

REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD

ANNUAL PLAN

2023-2024



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



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INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the priorities and delivery plan for the Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Board for 2023-2024.

The Board oversees safeguarding across Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan.

Our priorities were identified through our 2023 Development Day, which included a review of our progress against our previous Annual Plan for 2022-2023, an overview of safeguarding themes emerging from recent Adult and Child Practice 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 child practice reviews, adult practice reviews, 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.

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 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.

OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2023-2024

PRIORITY 1:

SAFEGUARDING FUNDAMENTALS

PRIORITY 2:

EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDING REVIEWS

PRIORITY 3:

RESPONDING TO SAFEGUARDING THEMES

PRIORITY 1:

SAFEGUARDING FUNDAMENTALS



OUTCOME:

The regional safeguarding board supports strategic improvement, effective partnerships and workforce development to ensure safeguarding fundamentals are strengthened across the region.

MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE
1.1 Implement the Regional Safeguarding Board's programme of multi-agency safeguarding training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of staff attending training % of safeguarding workforce completing training
1.2 Review and respond to the boards progress against the National Training Standards implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q1/Q2 - Self assessment / review of current training offer across the region Training developed to respond to any gaps identified in the training offer

DATA AND INSIGHTS

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE
1.3 Produce a performance framework and ensure Cardiff & Vale Regional Safeguarding Board are receiving relevant safeguarding data and data reflecting the boards progress against key objectives and actions in line with national performance framework developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dashboard designed in Q1 Built and tested in Q2 Rollout in Q3 Evaluate and review in Q4
1.4 Develop a Regional Safeguarding Board Risk Register and framework for the escalation of issues across the safeguarding partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register designed in Q1 Built and tested in Q2 Rollout in Q3 Evaluate and review in Q4

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE
<p>1.5 Raise awareness of the Cardiff & Vale Regional Safeguarding Board's work by ensuring it is promoted widely to the workforce, communities, and other relevant partnerships within the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement stats from RSB Newsletter • Engagement stats from public-facing comms • Website stats
<p>1.6 Raise awareness of Safeguarding, the signs to spot and where to get help and support with professionals, partners and our communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual comms calendar produced with key dates • Engagement stats from thematic campaign
<p>1.7 Ensure children, young people and adults at risk are active participants in shaping and improving service design and delivery across the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of children and adults participating in consultation/ engagement events (all partner data) • Number of staff attending RSB events

PRIORITY 2:

EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDING REVIEWS



OUTCOME:

The Regional Safeguarding Board ensures there are effective review processes and review learning is implemented across the partnership.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE REVIEW PROCESS

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE
2.1 Develop a new framework to provide visibility of the status of review learning implementation at Board meetings, including thematic analysis and a RAG rating for each action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracker designed and built in Q1 • Rollout in Q2 • Evaluate and review in Q3 & Q4
2.2 Deliver the Single Unified Safeguarding Review (SUSR) Pilot and support roll-out of the SUSR within the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUSR Pilot delivered in Q1-Q3 • SUSR Consultation in Q1

PANEL SKILLS AND RESILIENCE

ACTION	WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE
2.3 Provide high-quality training for Review chairs, reviewers, and panel members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUSR Chair and Reviewer Training in Q2/ Q3 • SUSR Panel Member Training • Number of staff participating in Chair/ Reviewer/Panel Member training

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

ACTION

2.4 Develop a 'dissemination of learning' framework to ensure learning is shared effectively, systematically and sustainably with all professionals working with children and adults at risk

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE

- Returns on 7-minute briefing dissemination
- Attendance stats from multi-agency briefings

DELIVERING IMPROVEMENT AND SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE

ACTION

2.5 Provide effective oversight to ensure the delivery of key improvement actions emerging from completed safeguarding reviews

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE

- Number of completed actions from Review tracker
- % Complete, % by RAG status

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.

