of learning on practice improvement.
<p>Embed clear processes within current multi-agency arrangements to ensure early learning from incidents is rapidly identified, captured and promptly shared with relevant partners in a consistent and proactive manner.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early learning is shared regionally within defined timeframes, with clear evidence of quicker dissemination. Partners report increased awareness of emerging risks, with earlier action taken to address them.

SHARING AND EMBEDDING LEARNING

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Introduce a standardised regional model for reviewing 'near miss' incidents that enables the capture, analysis and timely dissemination of good practice and emerging risks across the partnership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Near-miss reviews are routinely completed using the agreed model, with learning shared promptly across agencies. Positive practice identified through near-miss learning is incorporated into training, guidance or practice improvements.
<p>Develop practical toolkits with guidance and support to enable agencies to undertake "Learning Without Review" exercises, ensuring quick, relevant learning can be identified and shared internally and across partner organisations without requiring a full formal review.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agencies confidently use the toolkit to run Learning Without Review exercises and share insights regionally. Quick learning from frontline practice leads to visible changes in procedures, decision-making or practitioner confidence.

PRIORITY 2: MULTI-AGENCY ACTIVITY AND DATA

OUTCOME:

The safeguarding board ensures the effectiveness of multi-agency activity through robust data analysis, coordinated and consistent policy development and regular audit activity to continuously improve safeguarding practices and outcomes.

DATA AND INSIGHTS

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
Further develop and implement the National Multi-Agency Safeguarding Performance Framework to ensure Cardiff and Vale consistently review relevant safeguarding data to identify strengths, weaknesses and priority areas for improvement, with a specific focus on onboarding multi-agency data during this phase.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-agency datasets are onboarded and incorporated into the Performance Framework, improving the completeness and relevance of regional reporting. Cardiff and Vale partners can clearly identify strengths, weaknesses and priority improvement areas through consistent use of the Framework. The Board receives regular, high-quality performance reports demonstrating improved insight and supporting evidence-based decisions.
Agree clear data-ownership and data-manager roles within each organisation, and establish a regional network of data-management personnel to support sharing, alignment and cross-referencing of datasets where appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each organisation has an identified data owner and data manager with clear responsibilities agreed and documented. A functioning regional data-management network meets regularly to share insight and align datasets. Cross-referencing of datasets leads to improved consistency and reduced duplication across agencies.

DATA AND INSIGHTS

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
Raise awareness of the importance of accurate, high-quality data across agencies, promoting good practice and supporting staff to understand how their data feeds into wider safeguarding systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff across agencies demonstrate improved understanding of data quality expectations, reflected in fewer errors and more complete datasets. Data quality issues identified through audits or assurance processes show a measurable reduction over the year. Practitioners understand how their data feeds into wider safeguarding systems, demonstrated through feedback or training evaluations.
Support the rollout and wider use of the Children's Summary Care Viewer to enable Local Authority and partner staff to access essential safeguarding information and progress towards a future "Single View of the Child" through improved digital integration. Ensure the region's digital developments, including the Summary Care Viewer, are actively communicated nationally to encourage learning and wider adoption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authority and partner agencies successfully access and use the Summary Care Viewer in safeguarding decision-making. Progress is made toward a "Single View of the Child," with improved digital integration reducing duplication and fragmented information. Regional digital developments are shared nationally, resulting in increased interest, uptake or requests for learning from other regions.
Explore and assess AI-supported tools to enhance the processing of large safeguarding datasets and identify patterns or emerging trends that may not be visible through manual analysis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations are made to the Board on whether and how AI tools could be integrated into future safeguarding data work.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE DEVELOPMENT

