



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

10TH MAY 2018

CWM TAF SAFEGUARDING BOARD ANNUAL PLAN 2018/19

REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER, COUNCILLOR HOPKINS AND COUNCILLOR LEYSHON

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to share with Cabinet the Annual Plan for 2018/19 for the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board (Children, Adults and MASH).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Notes and endorses the content of the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board Annual Plan for 2018/19.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board (CTSB), which incorporates both children and adults safeguarding, is required to publish an Annual Plan and submit this to the Welsh Government by 31st March each year setting out its priorities for the coming year.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The CTSB is a statutory partnership made up of the agencies that are responsible for safeguarding children and adults at risk in Cwm Taf. The aim of the CTSB is to ensure that people of all ages, living in Cwm Taf, are protected from abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm. This also involves preventing abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm from happening.

- 4.2 The Board monitors how well agencies and other partnerships undertake their work with regard to safeguarding children and adults at risk and ensures safeguarding is embedded in all working practices.
- 4.3 The purpose of the annual plan is to be a useful tool of accountability and for evaluation. The guidance produced under Part 7 of the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act requires the annual plan to include the following information:
- a list of members;
 - the outcomes the Safeguarding Board proposes to achieve;
 - a summary of any improvement the Safeguarding Board proposes to make to enable it better to fulfil its objectives;
 - the amount of expenditure which the Safeguarding Board is likely to incur in order to achieve its objectives;
 - a description of how the Safeguarding Board proposes to collaborate with other persons or bodies;
 - when and how the Safeguarding Board will give children and adults who are, or may be, affected by the exercise of its functions, the opportunity to participate in its work.

5. ANNUAL PLAN 2018/19

- 5.1 The Board works within the ethos of the national guidance to improve safeguarding arrangements for everyone and to break down artificial barriers based on age. Collaboration between children and adults safeguarding arrangements in Cwm Taf has resulted in a number of joint functions, including the joint Safeguarding Board. The Board continues to take every opportunity to collaborate across children and adults safeguarding to support joint working and sharing of information and learning.
- 5.2 In addition to carrying out its core functions, each year the CTSB agrees on the key priority outcomes for the coming year to support it to achieve its objectives. The following priority outcomes have been identified for 2018/19:
- The Cwm Taf Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) effectively contributes to ensuring that children and adults at risk are able to live safe lives
 - The performance of the Board and its partners is monitored and reviewed to ensure that safeguarding in Cwm Taf is effective
 - The Board contributes to the development, implementation and monitoring of protocols and procedures that support the protection of adults and children and to prevent abuse

- The Board is aware of the prevalent safeguarding concerns in the area and engages in additional activities that facilitate or are conducive to the achievement of its objectives
 - The Board communicates effectively and appropriately with its stakeholders
 - Practitioners in Cwm Taf are receiving or have access to good quality and up to date safeguarding training
 - The Board will ensure the protection of people who, for their own safety and in their own best interests, need care that may deprive them of their liberty but who lack the capacity to consent
 - The plan also sets out the specific details of how the Board aims to address these priorities and the identified improvements to be achieved in 2018/19.
- 5.3 The CTSB has a committee and sub group structure in place to support the delivery of these priority outcomes (see Appendix 2 of the Annual Plan).
- 5.4 A detailed work plan for the Board and its sub groups sits underneath the Annual Plan. This work plan will include the actions required to achieve the improvements required, who is responsible, timescales and measures of success. The progress of the work plan will be monitored and reviewed on a quarterly basis and will form the basis of the Annual Report for 2018/2019.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full assessment is not required at this time.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Annual Plan has been approved by the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board and shared with the Welsh Government, the National Independent Safeguarding Board and the five other Regional Safeguarding Boards.
- 7.2 A copy of the plan has been published on the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board's website www.cwmtafsafeguarding.org

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 8.1 The Board has agreed a budget for the year and this is resourced by financial contributions from the statutory partner agencies (Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil local authorities, Cwm Taf University Health Board, South Wales Police, National Probation Service and the Wales Community Rehabilitation Company).
- 8.2 The budget set will enable the Board to delivery its priority outcomes and is included in the plan.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 9.1 The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 sets out the responsibilities and the functions of the Regional Safeguarding Boards.

10. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

- 10.1 The Board contributes to elements of the work of the Public Service Board by reporting on safeguarding activity.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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Background Papers:

None

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CWM TAF SAFEGUARDING BOARD

Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board

Annual Plan

2018 - 2019



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SAFEGUARDING IN CWM TAF

The area of Cwm Taf covers the local authority areas of Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf with a population of almost 300,000.¹

Keeping children and adults who may have needs for care and support safe is everyone's responsibility. This means feeling safe and being safe within their home or in their community, school, work place or anywhere else they go.

The **Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board (CTSB)**² is a statutory partnership made up of the agencies that are responsible for safeguarding children and adults at risk in Cwm Taf. The aim of the CTSB is to ensure that people of all ages, living in Cwm Taf, are protected from abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm. This also involves preventing abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm from happening.

The two key **safeguarding** objectives around **protection** and **prevention** underpin the work of the CTSB and inform the priorities that we have agreed in this Annual Plan for 2018/2019.

The **Cwm Taf Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)** has been established since 2015 and acts as the single point of contact for all professionals to report safeguarding concerns across Cwm Taf. The MASH has significantly improved the sharing of information between agencies, helping to protect the most vulnerable children and adults from harm, neglect and abuse.

¹ 298,116 based on Mid Year Estimates 30 June 2016, Source: Data Unit Wales

² Referenced throughout this document as the CTSB or the Board

What is Abuse and Neglect?

- Abuse means physical, sexual, psychological, emotional or financial abuse.
- Neglect means a failure to meet a person's basic physical, emotional, social or psychological needs, which is likely to result in an impairment of the person's well-being.

Safeguarding for All

The Board works within the ethos of the national guidance³ to improve safeguarding arrangements for everyone and to break down artificial barriers based on age. Collaboration between children and adults safeguarding arrangements in Cwm Taf has resulted in a number of joint functions, including a joint Safeguarding Board. The Board will continue to take every opportunity to collaborate across children and adults safeguarding to support joint working and sharing of information and learning.

Who are the Members of the Safeguarding Board?

The Lead Partner for the Board is Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council and the membership complies with the statutory guidance issued under Part 7 of the Social Services and Well Being Act 2014. A list of members is attached as Appendix 1.

³ Section 111, Part 7 of the Statutory Guidance under the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014 (volume 1)

WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES THAT WE PROPOSE TO ACHIEVE THIS YEAR?

In addition to carrying out its core functions⁴, each year the CTSB agrees on the key priority outcomes for the coming year to support it to achieve its objectives. The following priority outcomes have been identified for 2018/19:

- 1. The Cwm Taf Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) effectively contributes to ensuring that children and adults at risk are able to live safe lives**
- 2. The performance of the Board and its partners is monitored and reviewed to ensure that safeguarding in Cwm Taf is effective**
- 3. The Board contributes to the development, implementation and monitoring of protocols and procedures that support the protection of adults and children and to prevent abuse**
- 4. The Board is aware of the prevalent safeguarding concerns in the area and engages in additional activities that facilitate or are conducive to the achievement of its objectives**
- 5. The Board communicates effectively and appropriately with its stakeholders**
- 6. Practitioners in Cwm Taf are receiving or have access to good quality and up to date safeguarding training**
- 7. The Board will ensure the protection of people who, for their own safety and in their own best interests, need care that may deprive them of their liberty but who lack the capacity to consent**

⁴ Section 113, Part 7 of the Statutory Guidance under the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014 (volume 1)

The CTSB has a committee and sub group structure in place to support the delivery of these priority outcomes (see Appendix 2).

A detailed work plan for the Board and its sub groups sits underneath this strategic Annual Plan. The work plan will include the actions required to achieve the improvements required, who is responsible, timescales and measures of success. The progress of the work plan will be monitored and reviewed on a quarterly basis and will form the basis of the Annual Report for 2018/2019.

An overview of what the Board intends to do to achieve its priority outcomes is detailed below.

Strategic Outcome 1: The Cwm Taf Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is effectively contributes to ensuring that children and adults at risk are able to live safe lives

What does this mean?

