

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**

**CABINET EXECUTIVE  
19 September 2017**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Stephen Hayes  
Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care  
County Councillor Rachel Powell  
Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

**SUBJECT:** Adult & Children's Safeguarding Update Report Q1  
2017/18

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**REPORT FOR:** Information

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide cabinet with an update in respect of safeguarding children and adults in Powys for Quarter 1 of 2017/18. This report contains both adults and children's safeguarding information and Regional Update.

To discharge the Mid & West Wales Safeguarding Board's (MAWWS) objectives effectively, there is one Board for Children (CYSUR) and one for Adults (CWMPAS) with cross-cutting issues managed jointly across both. There is a live new website update for public and professionals ([www.cysur.wales](http://www.cysur.wales)).

- 1.2 The Adult Safeguarding team continues to receive increased enquiries and referrals during this quarter. We have continued to strengthen our partnership working seeking to improve practice under the guidance of the Powys Local operation Group Adults, (PLOGA). It is our intention, during our next meeting of the PLOGA, in September 2017, to undertake an adult review. This will inform our learning as a multi-agency group going forward.

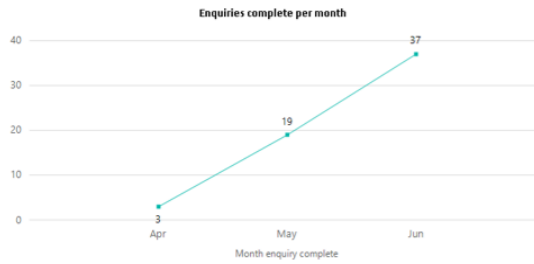
**2. Proposal**

**Adult Services**

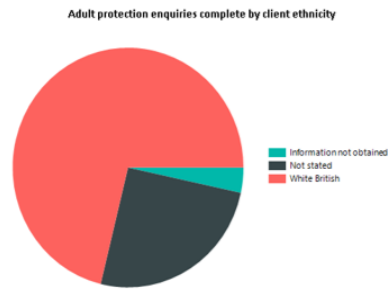
- 2.1 Due to the system change for Draig to WCCIS, there was a delay in achieving reports in the new format. As a result we are actively working with our business partners to ensure we are collecting and able to report data appropriately. There have been some challenges to the data collection and reporting within WCCIS for quarter 1. Business Insight Centre has now completed the building of adult safeguarding reports and have commenced work on improving data for Adult Social Care as a whole. This information will be available for officers going forward.

Blue and Underlined data can be selected to reveal detail

	Within Timescale	Completed Outside Timescale	Total
2017 Year Total	<u>39</u>	66.10%	<u>20</u>
			33.90%
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>39</u></b>	<b>66.10%</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
			33.90%
			<b><u>59</u></b>

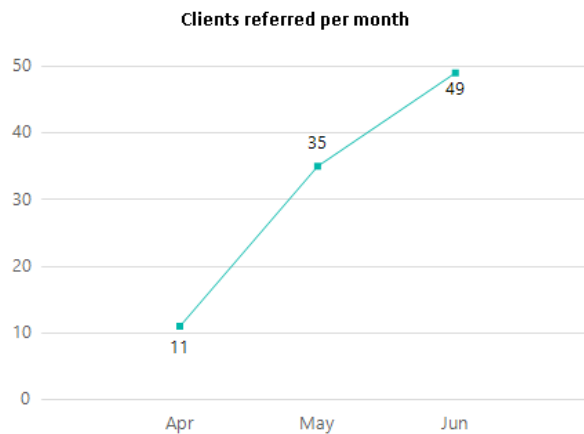


	Client Age Range			Total
	17 or under	18 to 64	65 and over	
Information not obtained	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
Not stated	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>
White British	<u>0</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>42</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>3</u></b>	<b><u>24</u></b>	<b><u>32</u></b>	<b><u>59</u></b>



The above table represents the number of enquiries closed within 7 working days. Work continues with the Corporate Insight Centre to continue to make some changes in relation to reporting. We have consulted with our regional partners and are working towards a collaborative and consistent approach as to how we record decision making in relation to Adult Safeguarding enquiries.

	No. of Clients referred
Apr	<u>11</u>
May	<u>35</u>
Jun	<u>49</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>95</u></b>



The above table reflects the number of referrals received by the Safeguarding Team for Q1. There continues to be a steady increase in referrals on a month by month basis. This is due to an increased awareness and single point of referral.