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Allocate leads to either update or develop to completion the policies and procedures identified as a priority below for 25-26 which are as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-agency Chronology template and practice guidance Protocol for Resolution of Professional Concerns Mental Capacity Act Practice Guide Core documents in relation multi-agency meetings Safeguarding Children who are Disabled Adult Safeguarding Threshold Guidance Discharge of Vulnerable Children from Hospital Non-accidental Injuries in Children Fabricated and Induced Illness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each policy/procedure has a designated lead with a defined scope, milestones, and timeline. Leads actively coordinate multi agency input, demonstrating ownership through documented progress updates. Completed policies that are evidence-based, legally compliant and co-produced
<p>Develop to completion a suite of 7-minute briefings identified as a priority for 25-26 which are as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sexual Abuse Disclosure Impact of coercive control on children ACEs The impacts of parent’s vulnerabilities on children as part of the assessment process. Suitable and safe home environmental conditions and standards of personal hygiene of children Record keeping (to include the importance of recording of injuries and the reporting and use of expert medical examination) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7-minute briefings published on RSB website and cascaded to professionals via agencies

AUDIT AND EVALUATION

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Enhance the Board’s audit and quality assurance framework by developing a strengthened cross-agency audit schedule that includes external or independent “critical friend” input to improve objectivity, scrutiny and the overall quality of assurance activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-agency audits are completed to a consistent standard, providing enhanced objectivity and challenge. Audit findings are clearer and more insightful, leading to demonstrable improvements in practice, policy or partnership working across agencies. The Board receives stronger, more balanced assurance, with evidence that audit outcomes are informing decision-making and driving continuous quality improvement.
<p>Allocate lead agencies and undertake the Board areas of audit identified for 25-26 to include;</p> <p>Implementation of Supervision Principles</p> <p>Self-Neglect and Self Neglect Hoarding Panels</p> <p>Section 5 arrangements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead agencies are identified and engaged, with clear timelines and audit plans agreed for Supervision Principles, Self-Neglect/SNH Panels, and Section 5 arrangements. Audits are completed to a high standard, producing clear and evidence-based findings that highlight strengths, risks, and required improvements. Audit learning leads to measurable changes in practice, improving consistency in supervision, effectiveness of self-neglect panels, and compliance with Section 5 duties.
<p>Review the findings and seek assurance from agencies’ audit and quality assurance processes through the Board, in line with the Audit and QA Assurance Framework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agencies consistently bring forward audit and QA findings that are comprehensive, timely and relevant. Board members can clearly articulate where strengths and risks lie, based on robust assurance information, and can demonstrate increased confidence in the effectiveness of partner agencies’ safeguarding arrangements.

PRIORITY 3: RESPONDING TO SAFEGUARDING THEMES

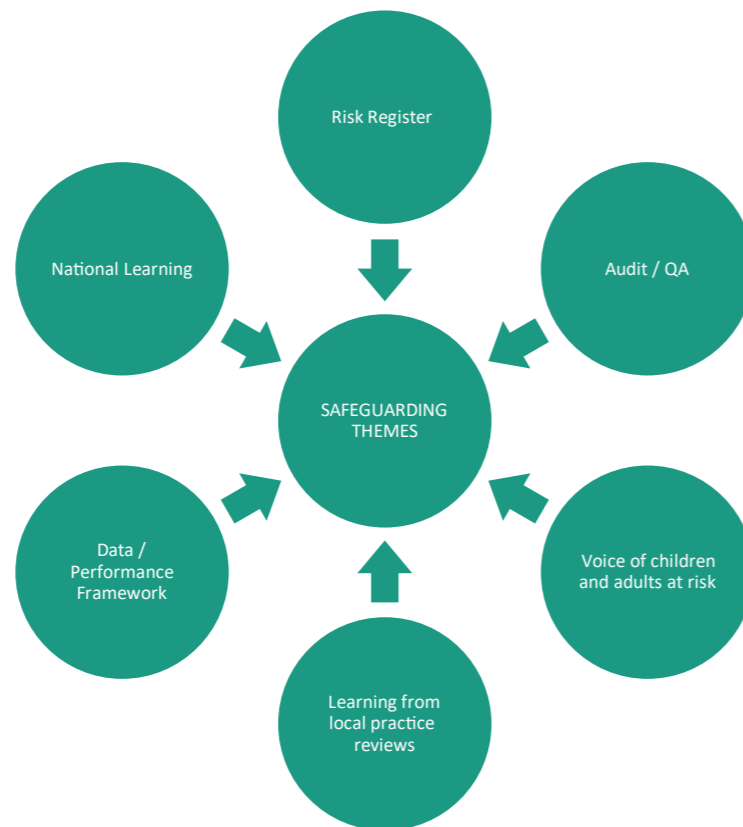
OUTCOME:

