

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16**

**HEALTH & WELLBEING SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

22ND FEBRUARY 2016

**REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN
DISCUSSION WITH CABINET PORTFOLIO
HOLDER**

Agenda Item No: 6

**CWM TAF SAFEGUARDING ADULTS
BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15**

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to share with Members the Annual Report for 2014/15 in relation to the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Adults Board (CTSAB).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Members:

- 2.1 Scrutinise the content of the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Boards Annual Report for 2014/15.
- 2.2 Consider whether they wish to make any recommendations or scrutinise in greater depth any issues arising from the report.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Cwm Taf Safeguarding Adults Board is required to produce an annual report each year identifying how it has progressed against the priorities that were agreed at the beginning of the year. These priorities are set out in the Board's Annual/Strategic Plan.
- 3.2 From 6th April 2016, the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 will introduce a duty for all Safeguarding Boards to produce their annual reports by 31st July each year and their Annual Plans by 31st March each year. These will then be submitted to the Welsh Government.

3.3 The Cwm Taf Safeguarding Adults Board (CTSAB) is the multi-agency partnership which has responsibility for safeguarding adults at risk in Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil.

3.4 The CTSAB partners work together to protect adults from abuse, reducing the risk of abuse, and supporting people to stop abuse where it happens.

4. STRUCTURE OF THE BOARDS

4.1 The Board has developed a structure to support the delivery of its objectives and to carry out its functions effectively. The Board's Business Plan is delivered by Sub Groups, all of which report to the Board via an operational committee.

5. PERFORMANCE IN 2014/15

5.1 The attached Annual Report (Appendix 1) provides an overview of the work carried out by the Board in 2014/15, including the key achievements and performance during the year. The report also set out the priorities for further development and improvement in 2015/16.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening form has been completed for the purpose of this report. There are no negative impacts identified and therefore a full EqIA is not required.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 The partners of the Board have been consulted during the development of the Annual Report.

7.2 The Annual Report has been approved by the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Adults Board.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

8.1 The CTSAB is not currently funded and the work of the Board and its Sub Groups is carried out on an in-kind basis.

8.2 From 1st April 2016, the Safeguarding Business Unit and associated costs for both the Children's and Adults' Safeguarding Boards, will be supported by funding contributions from the statutory partners, based on the funding formula as set out in the SS&WB Act 2014.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 9.1 In July 2007, the Welsh Government launched "In Safe Hands" which sets out the guidance in relation to protection and support for vulnerable adults from abuse and inappropriate care.
- 9.2 The new Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 has set a new direction in the establishment of regional safeguarding boards across Wales. The Act defines the functions of the Boards and sets out new requirements, including the setting up of a National Independent Safeguarding Board.

10. LINKS TO THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN/OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/SIP

- 10.1 Both Boards have contributed to elements of the work of the Local Service Board by reporting on safeguarding activity. They have also contributed to the development and delivery of the Single Integrated Plans in both RCT and Merthyr Tydfil.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**HEALTH & WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22ND FEBRUARY 2016**

**REPORT OF (DIRECTORATE) IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT
PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNCILLOR FOREY**

Item:

CWM TAF SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

Background Papers:

CTSAB Annual Report 2014/15

**Contact Officer: Nicola Kingham, CTSAB Business Manager.
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CWM TAF SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

**CWM TAF
SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD**

ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

INTRODUCTION

The Cwm Taf Safeguarding Adults Board (CTSAB) is the multi-agency partnership which has responsibility for safeguarding adults at risk in Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil. The key objectives of the CTSAB, as defined by the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 (SS&WB Act 2014), are:

1. to protect adults within Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil who:
 - a. have needs for care and support (whether or not a local authority is meeting any of those needs), and
 - b. are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse and neglect, and
2. to prevent those adults within Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil mentioned in 1(a) above from becoming at risk of abuse or neglect.

This report summarises the work undertaken by the CTASB to achieve it's outcomes during 2014/15.

The Vision of the CTSAB is to ensure that adults in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf, over the age of 18, are protected from abuse and neglect, their welfare safeguarded and promoted and they live in an environment that promotes their wellbeing taking into account mental capacity and consent.