EXPLOITATION

ACTION

3.1 Complete a review of the regional exploitation strategy and produce a delivery plan to address any gaps identified

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE

- Delivery plan for exploitation (to capture e.g. SAFE, NRM, MISPER, Youth Endowment Fund)

SEXUAL ABUSE

ACTION

3.2 Review our progress against the National Action Plan for Preventing and Responding to Child Sexual Abuse and ensure recommendations from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse are implemented within the region

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE

- Engagement with project led by Children in Wales
- Completion of position statement against recommendations: any emerging actions to be incorporated into tracker

DOMESTIC ABUSE

ACTION

3.3 Ensure visibility of the new regional VAWDASV strategy at the Regional Safeguarding Board and support the dissemination of review learning across the VAWDASV network

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE

- Mutual VAWDASV- DA info share in place via summary report for VAWDASV Exec / RSB from Q2 onwards

TRANSITIONAL SERVICES

ACTION

3.4 Develop transitional safeguarding services to ensure holistic support for young people aged 18-25 entering adulthood

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE

- Data and intelligence to support evaluation and further development of service

SELF-NEGLECT

ACTION

3.5 Develop a self-neglect toolkit and ensure effective dissemination to practitioners across the region

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE

- Tool kit developed in Q1
- Tool kit signed off in Q2
- Tool kit rolled out in Q3 & Q4

APPENDIX



APPENDIX A: 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	POSITION
CHAIRS	
Lance Carver	CO-CHAIR Director of Social Services, Vale of Glamorgan
Sarah McGill	CO-CHAIR Corporate Director People & Communities, Cardiff
Tracey Holdsworth	CO-CHAIR Assistant Director and head of local services Wales NSPCC
LOCAL AUTHORITY	
Deborah Driffield	Director of Children’s Services, Cardiff
Rachel Evans	Head of Service for Children and Young People Services, Vale of Glamorgan
Natasha James	Operational Manager of Safeguarding and Service Outcomes, Vale of Glamorgan
Iain McMillan	Head of Service, Social Services, Vale of Glamorgan
Jason Bennet	Head of Service for Adults, Vale of Glamorgan
Jane Thomas	Director of Adult Services, Cardiff
Mike Tate	Assistant Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Cardiff
David Davies	Head of Achievement for All for School Improvement & Inclusion, Vale of Glamorgan
Nick Jones	Operational Manager of Housing Services, Vale of Glamorgan
Laura Garvey-Cubbon	Operational Manager, Strategy & Housing Need, Housing & Communities, Cardiff
Kirsty Davies	YOS Manager for Children and Young People Services, Vale of Glamorgan
Angharad Thomas	YOS Manager for Children and Young People Services, Cardiff

NAME	POSITION
HEALTH BOARD	
Jason Roberts/ Rebecca Aylward	Deputy Executive Director of Nursing, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Linda Hughes-Jones	Head of Safeguarding, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Katina Kontos	Named Doctor Safeguarding Children, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Nicola Edwards	Head of Nursing - Safeguarding, Swansea Bay University Health Board
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING TEAM, PUBLIC HEALTH WALES	
Claire Thomas	Designated Doctor for NHS Wales National Safeguarding Team, Public Health Wales
VELINDRE NHS TRUST	
Nigel Downes	Deputy Director of Nursing & Service Improvement, Velindre University NHS Trust
Nicola Williams	Executive Director of Nursing, Allied Health Professional and Health Science, Velindre University NHS Trust
SOUTH WALES POLICE	
Martyn Stone	Detective Superintendent, South Wales Police
Beth Aynsley	Independent Protecting Vulnerable Person Manager, South Wales Police
NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE	
Eirian Evans	LDU Head for National Probation Service
YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE	
Kirsty Davies	YOS Manager for Children and Young People Services, Vale of Glamorgan
Angharad Thomas	YOS Manager for Children and Young People Services, Cardiff
HOME OFFICE	
Cassandra Mead	Safeguarding Operations Manager, Asylum Safeguarding Hub, Home Office
HER MAJESTY'S PRISON SERVICE	
Helen Ryder	Governor, HMPS