- The Cwm Taf MASH sits within the governance structure of the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board and is the first point of contact for safeguarding concerns and information sharing
- The responsibility for Cwm Taf MASH's effectiveness lies with the Safeguarding Board, and individually with each of the Board partner agencies who are signed up to the Cwm Taf MASH Legal Agreement.
- The Cwm Taf MASH Operational Committee oversees the ongoing development of the MASH to ensure it continues to achieve its goal to improve safeguarding and promote the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk.

Where are we now?

- A MASH Quality Assurance Group has been set up to promote agency accountability through monitoring and evaluation of performance
- The processes within the MASH have been reviewed to streamline decision making
- A MASH accommodation review has been completed to provide improved fit for purpose accommodation
- The Cwm Taf MASH Mhub information sharing system license has been extended until March 2019 to allow for a full review of Mhub and alternative systems in 2018/19.

Priority Area

What needs to improve?

Multi-agency decision making and integration	<p>Improved coordination of information sharing, decision making and integration is necessary for the MASH to continue to be effective in safeguarding children and adults at risk. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement a MASH single telephone number to improve the efficiency of telephone referrals. ▪ Carry out a review of business support functions in the MASH to improve resilience ▪ Improve engagement with staff by holding development/briefing sessions and to support their well-being ▪ Publish a MASH journal to raise awareness of the work being carried out in MASH ▪ Implement an agreed funding formula for the sharing of costs associated with MASH activity across partner agencies
Information sharing systems	<p>Information sharing with the appropriate systems in place is crucial to effective partnership working in MASH. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complete a review of information sharing systems and agree the technical specifications for future requirements, to include performance management information. ▪ Ensure that there is an effective and efficient information sharing system in place to support the MASH.
MASH Quality and Performance Management	<p>The MASH QA Group needs to support the development and improvement of MASH safeguarding processes to ensure that multi-agency working is improving outcomes for children and adults at risk. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review existing MASH guidance in response to the Welsh Government Handling Individual Cases guidance. ▪ Develop a Performance management framework for MASH activity which includes a programme of audit activity ▪ Ensure that outcomes from MASH processes and activities are converted to appropriate learning in order to aid/develop prevention strategies specific to Cwm Taf.

Strategic Outcome 2: The performance of the Board and its partners is monitored and reviewed to ensure that safeguarding in Cwm Taf is effective

What does this mean?

- The responsibility for the Board's effectiveness lies with the Board on a corporate level and also with each of the Board's individual partner agencies.
- The Board must co-ordinate and challenge the effectiveness of the safeguarding activities carried out by each person or body represented on the Board.
- Each Safeguarding Board partner has a responsibility to ensure that the Board is operating effectively.

Where are we now?

- The Board produces an Annual Report on 31 July each year that sets out its achievements in the previous year.
- Performance data in relation to child and adult protection is produced on a quarterly basis and considered by the Board's Quality Assurance Sub Groups.
- A Performance Management Framework has been developed to ensure that the priorities for the year are implemented and reviewed.

Priority Area

What needs to improve?

Evidencing the effectiveness of safeguarding in Cwm Taf

We need to ensure that the Board demonstrates how it is making a difference to the lives of children and adults at risk. This year we will:

- Strengthen our Performance Management Framework to demonstrate how we achieve positive outcomes for the people we aim to protect.
- Improve our methods of evaluation to measure the impact of our work and to agree 'what good looks like' in terms of quality and outcomes.
- Identify areas of good practice in other areas to help improve our work.

- Produce case studies to evidence effective and ineffective practice.
- Agree quality assurance and audit programmes for the year, to focus on multi agency safeguarding practice
- Keep updated on emerging national themes relating to safeguarding, including case law, child and adult practice reviews and changes in the partnership landscape

Data Reporting

The production of relevant and accurate multi agency data in relation to safeguarding is key to measuring effectiveness. This year we will:

- Ensure that the local authorities have the appropriate systems in place to produce accurate and timely multi agency information.
- Review our current multi-agency performance measures to ensure that they are consistent, relevant and meaningful and agree how we will collect this data.
- Ensure we share information across all areas of safeguarding, including children, adults, domestic abuse and child sexual exploitation
- Identify aspects of the strategic population needs assessment for Cwm Taf that have an impact on the work of the Board
- Analyse our data more rigorously to understand themes and trends to support preventative services.
- Strengthen our current arrangements for performance reporting to ensure that we are evidencing effectiveness.