The Regional Safeguarding Board responds effectively to emerging safeguarding themes and supports the coordination of an effective multi-agency response.

SAFEGUARDING THEMATIC CONTINUOUS REVIEW MODEL:

Cardiff and Vale Safeguarding Board will continue to review key thematic sources of harm that require a local safeguarding response. These themes are identified through a range of intelligence and learning mechanisms, illustrated in the diagram below. For 2025–26, the Board has also identified three priority safeguarding themes that will receive focused attention.

Understanding the thematic sources of harm that necessitate a safeguarding response is central to the Board’s strategic oversight and planning. Analysis of local safeguarding information has highlighted recurring themes that pose significant risks to both children and adults. In response, the Board has developed targeted actions to address these themes proactively and ensure a coordinated, region-wide safeguarding response.



Children

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Respond to the new All Wales CSA National Strategy when published and obtain assurance from partners that the key improvement actions are being progressed across the region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress demonstrated against national delivery action plan recommendations
<p>Progress the delivery plan developed by the CSA Working Group, ensuring demonstrable progress in the following areas:</p> <p>Training, awareness-raising and consultation support for professionals to build confidence and improve practice in identifying and responding to CSA.</p> <p>Strengthened and clarified strategic priorities to ensure a coherent, region-wide approach to CSA.</p> <p>Improved oversight and increased availability of support and recovery services for children, young people and families.</p> <p>Effective capture and communication of key learning emerging from research, reviews and national developments.</p> <p>Enhanced data collection, analysis and reporting to better understand prevalence, patterns and outcomes.</p> <p>Strengthened specialist practice responses including group-based organised CSA, harmful sexual behaviour, and peer-on-peer CSA, ensuring robust and consistent intervention across agencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professionals show increased confidence and capability in identifying and responding to CSA, evidenced through training feedback and practice audits. Clear, consistent CSA pathways and support services are in place, with improved access and stronger multi-agency coordination across specialist areas. CSA data and learning are regularly analysed and shared, driving visible improvements in practice and service delivery.



Children & Adults

DOMESTIC ABUSE

ACTION

Work with regional partnerships to standardise domestic abuse data definitions and reporting expectations, ensuring consistency, comparability and improved insight across all agencies.

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

- Agencies adopt consistent data definitions and reporting expectations, resulting in clearer and more comparable regional data.
- The Board receives regular, standardised DA data that supports clearer decision-making and targeted action.

Strengthen regional understanding and application of safeguarding processes for child domestic abuse victims by reinforcing practice beyond formal training and enhance professional awareness through the development of Domestic Abuse forums and the use of key leads such as Violence Prevention Leads and DSPs to share consistent safeguarding messages across agencies.

- Practitioners demonstrate increased confidence and competence in identifying and responding to child domestic abuse victims.
- Domestic Abuse forums and key safeguarding leads effectively disseminate consistent messages, leading to stronger multi-agency alignment.

DOMESTIC ABUSE

ACTION

Establish a multi-agency group to progress regional actions aligned to the National Action Plan to Prevent the Abuse of Older People. This group will:

- Review and analyse current data capture to understand prevalence, gaps and opportunities for improvement.
- Assess workforce training needs and existing activity to ensure practitioners are equipped to recognise and respond to abuse of older people.
- Ensure older people can access appropriate domestic abuse and sexual violence support, strengthening referral pathways and awareness across agencies.
- Review learning from national workstreams and research to inform a coordinated, evidence-based regional response.