Protection of adults at risk encompasses the following categories of abuse. This list is non-exhaustive and includes:

- **Physical Abuse** – hitting, slapping, over or misuse of medication, undue restraint, or inappropriate sanctions;
- **Sexual Abuse** – rape and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the vulnerable adult has not or could not consent and / or was pressured into consenting;
- **Psychological Abuse** – threats of harm or abandonment, humiliation, verbal or racial abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks;
- **Neglect** – failure to access medical care or services, negligence in the face of risk taking, failure to give prescribed medication, failure to assist in personal hygiene or the provision of food, shelter, clothing;
- **Financial Abuse** – in relation to people who may have needs for care and support -
 - Unexpected change to their will;
 - Sudden sale or transfer of the home;
 - Unusual activity in a bank account;
 - Sudden inclusion of additional names on a bank account;
 - Signature does not resemble the person's normal signature;
 - Reluctance or anxiety by the person when discussing their financial affairs;
 - Giving a substantial gift to a carer or third party;

- A sudden interest by a relative or other third party in the welfare of the person;
- Bills remaining unpaid;
- Complaints that personal property is missing;
- A decline in personal appearance that may indicate that diet and personal requirements are being ignored;
- Deliberate isolation from friends and family giving another person total control over their decision-making.

Deprivation of Liberty is a term used in the European Convention on Human Rights about circumstances when a person’s freedom is taken away. Its meaning in practice is being defined through case law. The Mental Capacity Act 2005 covering England and Wales provides the statutory framework for acting and making decisions on behalf of people who lack the capacity to make those decisions for themselves.

In some cases, people lack the capacity to consent to particular treatment or care that is recognised by others as being in their best interests, or which will protect them from harm. Where this care involves depriving vulnerable people of their liberty extra safeguards have been introduced, in law, to protect their rights and ensure that the care or treatment they receive is in their best interests.

The arrangements for the Deprivation of Liberty safeguards in Cwm Taf are the responsibility of the CTSAB.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE CWM TAF SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

The CTSAB is chaired jointly by the Director of Community and Children’s Services (RCT County Borough Council) and the Chief Officer for Social Services (Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council).

The membership of the Board complies with the guidance issued under Part 7 (Section 134(2)) of the SS&WB Act 2014 and is as follows:

CWM TAF SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD MEMBERSHIP	
Director of Community & Children’s Services (RCT) - Co-Chair	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC The Pavilions, Clydach Vale, Rhondda Cynon Taf, CF40 2XX
Chief Officer for Social Services (Merthyr Tydfil) - Co-Chair	Merthyr Tydfil CBC Civic Centre, Castle Street, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 9AN
Executive Nurse Director Cwm Taf University Health Board	Cwm Taf University Health Board LHB Headquarters, Ynysmeurig House, Abercynon, CF45 4SN
Chief Superintendent	South Wales Police

CWM TAF SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD MEMBERSHIP	
	Pontypridd Police Station, Berw Road, Pontypridd, CF37 2TR
Assistant Chief Executive	National Probation Service 4 -9 Broadway Pontypridd, CF37 1BA
Assistant Chief Executive	South Wales 2, Wales Community Rehabilitation Company Bridgend Probation Office, Tremains House, Tremains Road, Bridgend, CF31 1TZ
Chief Officer	Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT), Voluntary Action Centre, 88-90 High Street, Pontmorlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 8UH
CTSB Business Manager	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC Ty Catrin, Maritime Industrial Estate Maesycoed Pontypridd, CF37 1NY
Head of Safeguarding, Adults and Children	Cwm Tâf University Health Board LHB Headquarters, Ynysmeurig House Abercynon, CF45 4SN
Service Director Commissioning, Business & Housing Systems	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC Ty Elai, Dinas Isaf East, Williamstown Tonypany, CF40 1NY
Safeguarding Manager	Merthyr Tydfil CBC Unit 5, Pentrebach Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 4TQ
Housing & Community Safety Manager	Merthyr Tydfil CBC Civic Centre, Castle Street, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 9AN
Head Of Community Housing Services	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC Ty Elai, Dinas Isaf East, Williamstown Tonypany, CF40 1NY
Adult Safeguarding Service Manager	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC Ty Elai Dinas Isaf East, Williamstown Tonypany, CF40 1NY

The CTSAB has developed a structure to support the delivery of its objectives and carry out its functions effectively. The work programme for the CTSAB, as set out in its Annual Plan, is delivered by a number of Sub-groups (see chart below) all which report to the Main Board via the Operational Group. This enables the Board to focus on its overall responsibility of setting the strategic direction for all partner agencies and challenging them on the effectiveness of safeguarding measures.