Effective challenge and holding others to account

The CTSB must challenge relevant agencies in Cwm Taf to ensure that there are effective safeguarding arrangements in place and that agencies are working together to safeguard children and adults at risk. This year we will:

- Use multi agency safeguarding data to improve the challenge of safeguarding performance at Board level.
- Identify key areas for improvement via multi agency audits and ensure that these are implemented.
- Receive, consider and challenge individual agency inspection reports and annual reports at a

Board level to support service improvements.

- Develop a partner agency audit report to present to the Board an assessment of effectiveness of the safeguarding activities carried out
- Contribute to the development of a national self assessment tool to assess the effectiveness of the Board in safeguarding children and adults at risk.

Strategic Outcome 3: The Board contributes to the development, implementation and monitoring of protocols and procedures that support the protection of adults and children and to prevent abuse

What does this mean?

- The Board needs to ensure that national safeguarding protocols and procedures remain relevant and fit for purpose.
- The Board must ensure that local protocols are in place to co-ordinate the inter-agency work being undertaken in Cwm Taf.
- Local protocols need to be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they remain relevant and are improving inter-agency safeguarding practice.

Where are we now?

- In Cwm Taf the Protocols and Procedures Sub Group is responsible for developing and reviewing local safeguarding protocols and procedures on behalf of the CTSB.
- The Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Regional Board is currently leading on a multi-agency review of current national safeguarding policies and procedures for children and adults.

Priority Area

What needs to improve?

National Protection Procedures

The existing procedures for safeguarding children and adults are being reviewed and all the regional Boards in Wales will need to contribute to and approve these. This year we will:

- Continue to participate in the Project Board that oversees the development of the new

procedures.

- Participate in any additional Task Groups that are set up to develop the procedures.
- Take opportunities to involve practitioners in the consultation on the draft procedures.
- Provide feedback and approval to documents being drafted as part of the new procedures.
- Ensure that local protocols are reviewed and updated in line with the new procedures.

Local Safeguarding Protocols and procedures

The Board has a database of protocols which is maintained by the Protocols and Procedures Sub Group. This year we will:

- Ensure that existing protocols that are due for review are assessed for continued usefulness and effectiveness.
- Continue to take an opportunity to join up children and adults protocols to strengthen the 'safeguarding for all' ethos.
- Ensure that new local protocols and procedures are only developed where a clear need has been identified.
- Involve and consult practitioners in the development of new local protocols and procedures
- Take opportunities to involve and consult with the public in the development of new local protocols and procedures

Strategic Outcome 4 : The Board is aware of the prevalent safeguarding concerns in the area and engages in additional activities that facilitate or are conducive to the achievement of its objectives

What does this mean?

- The Board needs to be aware of the people who are at most risk of abuse or neglect and work with service providers to develop early identification and preventative services
- There is a need to promote inter-agency approaches to working with community groups and organisations where there may be people at risk of harm

- The Board needs to respond to any policy developments or other external factors that may influence its objectives to safeguard children and adults at risk

Where are we now?

- In 2017/18 the Board identified members of the Board to 'champion' specific areas of work to ensure that updates were provided and decisions were made on any key issues affecting specific groups of vulnerable people
- The Board recognises its role around prevention of abuse and neglect and has carried out work during 2017/18 to establish how this can be improved
- The partner agencies represent the Board on other Partnerships and provide updates on public protection initiatives in the area that link to safeguarding, such as modern slavery, human trafficking and radicalisation.
- Links are established with the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Steering Group to strengthen safeguarding arrangements for this vulnerable group