NAME	POSITION
WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS TRUST	
Nikki Harvey	Head of Safeguarding for WAST
SOUTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE	
Laura Thomas	Safeguarding Lead Officer, Community Safety
THIRD SECTOR	
Wendy DeBruin	Service Manager, NSPCC
Elly Jones	Assistant Director, Barnardo's
Morgan Fackrell	Chief Executive of Cardiff Women's Aid
CARE PROVIDERS	
Brian West	Chair of Vale of Glamorgan Care Homes/Care Forum Wales
Liz Hill	Learning Disability & Supported Living Care Providers
ADVISORS IN ATTENDANCE	
Leanne Weston	Operational Manager for Legal & Democratic Services, Community Team Legal, Cardiff
Victoria Davidson	Operational Manager, Legal Services, Vale of Glamorgan

APPENDIX B: CARDIFF & VALE OF GLAMORGAN REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD BUDGET

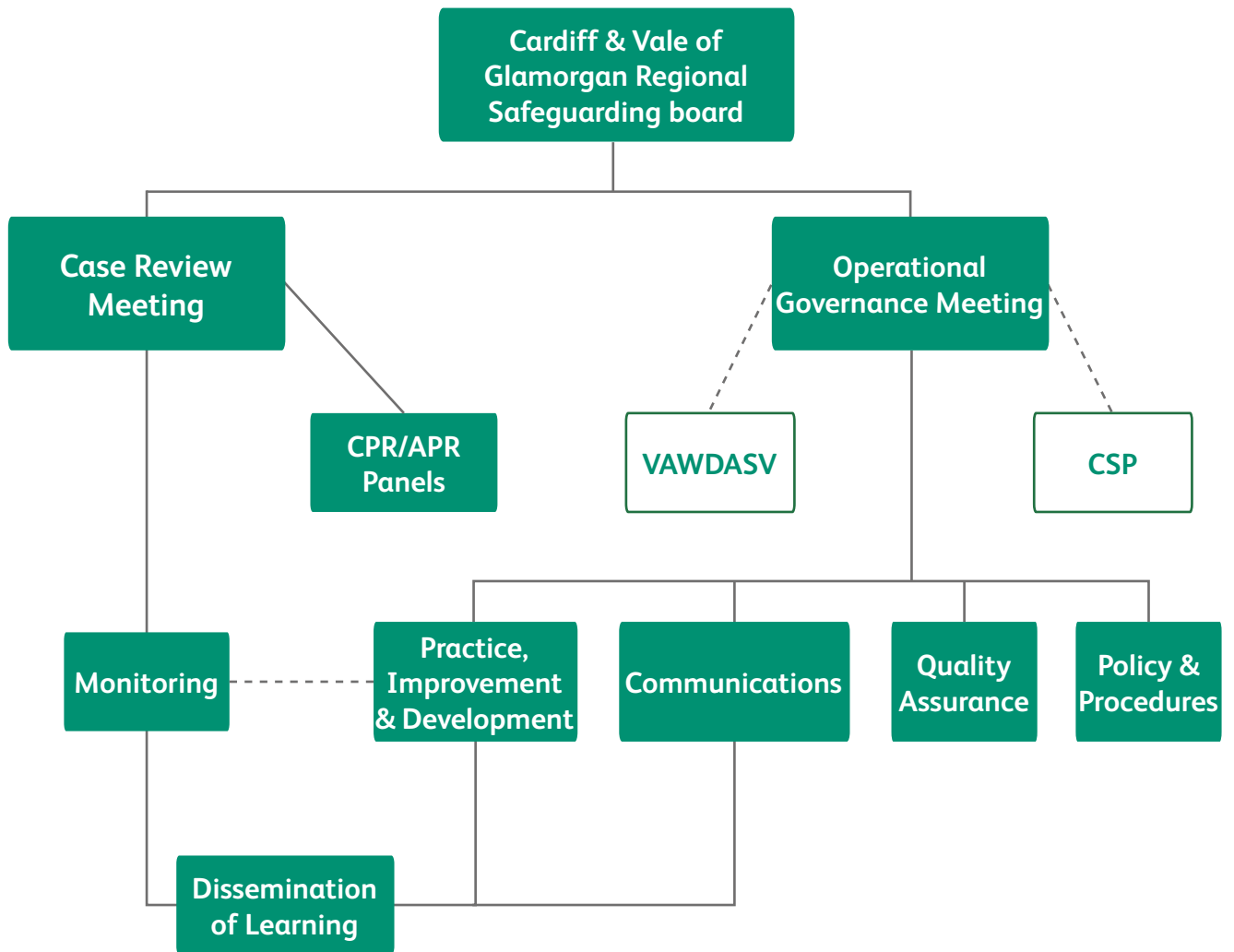
The Cardiff & Vale Regional Safeguarding Board is funded by contributions from partner organisations using the funding formula set out in Working Together to Safeguard People – Volume 1.