The responsibilities of each of the Sub Groups are as follows:

Operational Group - key to the overall effectiveness of the CTSAB. In delivering the Business Plan, it will ensure that the priorities of the Board and the work of the Sub Groups are taken forward. It will also ensure that information about measuring outcomes and the effectiveness of the SAB is produced.

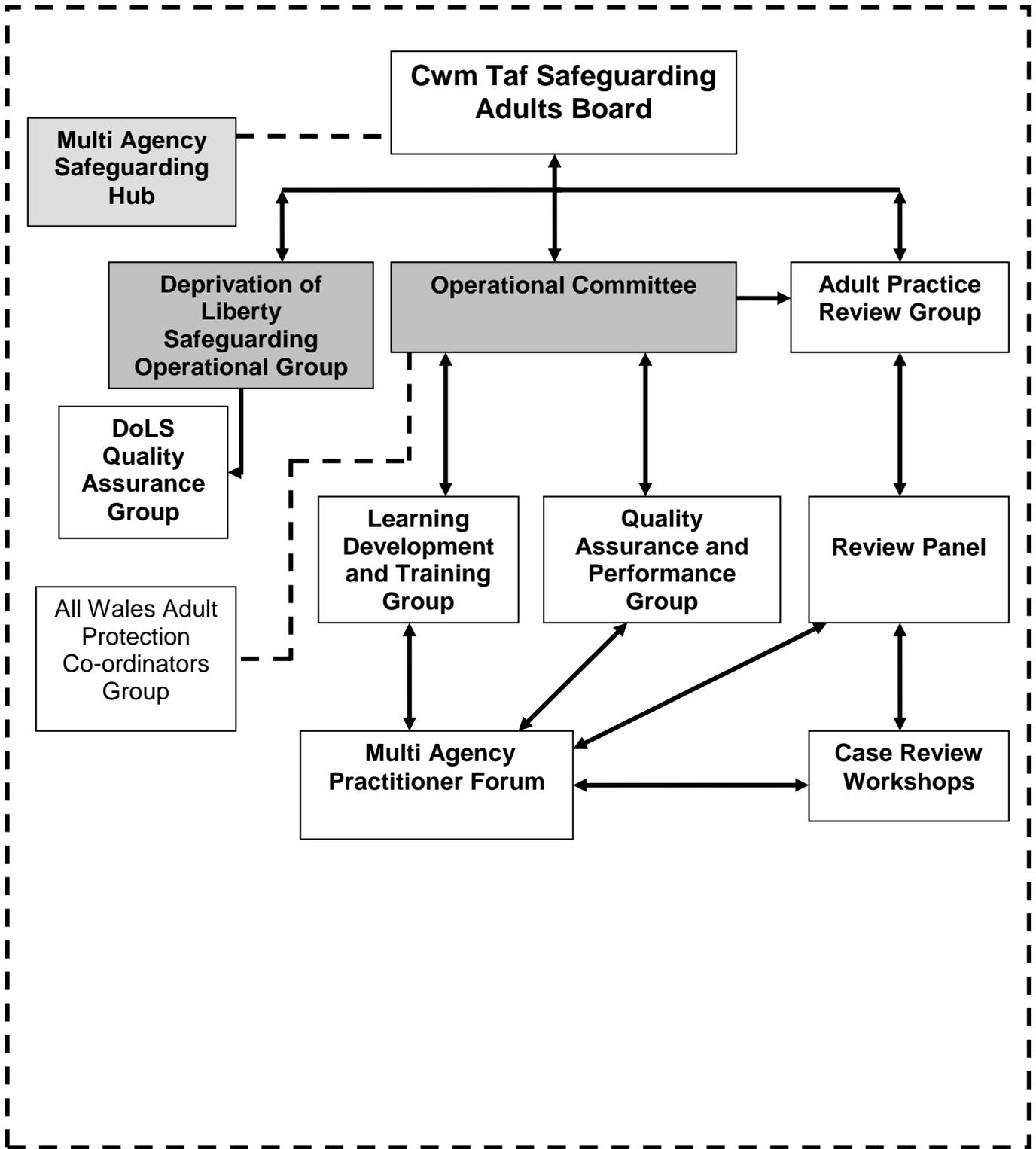
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding Sub Group - ensures that the objectives for DoLS contained in the SAB work plan are delivered.