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

- A clear regional picture of abuse of older people emerges through improved data capture, analysis and shared understanding.
- Practitioners report increased confidence and knowledge in recognising and responding to abuse of older people due to clearer pathways and training improvements.
- Older people have strengthened access to domestic abuse and sexual violence support, demonstrated through improved referrals and engagement with services.

Strengthen mechanisms to raise and share domestic abuse related risks, share Key data findings and communicate relevant areas of development between board arrangements.

- Key domestic abuse risks and insights are shared promptly and consistently across Board arrangements, improving early identification of concerns.
- Data-led insights result in clearer priorities and targeted safeguarding activity across partnerships.

TRANSITIONAL SAFEGUARDING

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Progress the work of the Transitional Safeguarding Task and Finish group established to review the current arrangements for transitional safeguarding and suggest and drive strategic and operational improvements, focusing on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a regionally agreed definition and shared language for transitional safeguarding to ensure clarity and consistency across agencies. Mapping existing transition pathways to identify gaps, flexibilities and opportunities for stronger joint working. Delivering targeted training to address regional and locality-level knowledge gaps around consent, capacity, legal thresholds and agency responsibilities. Improving data collection and alignment with emerging national guidance to strengthen oversight and planning for young people transitioning between services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agencies adopt a shared definition and consistent language around transitional safeguarding, resulting in clearer pathways and reduced ambiguity for practitioners and young people. Transition pathways are better coordinated and gaps are reduced, evidenced through improved joint working and smoother handovers between children's and adult services. Practitioners demonstrate greater confidence and capability in managing transitional safeguarding issues, reflected in training evaluations, case audits and more accurate, complete data.

Adults

MENTAL CAPACITY

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Develop multi-agency training and awareness-raising resources to strengthen partners' understanding of mental capacity, particularly in relation to consent, unwise decisions and their implications for safeguarding practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practitioners demonstrate improved understanding and confidence in applying mental capacity principles, particularly when assessing consent and recognising unwise decisions within safeguarding contexts. Training and awareness tools are routinely used across partner agencies, resulting in shared language, better-quality referrals, and earlier identification of safeguarding concerns.
<p>Strengthen and formalise arrangements that enable the Board to have enhanced oversight of the Deprivation of Liberty (DoLS) process, ensuring improved monitoring, clearer reporting mechanisms, and greater visibility of risks, trends, and system pressures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board receives regular, clear, and timely reports on DoLS activity, including volumes, risks, and trends, enabling informed scrutiny and challenge. Partner agencies demonstrate strengthened compliance with DoLS legislation and local procedures, with improved timeliness, quality of assessments, and consistency of decision-making. Enhanced oversight leads to earlier identification of system pressures and safeguarding risks, with Board-led actions resulting in measurable improvements in outcomes for individuals subject to DoLS applications. Develop resources and information to be made available on the Board website

PRIORITY 4: REAL VOICES AND REAL EXPERIENCES

OUTCOME:

The Regional Safeguarding Board effectively engages service users in the design, development and delivery of safeguarding activity and the work of the board, identifying and responding to strengths and areas of improvement, leading to increased trust, safety, and satisfaction among individuals at risk.

REAL VOICES AND REAL EXPERIENCES

ACTION

Develop and agree consistent regional principles and standards for how real voices and real experiences are captured, documented and used across agencies, and implement unified approaches for collecting, reviewing and reflecting feedback to ensure that insight meaningfully informs service development and delivery.

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

- Agencies apply the agreed principles consistently, resulting in higher-quality, comparable lived-experience insights.
- Feedback gathered is routinely used to inform service development decisions, evidenced through updated policies, procedures or service changes.
- Children, adults and families report increased confidence that their experiences are being heard, valued and acted upon.

Introduce regular, supported opportunities for practitioners to share the feedback they gather from adults at risk, children and families through daily practice, ensuring frontline insights inform wider system learning and planning.