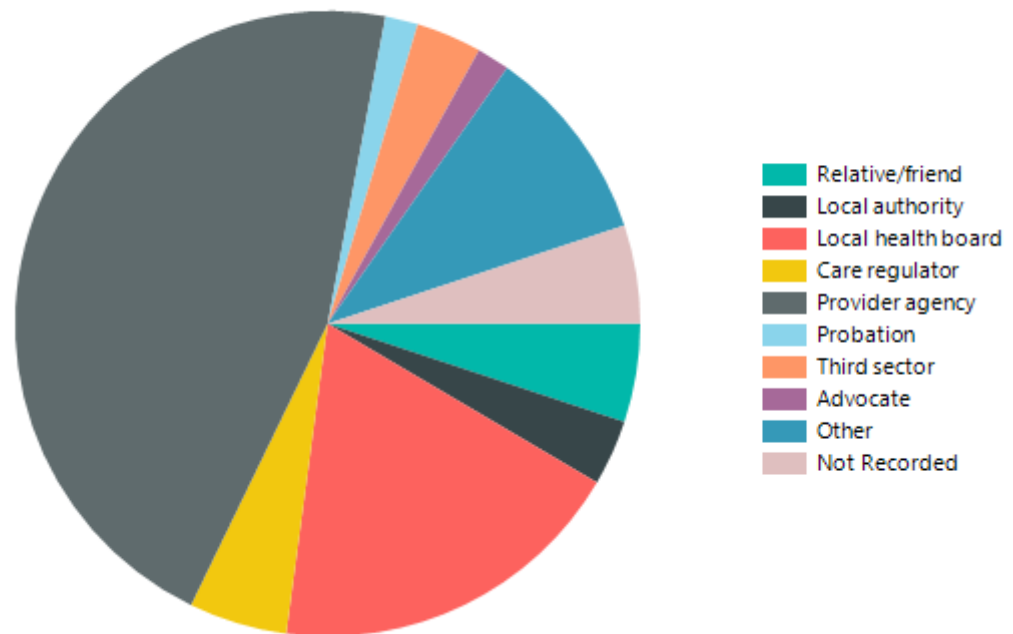
## Adult Protection complete enquiries analysis

Setting of Alleged Abuse	Adult Protection	
Own Home	25	44.07%
Community	3	5.08%
Care home setting	14	25.42%
Health setting	5	10.17%
Not Recorded	3	5.08%
Other (please specify)	6	10.17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

The above table shows the setting for the alleged abuse. The data continues to be a theme to reflect that the majority of the referrals received are in relation to individuals within their own home, followed by individuals who are placed in a care home setting.

Source of Enquiry	Adult Protection	Disability Team North	Disability Team South	Ystrad Older People Integration Team	Percentage of Referrals
Relative/friend	3	0	0	0	5.08%
Local authority	2	0	0	0	3.39%
Local health board	10	0	1	0	18.64%
Care regulator	3	0	0	0	5.08%
Provider agency	25	1	0	1	45.76%
Probation	1	0	0	0	1.69%
Third sector	2	0	0	0	3.39%
Advocate	1	0	0	0	1.69%
Other	6	0	0	0	10.17%
Not Recorded	3	0	0	0	5.08%
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Adult protection referrals closed by source



## 2.2 Policies and Procedures Sub Group Update

- Adult Threshold Document

Work remains on-going in respect of the Regional Threshold Document for Adults. (Senior Service Manager for Adult Safeguarding in Carmarthenshire) is leading on this project on behalf of the Board. One development day has taken place with a second date scheduled for later in the year.

- Mental Health Protocol

Ceredigion have led on the development of a Regional Protocol for Parents with Mental Health Difficulties. The final draft has been completed, was approved by the Executive Board in July and is now available on the Board's website (appendix 1).

- Adult Multi Agency Referral Form (MARF)

A draft adult MARF was approved by the last Policies & Procedures Group. This will run as a 3 month pilot across the region with effect from 4th September. A review of the pilot will take place in January 2018. This has been disseminated throughout the organisations. Copies of this document are available on the Board's website and included as appendices 2 and 3 for your convenience.

## **Practice Review Sub Updates**

- Adult Practice Review (APR) Sub Group

There remains one ongoing regional Adult Practice Review. The process has been delayed due to ongoing legal complications. The final version of the Regional Adult Practice Review Protocol was agreed at the last Executive Board and available on the Board's website (appendix 4). We are working towards reviewing a safeguarding case to present at the next PLOGA.

## **National Safeguarding Week (NSW) 13-17<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

- Regional Programme of NSW Events

A regional Task & Finish Group has been established to develop a regional programme of events for National Safeguarding Week that will be ratified at the October Exec Board. Several regional meetings have been arranged to discuss and plan our regional programme. Key points are:

- A communication package will be produced based on this programme so that all areas know what is happening where and this can be given to individual agency's media teams. This will include some English/Welsh translated phrases and press releases for use by all organisations.
- Activities and events should be carried out by all partner agencies to show the multi-agency participation of the Board.
- Where possible, thought should be given to activities that cut across both children and adults during the week.