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

Projected Budget for 2023-24 is as follows:

ITEM	TYPE	ALLOCATED BUDGET
Staff	0.2 x Safeguarding Policy & Development Manager	£ 200,059.34
	1 x Business Manager	
	3 x Business Coordinators (One temporary until 30th November 2023- funded via previous underspend)	
	2 x 0.5 Business Support	
	1 x Review Coordinator	
		20 % £RSB Funding (Funded via previous underspend- £10,600) 80 % SUSR Grant (£42,000)
Development including conferences, events and training		£32,000
Practice Reviews		£15,000
Admin		£2,500
Total:		£257,659.34 <i>+ £42,000 SUSR Grant</i>

APPENDIX C: CARDIFF & VALE OF GLAMORGAN REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD GOVERNANCE



APPENDIX D:

CARDIFF & VALE REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD

DEVELOPMENT DAY SUMMARY REPORT

3RD FEBRUARY 2023

This document is
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REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD

DEVELOPMENT DAY

The RSB development day provided a chance to reflect on the work that has taken place over the past 12 months and an opportunity to listen, engage and learn from all partners to review the Regional Safeguarding Board priorities for the year, identifying the areas where additional focus from the Board will add value and support practitioners in safeguarding children and adults at risk across the Cardiff and Vale region.

Across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, we continue to work in a very challenging social and financial landscape for public services. As we continue to feel the residual impact of the pandemic and now face new challenges emerging from the cost-of-living crisis.

The safeguarding workforce across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan continue to show incredible skill and tenacity, working relentlessly as they face the many challenges these factors have exacerbated.

National lockdown placed a significant strain on children, parents and carers, triggering mental health issues, anxiety around health, finances and employment and a lack of social support and connections.

The pandemic highlighted the importance of the social care sector and effective multi-agency safeguarding arrangements, but also demonstrated the fragility of the system.

We are also now facing a complex and significant cost of living crisis, which is expected to increase safeguarding risks to vulnerable children and adults, increasing the risk of abuse and neglect, mental health concerns and exploitation.

These issues further compound longstanding and systemic challenges for health, social care and the broad network of agencies involved in local safeguarding practice.

- Unprecedented increase in demand for care and support, which has created significant pressure on services;
- The challenges in recruitment and retention of social care workers;
- Fragility within domiciliary support services;
- Placement insufficiency for children with care and support needs;

“

The benefits of strong partnership working between health, social care and wider public services to create a whole system approach has been clearly demonstrated during the pandemic. So many barriers were overcome by working together, further system improvements are needed to ensure we see this work continue to ensure sustainable outcomes for people.”

Sarah McGill, Corporate Director Cardiff Social Services



40 PROFESSIONALS ATTENDED THE EVENT



23 ORGANISATIONS / DEPARTMENTS WERE REPRESENTED ACROSS CARDIFF AND THE VALE

What do you consider to be the top three issues for safeguarding in 2023-2024?

Attendees were asked to consider and discuss what they believed to be the main safeguarding issues to consider in the year ahead.





REVIEW OF ANNUAL PLAN 2022-2023

The current plan has three priority areas:

- sexual abuse
- domestic abuse
- safeguarding fundamentals

Lance Carver, Director of Social Service, Vale of Glamorgan, facilitated a review of the current priorities within the annual plan along with the key objectives aligned to these priorities.

Attendees were asked to review the objectives, reflect on achievements and discuss potential developments and next steps.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

Priority 1 – Sexual Abuse

- Lots of excellent work has been completed over the last year to progress this priority, particularly our response to the National Action Plan for Preventing and Responding to Child Sexual Abuse, which has just one outstanding action.
- Significant work has also been completed across the region to develop our approach to contextual safeguarding.
- Many of these areas continue to be relevant and will continue to be actioned in the year ahead- the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse was published in October, as was our local historic child sexual abuse CPR, with the action plan being circulated in January for sign-off.
- Broaden the scope of the priority area to include other forms of child/ adult exploitation and the contextual safeguarding response required.
- Explore how we identify and record victims of sexual abuse.
- Peer on peer sexual abuse is an area in need of additional focus.