Quality Assurance and Procedures Sub Group - monitors the effectiveness of local individuals' and organisations' practice within the Adult at Risk process.

Adult Practice Review Group - ensures that the CTSAB discharges its functions in relation to Adult Practice Reviews and promotes a positive culture of multi-agency learning and more effective sharing of that learning.

Learning Development and Training Sub Group - ensures that there is a clear process for managing the identification of training needs; feeding these into the planning and commissioning of training; and the evaluation of multi agency adult safeguarding training to ensure it is consistently meeting local need.

The partner agencies work together to achieve the vision and objectives of the CTSAB. The CTSAB is not currently funded and the work of the Board and its Sub Groups is carried out on an in-kind basis. Work is underway to develop a strategic safeguarding business unit that will support both the Children's and Adults Safeguarding Boards, utilising the funding formula as set out in the SS&WB Act 2014.



PERFORMANCE IN 2014/15

In our Business Plan 2012-2014 we identified the following **Strategic Outcomes** for the CTSAB:

1. Adults are protected and kept safe from significant harm
2. All SAB partners are informed and held to account for their safeguarding responsibilities.
3. Adults at risk of significant harm are consulted, listened to and their views and wishes guide how they are supported
4. All members of the community are informed of the role they can play to safeguard adults at risk of significant harm.

PROGRESS AGAINST STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

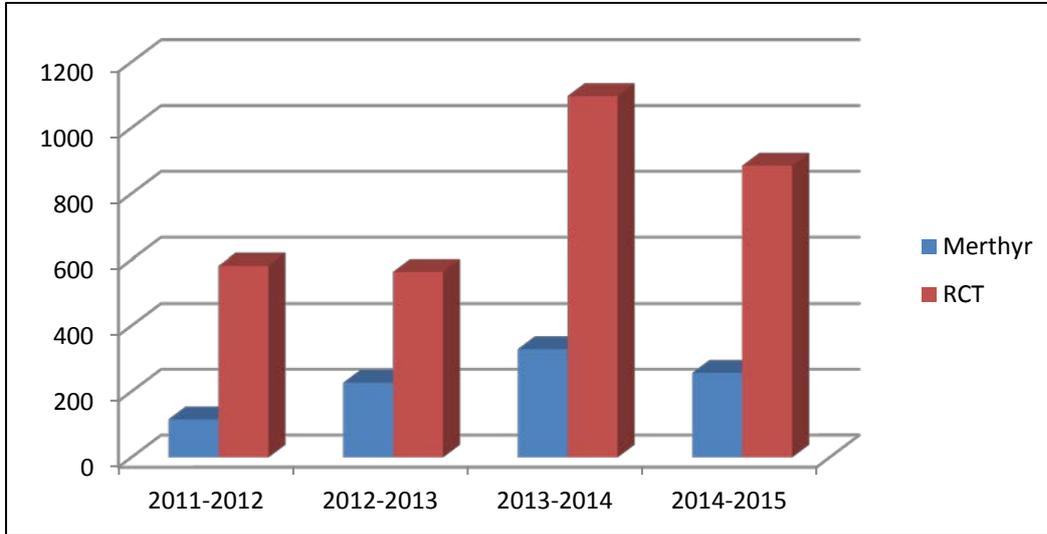
The Board has developed a work programme that sets out the actions to achieve its Strategic Outcomes.

During 2014/15 work was undertaken to establish the structure of the Board and its Sub Groups. A framework is now in place to further develop this structure and to set the strategic direction of the Board.