Priority Area	What needs to improve?
<p>Preventing abuse and neglect</p>	<p>The Board has a responsibility to prevent children and adults at risk from being subjected to neglect, abuse or other forms of harm. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that any learning identified through our safeguarding activities supports the development of prevention strategies specific to Cwm Taf. ▪ Ensure that the data we collection include specific local prevention activity ▪ Seek to understand the effectiveness of the preventative services and programmes in Cwm Taf
<p>Transition from Childhood to Adulthood</p>	<p>Learning from Child/Adult Practice reviews has proven that the transition from childhood to adulthood can be a difficult time, especially for vulnerable young people. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a set of principles for transition that will be endorsed by the Board and shared with partner agencies ▪ Identify the young people who are likely to be at most risk and ensure that partner agencies work together to safeguard and support them through transition

<p>Children Looked After</p>	<p>The Board recognises that many of the children who are looked after are kept safe from harm. However, some will remain vulnerable and may have a number of needs that require them to be safeguarded. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish a reporting system to the Board, identifying what the Board needs to know with regards to children looked after ▪ Contribute to the national work around managing the process whereby Cwm Taf children are placed out of the area and where there a children from outside of the area being placed in Cwm Taf.
<p>Criminal Exploitation (County Lines)</p>	<p>Criminal exploitation of children and adults at risk is a geographically widespread form of harm. County lines is the police term for urban gangs supplying drugs to suburban areas and market and coastal towns using dedicated mobile phone lines or “deal lines”. It involves child criminal exploitation (CCE) as gangs use children and vulnerable people to move drugs and money. Gangs establish a base in the market location, typically by taking over the homes of local vulnerable adults by force or coercion in a practice referred to as ‘cuckooing’. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise awareness amongst professionals to understand the nature of this harm and to be able to spot the signs and respond appropriately ▪ Link with the Community Safety Partnership to ensure that multi agency training events are delivered to relevant staff ▪ Establish a reporting structure between the Board and the Serious Organised Crime Board on the prevalence of County Lines activity in Cwm Taf
<p>Radicalisation</p>	<p>Radicalisation of children, young people and adults at risk is an area of growing concern within the UK. While there is broad agreement over the factors influencing a person's vulnerability to radicalisation the relative influence of these factors and the way in which they interact are not clear cut. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that there continues to be Board representation on the relevant groups dealing with radicalisation (Contest Board, Channel Panel) ▪ Work in partnership with the Community Safety Partnership to ensure that there is adequate training in 'Prevent' which is the multi-agency set of arrangements aimed at preventing

	<p>individuals and groups from engaging in violent extremism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise awareness with staff and the community to recognise the early indicators of extremism
Modern Slavery	<p>Modern slavery is an umbrella term, encompassing human trafficking, slavery, servitude and forced labour. Anyone can become a victim of modern slavery and the Board needs to be assured that victims are being identified and supported appropriately. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that staff are made aware of the National Referral Mechanism process which provides a framework to identify, refer and record potential victims of modern slavery ▪ Strengthen the links with the Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership to re-establish the Cwm Taf Modern Slavery Steering Group
Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV)	<p>The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 seeks an improved collective public sector response, stronger leadership and a more consistent focus on the way we tackle these issues in Wales. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to make links with the Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership to ensure that all relevant partner agency staff are trained in the VAWDASV 'Ask and Act' (Level 1 minimum) ▪ Improve the interface between safeguarding and MARAC⁵, recognising that the two processes will often work in parallel. ▪ Keep up to date with the issues relating to this vulnerable group including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), honour based violence and forced marriage.

Strategic Outcome 5: The Board communicates effectively and appropriately with its stakeholders

<p>What does this mean?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Board should raise awareness of it's objectives to protect and prevent children, young people and adults from becoming at risk of abuse, neglect and other forms of harm, and provide information about how this might be achieved

⁵ Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

- Children, young people or adults who are affected by the exercise of a Safeguarding Boards functions should be given the opportunity to participate in the work of the Board (see section 4 of this plan)
- As part of developing a positive culture of learning the Board should ensure that information is widely disseminated within the workforce to inform them about best practice and learning arising from reviews, audits and other Board activities.

Where are we now?