- Practitioners routinely contribute insights from children, adults and families, with themes captured and shared through established channels.
- Feedback informs Board discussions and improvement activity, with clear examples of issues identified and addressed.
- Staff report increased confidence that the feedback they gather is valued and impacts wider system learning.



REAL VOICES AND REAL EXPERIENCES

ACTION

Agree and implement a small, meaningful set of baseline metrics across the region - 'Do you feel listened to?' to measure the impact of engagement and ensure voice remains central to practice.

Develop and implement clear processes showing how feedback leads to action, using transparent "You said / We did" approaches to evidence how lived experience influences Board decisions and service improvements.

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

- Baseline metrics are consistently used across agencies to capture whether people feel listened to and involved in decisions.
- Data from these metrics is analysed and shows measurable improvement over time.
- Findings directly shape Board priorities and improvement plans.
- Visible "You said / We did" updates demonstrate how feedback has directly influenced decisions and improvements.
- Agencies embed the feedback loop into routine practice, with consistent evidence presented to the Board.

PRIORITY 5: WORKFORCE INFORMATION

OUTCOME:

The Regional Safeguarding Board has a robust understanding of the current workforce profiles, recruitment and retention challenges, multi-agency training uptake, and well-being support offer, ensuring that safeguarding duties are effectively delivered.

MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Clarify expectations and support the implementation of Group B / C safeguarding training across all partner organisations, ensuring consistent standards, delivery and compliance monitoring in line with national requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner agencies demonstrate full compliance with Group B/C National Training Standards, evidenced through monitoring and reporting. Training delivery becomes consistent across the region, with reduced variation and stronger assurance to the Board.
<p>Develop and pilot a suite of alternative professional development and multi-agency collaboration opportunities including a programme of lunch and learns, cross-agency work-exchange, shadowing, “Day in the Life” opportunities and listening forums to build mutual understanding and promote multi-agency collaboration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practitioners report improved understanding of other agencies’ roles Cross-agency relationships and communication strengthen, reflected in positive feedback and improved multi-agency working. Pilot activities lead to sustained professional development options becoming embedded in the regional workforce offer.
<p>Increase safeguarding capacity by extending training and awareness-raising to wider workforce groups, such as taxi drivers, community organisations, and other public-facing roles to strengthen early identification and community-level safeguarding practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wider workforce groups access safeguarding training and demonstrate increased awareness of risks and referral pathways. Early identification and reporting of safeguarding concerns increase.

MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Ensure a trauma-informed approach is embedded across the regional workforce by coordinating, promoting and monitoring the rollout of trauma-informed training and practice development across all agencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trauma-informed training is consistently rolled out across all agencies, with high levels of staff completion and positive learner feedback. Agencies embed trauma-informed principles into policies, supervision and practice frameworks, showing sustainable cultural change.

STRENGTHENING OUR WORKFORCE

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Develop a consistent regional framework for collecting and reporting workforce information, including staffing pressures, training levels and workforce capacity and establish clear triggers and escalation pathways to ensure critical workforce pressures are identified early and raised to the Board in a timely and consistent manner.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce information is consistently collected and reported across all partner agencies, providing a clear regional picture of staffing pressures, training levels and workforce capacity. Escalation triggers are well-understood and routinely used, resulting in timely alerts to the Board when critical workforce risks emerge. The Board receives regular, high-quality workforce assurance, enabling informed decision-making and targeted support where pressures are impacting safeguarding practice.

PROMOTING WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Provide clear, accessible information on mental health and wellbeing resources for staff and gain assurance from Board partners that effective support is available, promoted and utilised across their organisations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff across agencies report improved awareness of available wellbeing resources and increased confidence in accessing support when needed. Board partners provide evidence that staff wellbeing services are effective, accessible and actively used.