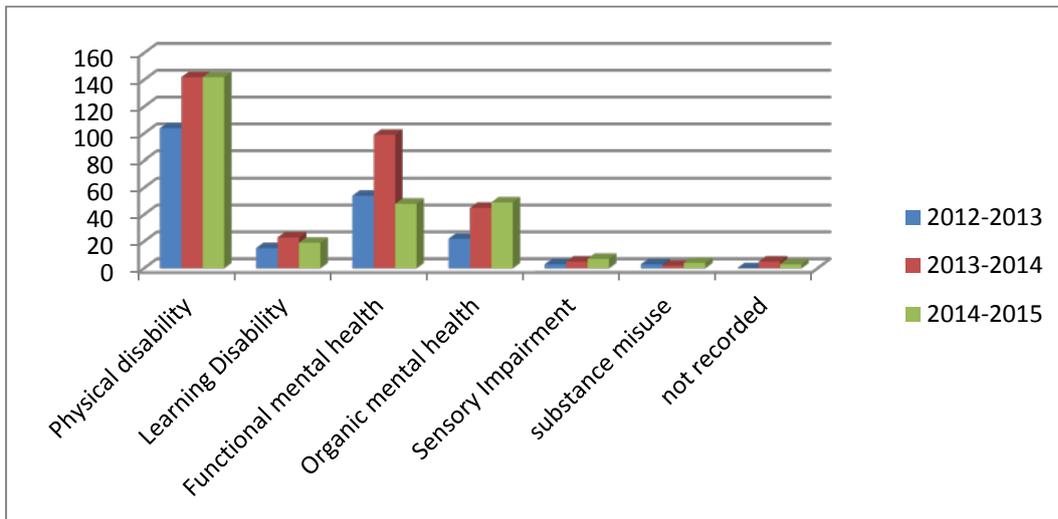
The table below provides a summary of all **referrals and closed cases** during 2014/15.

	Merthyr Tydfil	RCT	TOTAL
Total Referrals	254	885	1139
Meeting threshold	118	294	412
Not meeting threshold	121	567	688
Inappropriate cases	15	24	39
Closed cases	73	200	273

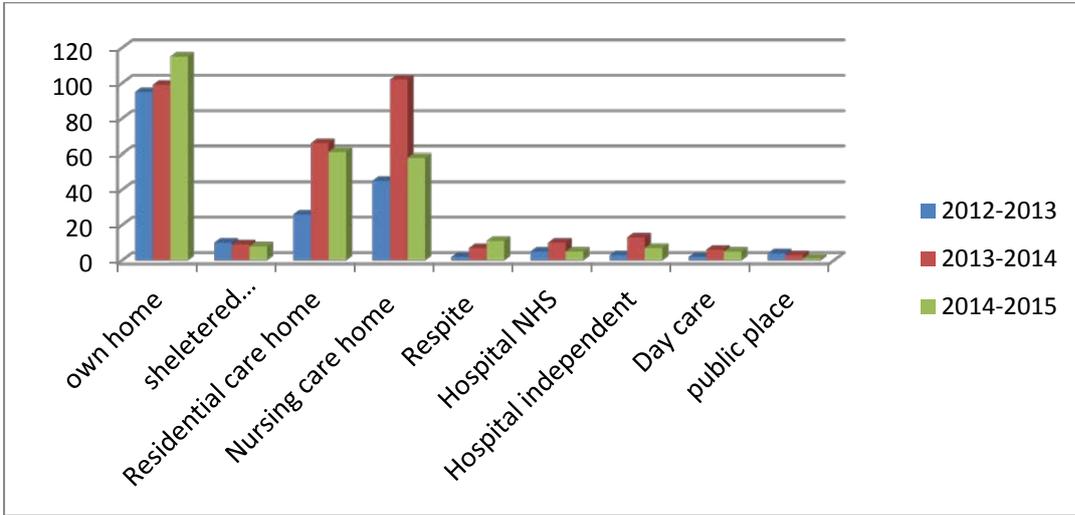
The **number of referrals** between 2012/13 and 2013/14 saw a sharp rise in both Merthyr and RCT but this figure reduced in 2014/15. This is largely due to a new structure for the delivery of adult protection services being put in place which has now been embedded. It is anticipated that the number of referrals that do not meet the threshold will reduce over time as agencies are made more aware of the criteria.