- The Board has established an Engagement, Participation and Communication Sub Group to ensure that there clear processes in place for the identification of engagement and participation needs.
- The Board distributes a bi-annual bulletin for professionals in Cwm Taf to share learning and best practice.
- The CTSB website has been updated and reviewed to improve content and usability
- Communication and Participation Strategies have been developed to ensure professionals are considerate to the communication needs of those we support

Priority Area	What needs to improve?
Communication with the public	<p>We need to build better relationships with our community and share information and learning on issues that improve public awareness of safeguarding. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use the framework set out in our Communication Strategy to carry out the required actions to meet the needs of the community ▪ Improve awareness raising activities by utilising everyday sources within the community such as libraries, GP surgeries and supermarkets. ▪ Develop effective methods of evaluating communication activity. ▪ Improve the Boards online presence through the CTSB website and partner agencies social media accounts/websites
Communication with staff	<p>We need to communicate with staff and professionals to develop knowledge and a better understanding of the objectives of the Board. This year will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use the framework set out in our Communication Strategy to carry out the required actions to meet the needs of staff and professionals. ▪ Ensure that Board members take responsibility for disseminating information within their

agencies and keeping staff up to date with the work of the Board

- Develop de-briefing processes to support practitioners

Strategic Outcome 6: Practitioners in Cwm Taf are receiving or have access to good quality and up to date safeguarding training

What does this mean?

- The Board should review the training needs of practitioners in order to identify training needs
- Our strategy for training should take into account themes and learning arising from the delivery of the Board's functions
- The Board needs to ensure that there is a co-ordinated approach to training, taking into consideration regional and national training activity, to ensure consistency and minimise duplication

Where are we now?

- The Board has developed a multi agency training strategy which is monitored by the Training and Learning Sub Group
- We have developed a programme of multi agency practitioner forums to share learning arising from audits and reviews
- The local authorities' training department produces a multi-agency safeguarding training calendar on an annual basis
- We have integrated the VAWDASV training framework into the existing training structure of the CTSB

Priority Area

What needs to improve?

Multi-agency Safeguarding training

The Board needs to ensure that training is provided on an interagency and individual organisational basis to assist in the protection and prevention of abuse and neglect of children, young people and adults at risk of harm. This year we will:

- Identify the training priorities for the year
- Further explore safeguarding training delivery/quality within the Board's partner agencies to

ensure a consistent approach in Cwm Taf

- Consider mandatory training requirements for public service staff
- Address the need to deliver higher level safeguarding training on a multi agency basis
- Improve the resilience of the delivery of specialist safeguarding training, eg. Reduction in Suicide and Self Harm
- Maximise the contributions of partner agencies in the delivery of multi agency safeguarding training

Sharing learning and best practice

We need to ensure that learning identified from audits and reviews is shared with staff and Board members. This year we will:

- Align the work of the Board's Sub Groups to improve methods of sharing learning and implementing improvement actions to improve practice and achieve better outcomes
- Develop a mutual communication process for shared learning between the CTSB and the National Independent Safeguarding Board (NISB).
- Provide staff with interactive learning/engagement opportunities
- Utilising the CTSB website and the CTSB E-Bulletin to provide up to date information to practitioners and the public

Strategic Outcome 7: The Board will ensure the protection of people who, for their own safety and in their own best interests, need care that may deprive them of their liberty but who lack the capacity to consent

What does this mean?

- The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) provide legal protection for those vulnerable people who are deprived of their liberty, but who are not detained under mental health law.
- The DoLS exist to ensure that no one is deprived of their liberty without good reason and that it must be to provide a specific treatment or care plan that is in the person's best interests.

- The managing authority (the care home/hospital where the person is staying) must apply to the relevant supervisory body (the local authority or the Health Board responsible for the hospital or care home) for authorisation of the deprivation of liberty
- The supervisory body must conduct six assessments to confirm that deprivation of liberty is lawful and appropriate.

Where are we now?