PROMOTING WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
<p>Explore and implement consistent ways to gather staff feedback and satisfaction across agencies, ensuring themes are reported to the Board for oversight, learning and action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consistent mechanism is in place to gather staff feedback and satisfaction, with themes reported to the Board and informing improvement actions. • Staff feedback shows improved satisfaction, morale or wellbeing over time.
<p>Create regular opportunities to recognise, celebrate and share good practice across the partnership, promoting cross-agency learning and strengthening workforce morale and collaboration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular opportunities exist to showcase and share examples of good practice, leading to improved cross-agency learning and recognition of staff achievements. • The Board can evidence how shared good practice has influenced improvements in service delivery or workforce culture.
<p>Explore, capture and share good-practice examples of how digital tools, including AI can support effective workload management, and undertake research into how technology can enhance caseload management, training and professional development, and data analysis across the partnership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners demonstrate increased use of digital tools and AI-supported solutions that improve workload management, caseload oversight, training access or data analysis, evidenced through pilots or practice examples shared with the Board. • A summary of findings and good-practice examples is produced and shared regionally

APPENDIX

APPENDIX 1

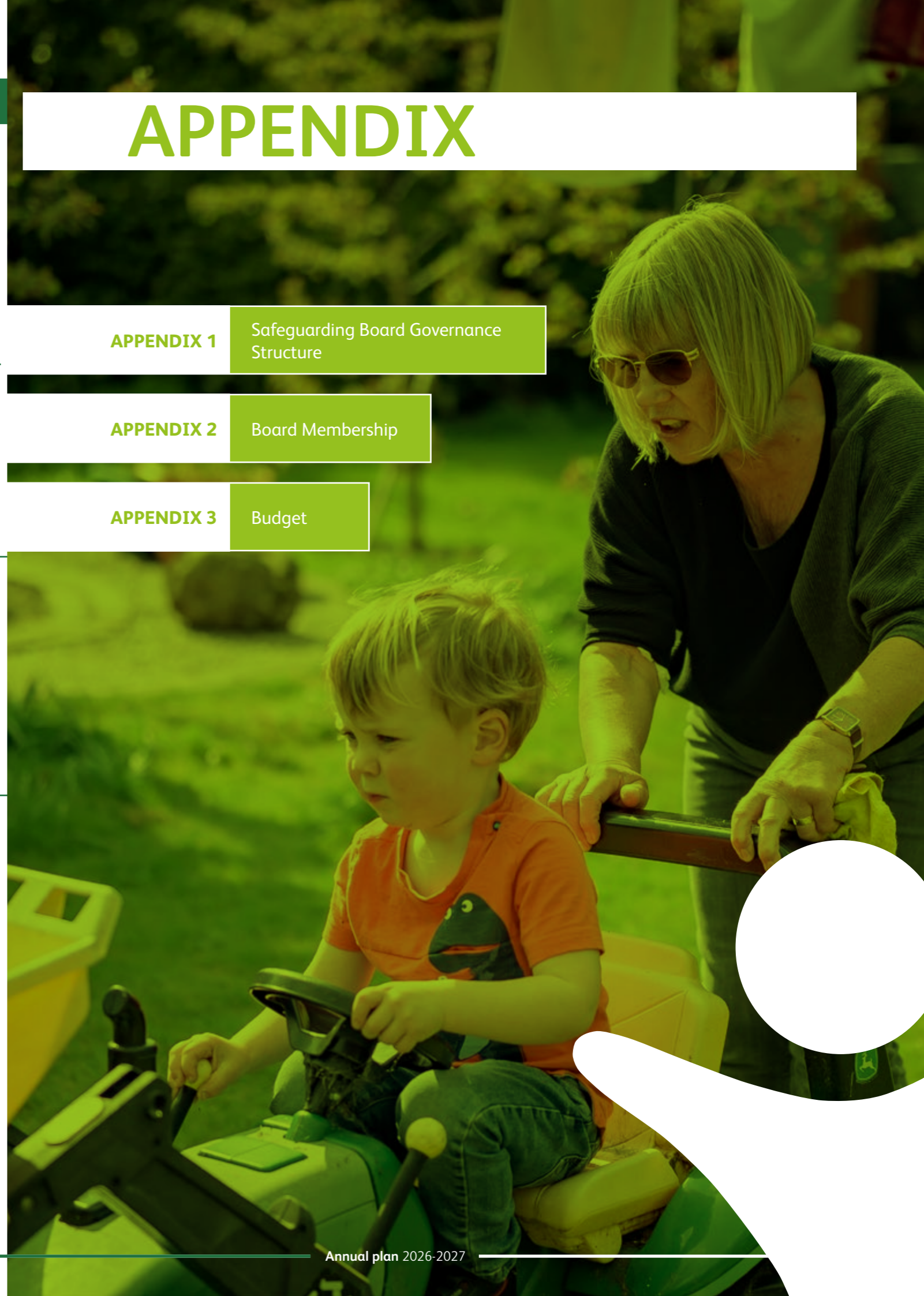
Safeguarding Board Governance Structure

APPENDIX 2

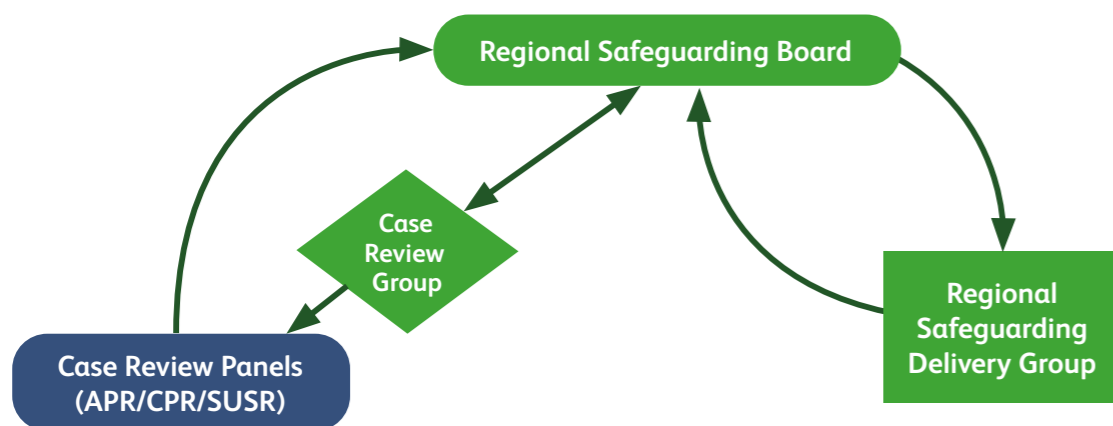
Board Membership

APPENDIX 3

Budget



CARDIFF & VALE OF GLAMORGAN REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD GOVERNANCE



CARDIFF & VALE OF GLAMORGAN REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The membership complies with the guidance issued under Part 7 (Section 134(2) of the SS&WB Act 2014). A list of members is below:

NAME	ROLE	AGENCY
LOCAL AUTHORITY		
SOCIAL SERVICES		
Sarah McGill	Corportate Director (CO-CHAIR of CVSB)	People and Communities, Cardiff
Lance Carver	Director (CO-CHAIR of CVSB)	Social Services, Vale of Glamorgan
Deborah Driffield	Director	Children’s Services, Cardiff
David Murray-Dickson	Safeguarding Lead Manager	Adult Services, Cardiff
EDUCATION		
Katy Williams	Head of Achievement for All for School Improvement & Inclusion	Education and Lifelong Learning, Vale of Glamorgan
Melanie Godfrey	Director	Education Department, Cardiff
YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE / YOUTH JUSTICE & EARLY SUPPORT SERVICE (YJESS)		
Kirsty Davies	Service Manager	YJESS, Vale of Glamorgan
Angharad Thomas	OM Youth Offending Service	Children’s Services, Cardiff
HOUSING		
Laura Garvey-Cubbon	OM Partnerships & Joint Commissioning	Housing Cardiff
Nick Jones	Operational Manager, Public Sector Housing	Housing & Communities, Vale of Glamorgan Council