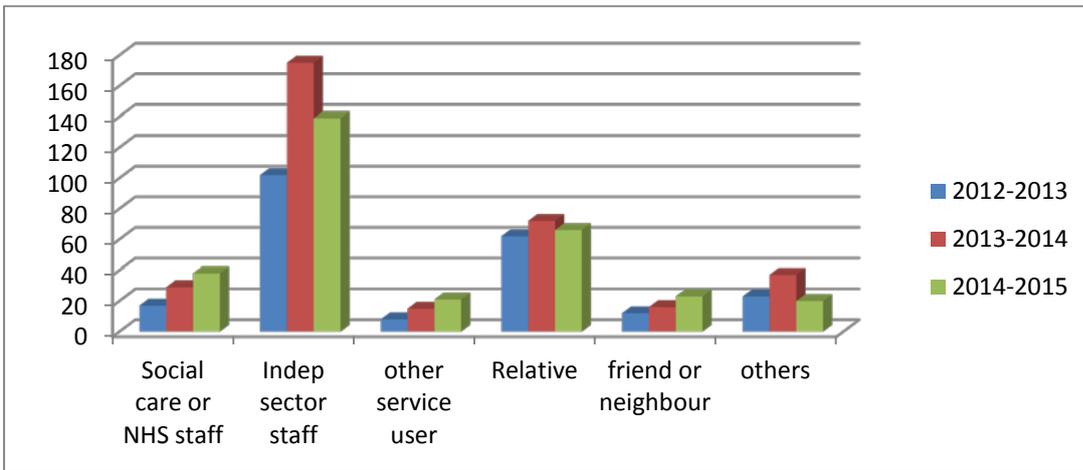
Physical disability has remained the main **category of vulnerability** for referrals, followed by functional and organic mental health. There is a need to improve awareness amongst practitioners so that categorisation is more precise in relation, for example, including dementia in organic mental health as opposed to physical disability.



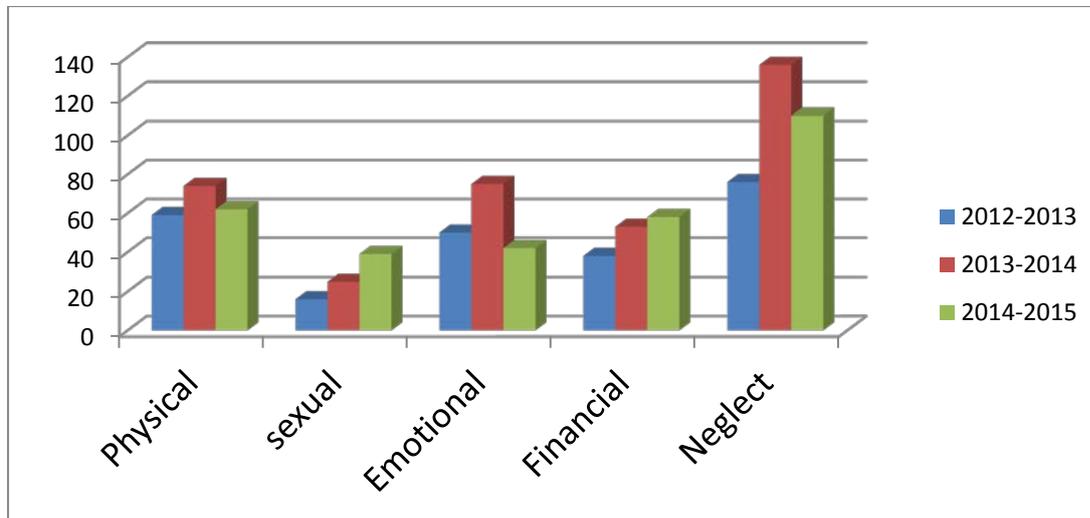
The **location of the alleged abuse** has a fairly even spread across the residential and community sectors. However the reporting of alleged abuse in the community is increasing across Cwm Taf.



The Independent Sector remains the highest **alleged perpetrator** across Cwm Taf.



Neglect was the most common **type of abuse** for 2014-2015, although sexual and financial abuse have both increased as awareness raising becomes more improved. In some cases, more than one type of abuse will be identified.



There were three cases considered by the **Safeguarding Board Adult Practice Review Group** during the year, none of which have proceeded to a full review.

- Case 1 is still subject to an ongoing criminal investigation and the timing of any Adult Practice Review is considered at each meeting.
- Case 2 has involved the completion of an Investigation Report & Action Plan produced by the Health Board and the Group is reviewing the implementation of the actions.
- Case 3 was a case relating to another local authority which the Board had an interest in. However it was agreed that this did not meet the criteria to proceed any further.