- The Board has a DoLS Operational Committee that ensures that the responsibilities of the partner agencies in relation to DoLS assessments are carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance and legislation
- A DoLS Policy has been approved by the Board and is being implemented across Cwm Taf

Priority Area	What needs to improve?
DoLS Quality Assurance	<p>A Quality Assurance Sub Group has been set up to monitor, audit and quality assure the effectiveness of the DoLS work carried out by partner agencies. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement an agreed audit programme to identify themes and lessons learned from cases. ▪ Implement a process to manage any disagreements amongst professionals ▪ Analyse the available data to provide the Board with a better understanding of the performance in relation to DoLS.
Supervisory Bodies staff	<p>There continues to be a high demand for DoLS assessments in Cwm Taf and there is a need to manage the capacity of staff to respond. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that the training provided to staff is implemented effectively ▪ Share learning from cases to improve practice
Involving people in the DoLS process	<p>There is a need to seek opportunities to involve people (public, carers etc) in the DoLS process. This year we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make the best use of providers of advocacy services and involve these providers in the management of the DoLS process ▪ Evaluate how we are engaging with the people we support to ensure that the voice of the person is heard

WHO DO WE INTEND TO COLLABORATE WITH TO ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVES?

Working in partnership with other agencies is integral to the work of the Board. This not only applies to agencies within Cwm Taf as many safeguarding functions require consistency across Wales. Functions such as child and adult practice reviews may require wider collaboration with Boards across the UK.

There may also be occasions when the Board will need to engage with other organisations to carry out its functions more effectively. This may be on an ad-hoc basis or as part of a more permanent arrangement via Board or Sub Group membership.

These collaborative activities will often occur during the year as situations arise and these are reported in the CTSB Annual Report. Planned collaborative activities have also been identified and are as follows:

Who will we collaborate with?	How will we collaborate?
Other Safeguarding Boards (including MASH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Existing networks across Wales to share good practice ▪ Task and Finish Groups to undertake specific pieces of work ▪ Child and Adult Practice Review Panels as and when these arise
Safeguarding agencies in Bridgend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In light of the pending merger with Cwm Taf we will liaise and consult with staff and partner agencies in Bridgend for an assessment of impact. ▪ On confirmation of the merger, hold a Safeguarding Development Day for Cwm Taf and Bridgend partner agencies prior to implementation
Community Safety Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We will work in partnership with the CSP in co-ordinating and completing Domestic Homicide Reviews and making the links with the Child/Adult Review Process ▪ We will make the necessary links with the CSP to implement the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) strategy to ensure that staff are

	<p>adequately trained and victims are supported appropriately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Appropriate representation from CTSB partner agencies on the CSP groups (including VAWDASV and MARAC, Serious Organised Crime Board) and vice versa to ensure that safeguarding issues are addressed and good practice is shared
Welsh Government (including Ministerial Advisory Group)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Business Managers and Board Chairs networks ▪ Contribution to Welsh Government consultations ▪ Participation in relevant groups to share expertise and learning across Wales
National Independent Safeguarding Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Through NISB representation on the Board, updates and sharing information ▪ Meetings with Board Chairs and Business Managers ▪ Develop a mutual learning platform to enable the CTSB to influence/guide the work of the NISB as well as share learning arising from work undertaken by the NISB
Public Service Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Board will continue to produce highlight reports to the PSB and will establish a process for reporting back to the Board on key areas of interest ▪ Business management collaboration to reduce duplication and develop a consistent approach for partnership working
Third Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to specialist services such as BAWSO⁶ to develop knowledge and expertise ▪ Access to information such as DEWIS⁷ to support preventative services

⁶ BAWSO is a charity providing support to BME (Black Minority Ethnic) communities

⁷ DEWIS is the place for information about wellbeing in Wales

HOW WILL WE PROVIDE PEOPLE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE BOARD?

The Board must ensure that children and adults are given the opportunity to participate in its work. We want to ensure that people are better informed about the work of the Board and are able to challenge openly.

We need to creatively engage with children, young people and adults to improve participation in the work of the Board and raise the profile of safeguarding. This year we aim to increase the amount of engagement events held for the public, improving links with local forums and activity groups to ensure the voices of the people we support are thoroughly embedded into our work.

We want to ensure that any feedback provided is recorded and evaluated, with this being evidenced in our Annual Report.