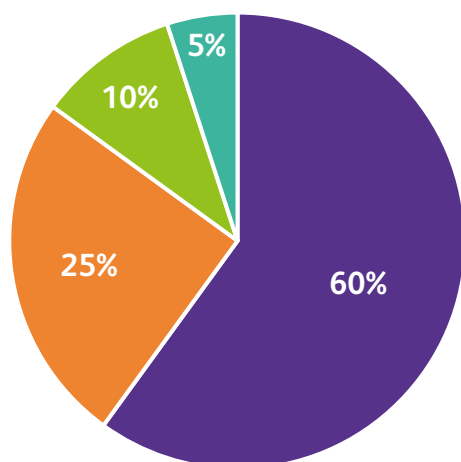
NAME	ROLE	AGENCY
SOUTH WALES POLICE		
Clayton Richie	Detective Inspector, Public Protection Department	South Wales Police
NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE		
Eirian Evans	Head of Cardiff and Vale Probation Delivery Unit (PDU)	National Probation Service
HEALTH		
Jason Roberts	Deputy Executive Director of Nursing, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Linda Hughes-Jones	Head of Safeguarding	Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Nicola Edwards	Head of Nursing - Safeguarding	Swansea Bay University Health Board
Katharine Thomas	Deputy Head of Safeguarding	Swansea Bay University Health Board
VELINDRE		
Fiona Davies	Head of Safeguarding & Vulnerable Persons	Velindre NHS Trust
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM, PUBLIC HEALTH WALES		
Nigel Farr	National Safeguarding GP	Public Health Wales
HOME OFFICE		
Gemma Ware	Senior Operations Manager	Home Office
HIS MAJESTY'S PRISON SERVICE		
Simone Flook	Deputy Governor	HMPS

NAME	ROLE	AGENCY
WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICE, NHS TRUST		
Vicky Maxwell	Head of Safeguarding	WAST
THIRD SECTOR		
Carl Harris	Assistant Director (Co Chair of CVSB)	NSPCC
Candice Lloyd	Service Manager	NYAS
Sarah Crawley	Director	Barnardo's
Yvonne Connolly	Operational Director	Llanmau
CARE PROVIDERS		
Brian West	Chair of Vale of Glamorgan Care Homes/Care Forum Wales	Care Homes/Care Forum Wales
ADVISORS IN ATTENDANCE		
Leanne Weston	OM Legal Manager	Community Team Legal, Cardiff
Victoria Davidson	Legal Advisor	Legal Services, Vale of Glamorgan
Artie Meakin	Board member, National Independent Safeguarding Board Wales	National Independent Safeguarding Board
Beth Aynsley	Policy Officer, Single Unified Safeguarding Review, Social Services and Integration (Chair of Case Review Group)	Welsh Government
Iain McMillan	Head of Resource Management and Safeguarding (Chair of Delivery Group)	Social Services, Vale of Glamorgan

CARDIFF & VALE REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD BUDGET

The Cardiff & Vale Regional Safeguarding Board is funded by contributions from partner organisations using the funding formula set out in Working Together to Safeguard People – Volume 1.

The Safeguarding Board is supported by a central Business Management Unit consisting of a Business Manager, Review Manager, 2 Business Coordinators and a Business support administrator.



Partner Contributions

- Local Authorities
- Health
- SWP
- Probation

Organisation	Proposed Contribution Combined	Organisation Split	Current Contribution to RSB Split (%)	Proposed Contribution Split (£)
Local Authorities	60%	Cardiff Council	67%	£66,330.00
		Vale of Glamorgan Council	33%	£32,670.00
SWP	10%	South Wales Police	100%	£16,500.00
Health	25%	Cardiff and Vale UHB	81.25%	£33,515.63
		Velindre University NHS Trust	18.75%	£7,734.37
Probation	5%	National Probation Service	100%	£8,250.00