Priority 2 - Domestic Abuse

- Some great progress has been made- in particular the continued roll-out of the national training framework in the region and a programme of events for White Ribbon.
- Discussion regarding the governance arrangements for the strategic and policy development work aligned with domestic abuse and the work of VAWDSV and what the role of the RSB should be, as suggestion that this is better aligns to the community safety partnership
- Consideration to be given to supporting some aspects of safeguarding developments in relation to children within families where domestic abuse occurs.
- Need to focus on early intervention and prevention approaches for perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Priority 3 - Safeguarding Fundamentals

- Some particular achievements to note from this year include the level of engagement achieved through learning events and training, and the practitioner toolkit.
- Consideration is required in relation to the data / performance framework required by the board , the purpose of gathering the information and the responsibilities of the board in reviewing the available data.
- The Single Unified Safeguarding review will be coming into operation in the coming year – what do we need to do as a board to ensure this is embedded and disseminated as smoothly as possible.
- The safeguarding training standards and framework are now in place, how is the board ensuring this is used to support the work of key partners and how do we seek assurance training across the partnership is covering the relevant learning outcomes for the level of staff indicated.
- Staff wellbeing should be a priority, including effective supervision and support.
- Safeguarding fundamentals should be an ongoing priority for the board.



KEY THEMES, LEARNING AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM RECENT PRACTICE REVIEWS AND MAPFS

During her presentation Natasha James, Operational Manager Safeguarding, Vale of Glamorgan Council, highlighted the current position in terms of safeguarding practice reviews and the key learning drawn from them for the boards consideration.