How will we provide people with an opportunity to participate?	When?
Advocacy - this ensures that everyone, particularly those who are the most vulnerable, is able to express their views and wishes when decisions are being made that affect them	As and when required and reported to the Board's QA groups
Board Annual Development Day - involve children, young people and adults at risk in the development day to influence the Board's priorities for the year	January 2019
Set up a Youth Board - using existing youth groups, school councils to enable young people to share their views on safeguarding issues that affect them	By the end of 2018
Focus Groups/ Citizen Panels– access existing groups of individuals to consult on Board developments	Twice yearly
Utilise Third Sector partners to distribute information through their networks	As and when required
National Safeguarding Week – arrange a public focussed event involving children, young people and adults, ask people to share their stories and their experiences	November 2018
Hold a “celebration” of good practice event for Safeguarding staff	By March 2019

OUR BUDGET FOR 2018/19

The Board has agreed a budget for the year and this is resourced by financial contributions from the statutory partner agencies (Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil local authorities, Cwm Taf University Health Board, South Wales Police, National Probation Service and the Wales Community Rehabilitation Company).

The budget set will enable the Board to delivery its priority outcomes as set out in this Annual Plan and will be allocated as follows:

Business Management Unit Staff Costs and Accommodation:	£187,355
Advertising and Translation:	£4,000
General Expenditure:	£5,600

Are You Concerned About Someone?

If you suspect that a **child or young person** is being harmed or is at risk of being harmed then you have a duty to report it immediately. All calls concerning worries about children are treated seriously. Contact your local Safeguarding Team on the numbers provided below:

In Rhondda Cynon Taf: 01443 425006
In Merthyr Tydfil: 01685 725000

Opening Hours:
Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm
Friday - 8.30am - 4.30pm

If you suspect that an **adult** is being harmed or is at risk of being harmed then you have a duty to report it immediately. All calls concerning worries about vulnerable adults at risk are treated seriously. Contact your local Safeguarding Team on the numbers provided below:

In Rhondda Cynon Taf: 01443 425003
In Merthyr Tydfil: 01685 725000

Opening Hours:
Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm
Friday - 8.30am - 4.30pm

To contact Children or Adults Services outside office hours, at weekends and bank holidays, ring Cwm Taf Emergency Duty Team on 01443 743665.

If you suspect that a child, young person or an adult is at immediate risk of harm call 999 and speak to the Police.

If you would like to report a non-urgent incident, or have a problem or general query, you can call 101, the 24 hour non-emergency number for the police. ***Use 101 when the incident is less urgent than 999.***

Remember - safeguarding is everyone's business!

For more information and advice visit: www.cwmtafsafeguarding.org

APPENDIX 1 - BOARD MEMBERSHIP

NAME	TITLE	AGENCY
Gio Isingrini Philip Howells Jackie Neale Neil Elliot Julie Clark Esther Thomas Ann Batley Meira Jones	Director of Community and Children’s Services (Co-Chair) Head Of Community Housing Services Adult Safeguarding Service Manager Service Director, Adult Services Head of Safeguarding and Support (Children) Temporary Director Education and Lifelong Learning Service Director, Children Services Head of Legal - Community Care and Children	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Lisa Curtis-Jones Alex Beckham Alyn Owen Susan Walker Annabel Lloyd Mark Anderton Carys Kennedy	Chief Officer, Social Services (Co-Chair) Safeguarding Principal Manager Chief Officer, Community Regeneration Chief Officer, Education Head of Children Services Head of Adult Services Head of Legal and Governance	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Lynda Williams	Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Patient Services	Cwm Taf University Health Board
Jane Randall	Head of Safeguarding	
Phil Ashby	Superintendent	South Wales Police
Beth Aynsley/Sue Hurley	Independent Protecting Vulnerable Person Manager	
Eirian Evans	Assistant Chief Officer	National Probation Service
David Bebb	Assistant Chief Executive	Wales Community Rehabilitation Company
Ian Davy	Chief Officer	Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil
Nicola Kingham	CTSB Business Manager	Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board Business Unit
Lyndon Lewis	Head of Service	Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service
Jean Harrington	Director / Interlink Chair	TEDS (Treatment and Education Drug Service)
Linda Davies	Designated Nurse (National Safeguarding Team)	Public Health Wales
Nikki Harvey	Assistant Director for Quality, Safety and Patient Experience	Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
Jan Pickles	National Board Member	National Independent Safeguarding Board

APPENDIX 2 - BOARD STRUCTURE