Key achievements in supporting the objectives of the Board have included:

- The development of a **Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)** which has been operational since January 2015. This is where the key agencies responsible for safeguarding are based and where they consider concerns and decide what needs to be done. Before the MASH, this work was done by each agency individually and shared where necessary. Now all of these people are based in the same place and can share information straight away. This means that we are able to improve our ability to co-ordinate, protect and support vulnerable people who are at risk.
- The development of a new **Cwm Taf Safeguarding website** which will be formally launched in November 2015.

- We have **enhanced Designated Lead Manager (DLM) effectiveness** in engaging with adults at risk by improving the rate of referrals to the Independent Mental Capacity Advocate service (IMCA). A new provider has been in place since October 2014 and during the period October to December 2014, the IMCA received a total of 13 referrals from RCT and Merthyr Tydfil.
- We have increased the capacity across Cwm Taf to deal with the increased number of **DoLS referrals** since legislative changes came in to force in March 2014.

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CO-OPERATION AND COLLABORATION

The CTSAB continues to work in partnership with the community, statutory partners, voluntary partners, independent sector, providers and key strategic partnerships to achieve its vision and objectives.

The CTSAB has contributed to elements of the work of the Local Service Board by reporting on safeguarding activity. It has also contributed to the development and delivery of the Single Integrated Plans in both RCT and Merthyr Tydfil by establishing a Strategic Group that has identified joint priorities for action to manage the arrangements for Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence.

By collaborating with other partnerships the Board ensures that there is clarity on what elements of safeguarding adults at risk of significant harm the CTSAB is accountable for and which elements the other strategic partnerships are accountable for and monitoring and reviewing their effectiveness.

LEARNING DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

The Learning, Development and Training Sub Group was redeveloped during 2014/15 and will provide a more structured approach to improving multi-agency safeguarding practice across Cwm Taf.

Safeguarding training is a key component of the Annual Social Care Workforce Development Programme. A range of safeguarding related training was delivered during the period April – March 2015. Examples of training delivered include:

- Levels 2 & 3 Vulnerable Adult and Safeguarding Children training.
- Multi Agency Risk Assessment (MARAC) Conference
- Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub Awareness Raising
- Designated Lead Manager Training

Further details in relation to the Vulnerable Adults training is provided in the table below:

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	Quarter 1		Quarter 2		Quarter 3		Quarter 4	
	MT	RCT	MT	RCT	MT	RCT	MT	RCT
No. L2 Vulnerable Adults Training Courses held (multi-agency)	1	1	2	4	1	2	1	5
No. Attending L2 Vulnerable Adults Training (multi-agency)	7/8 (88%)	8/12 (67%)	44/52 (85%)	54/64 (84%)	15/22 (68%)	35/36 (97%)	14/21 (67%)	57/75 (76%)
No. L3 Vulnerable Adults Training Courses held (multi-agency)	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	2
No. Attending L3 Vulnerable Adults Training (multi-agency)	16/20 (80%)	na	Na	7/14 (50%)	13/17 (76%)	12/16 (75%)	na	28/32 (88%)

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All courses are evaluated by attendees to establish whether they felt the course objectives were met, quality of delivery and its usefulness in relation to their role. This information is collated, analysed and used to inform planning of future training. This information forms part of the SCWDP Annual Report, which will be available in August 2015.

KEY IMPROVEMENTS FOR 2015/16

To further develop the structure of the CTSAB and to meet the requirements of the new Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 the Board will set some key priorities for 2015/16 including:

- Encourage more adults who are at risk of abuse to take part in the meetings that talk about how they may be protected.
- Continue to provide relevant training and support to colleagues in other areas of the Council to ensure that they fully understand their role in safeguarding vulnerable people in our community and share their concerns.
- Review how well the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub is performing in relation to safeguarding adults at risk.
- Continue to increase the capacity of Adult Services to deal with DoLS referrals in a timely manner.
- Launch the new CTSAB website and review its effectiveness in raising awareness.
- Develop a more robust business support structure to enable the work of the Board and its Sub Groups to be carried out effectively based on agreed targets and outcomes.
- Deliver procedures to implement the new Adult Protection and Support orders under Section 127 of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act.

- Carry out a self assessment across partner agencies and partnerships to demonstrate to the Board how they discharge their safeguarding responsibilities.
- Formalise the relationship between the CTSAB and the new National Independent Safeguarding Board.