12 INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE REVIEW ACTION PLANS MONITORED AT THE START OF 2021



80 RECOMMENDATIONS IN TOTAL (HISTORICAL 60; ACTIVE 20)

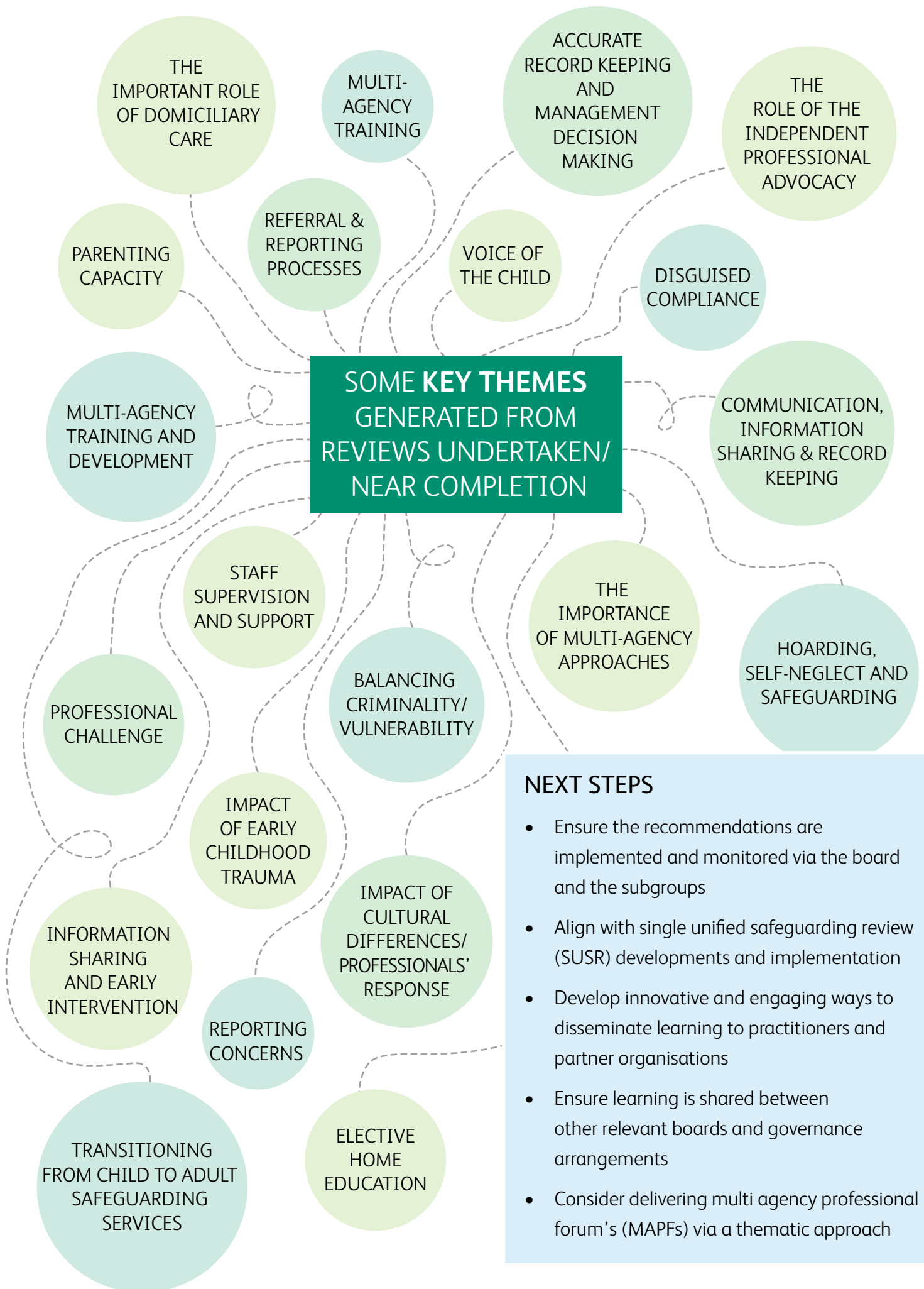


48 RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED/CLOSED DOWN TO DATE

Current status:



32 RECOMMENDATIONS IN PROGRESS (HISTORICAL 18; ACTIVE 14)



NEXT STEPS

- Ensure the recommendations are implemented and monitored via the board and the subgroups
- Align with single unified safeguarding review (SUSR) developments and implementation
- Develop innovative and engaging ways to disseminate learning to practitioners and partner organisations
- Ensure learning is shared between other relevant boards and governance arrangements
- Consider delivering multi agency professional forum's (MAPFs) via a thematic approach

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS: SUMMARIES AND NEXT STEPS

Attendees were provided the opportunity to explore some key areas of development in more detail. Board members and partners will be provided further opportunities to shape the work aligned to these areas, some key points identified from initial discussions are outlined below.

RSB Self-Assessment

- Need to consider the capacity of staff to attend multiple board meetings and sup groups, needs to be efficient use of time
- Ensure we track success and progress for all board partners, across the year to feed into the annual report
- Role profiles and board member induction to be developed
- Need to explore and record the barriers in implementing recommendations / actions and develop ways in which we highlight these risks to the board for oversight

Training and Development

- Compliance data across partners should be available for board assurance
- Need to ensure board partners meets the requirements of the national training standards
- Staff turnover can impact levels of training compliance – how are we building sustainable and easy to access training packages?
- Multi-agency training is key

- More face-to-face training opportunities
- A variety of training styles to be considered

Multi agency data and performance framework

- Data reporting can also help to identify gaps in available data
- Early help data is essential to understand an early intervention and prevention approach
- MARF may need to be adjusted to ensure the correct data is available
- Need to ensure all partners data can be reflected
- Data collection needs to be useful and proportionate



IN SUMMARY

The regional safeguarding board development day was a great opportunity to bring partners together to discuss the achievements and progress made as well as discussing the key priorities for the board moving forward. With the impact of poverty and cuts to services impacting on communities across the region it is more important than ever that we work together in a SMART and efficient way to ensure children and adults at risk are safeguarded effectively.

From the event and in further discussion with the board members, an annual plan will be developed for 2023-24 which will frame the outcomes and achievements we hope to evidence and celebrate at our next Regional Safeguarding Board Development Day

If there is anything you would like to discuss or to further input to this summary report, please contact a member of the RSB business unit cardiffandvalersb@cardiff.gov.uk