All Safeguarding Board Business Units across Wales have agreed some outline 'All Wales' themes for National Safeguarding Week (appendix 5). There will be a rough theme for each day within the scope of safeguarding and each Regional Safeguarding Board has agreed to take the lead on a theme. The idea is that the 'lead' Safeguarding Board will share resource on their theme – like leaflets or information that can be used by the other areas during that theme.

## **Children's Services**

### **2.3 Inspection**

There has been notification received of CSSIW core inspection of children's services in this period the findings of which will be available in Q2. This was a 2 week Inspection which took place over July and early August. Inspectors reviewed a number of children's files and interviewed staff and managers from PCC and senior officers from Partner organisations to assess the

effectiveness of services to vulnerable children. The report will be available in September – date yet to be confirmed.

## 2.4 Child Practice Reviews

There have been 2 new referrals for Child Practice Review over the reporting period. One is for consideration by the Powys Local Operational Group before referral to the Safeguarding Board. The second involves a review of practice where a young person who had been in the care of the authority some years ago and who had subsequently committed suicide. The family has been in discussion with the Authority asking the safeguarding Board to undertake a review to ensure we collectively understand why this happened and to incorporate any lessons learned into our policies and practice.

## 2.5 Quality Assurance

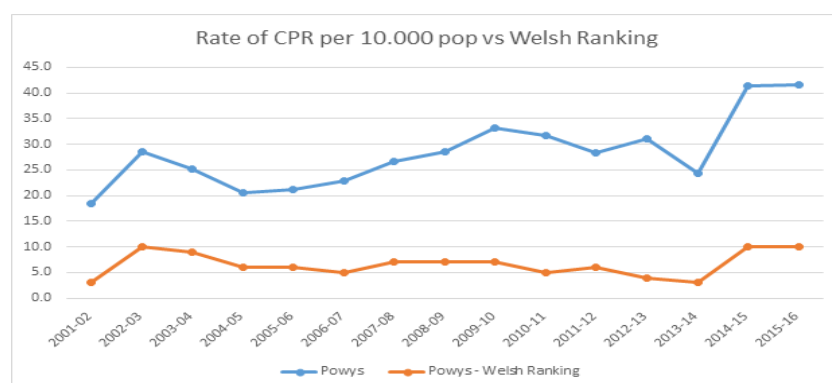
A Quality Assurance and Performance strategy and audit planner has been introduced and implemented this may require review following inspection feedback. Regular case file and themed audits are undertaken. The findings from these audits are disseminated across the service to enable learning and improvements in practice and service delivery. Monthly Children's Services management meetings monitor the actions arising from the audit findings. This will include findings from the recent inspection.

We are developing and implementing a quality assurance framework to help the authority assess progress and impact of its service this will be monitored through service dashboards moving forward.

Children's services undertook a number of audits in addition to its usual practice in preparation for the inspection. These showed practice of inconsistent quality, with some examples of good practice.

A number of areas were identified in preparing data for the inspection where reports can be developed to improve data accuracy and therefore making tracking of case quality easier.

## 2.6 Trends in Child Protection (CP) registrations



The trajectory of CP registrations in Powys continues to indicate an increasing trend. This increase continues to reflect the national picture from Welsh Government published statistics and requires some further analysis to ensure we are responding to safeguarding concerns appropriately and that Child Protection Plans are effective.

We are investigating this trend and reviewing through a range of measures including working with the Regional Safeguarding Board (CYSUR) on clarifying levels of needs to inform the actions moving forward. This will ensure that we provide a service that safeguards children and we will continually review the rationale for those children on the child protection register.

## **2.7 Safeguarding Children**

The total number of referrals received into children's services from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 is 861. This is a clear reduction in the last two quarters of the year. This may suggest that the introduction of the care and well-being assessment into Powys People Direct, as well as additional collaborative work and alternative support mechanisms with partner agencies in supporting vulnerable families, may have prevented escalation and the need for intense intervention. We will keep this under review to ensure we are supporting vulnerable children in a timely way.

The highest number of child protection referrals continue to be from the Police, they referred 39% of all child protection referrals during the year, followed by education with 23%.

The numbers of Section 47 (Child Protection) enquiries remains steady with 182 being completed in Q3 and 165 in Q4.

## **2.8 Missing Children and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

A regional and local multi-agency CSE action plan has been developed and monitored through CSE working group and reported through the Local Operational Group and to the Regional Safeguarding Board.

The Multi Agency Child Sexual Exploitation (MACSE) meetings chaired by the local authority are now meeting on a bi-monthly basis to monitor the SERAF tool and those children and young people identified as potentially at risk of sexual exploitation.

### **Child Protection Register**

The table below shows child protection registrations on a quarterly basis.

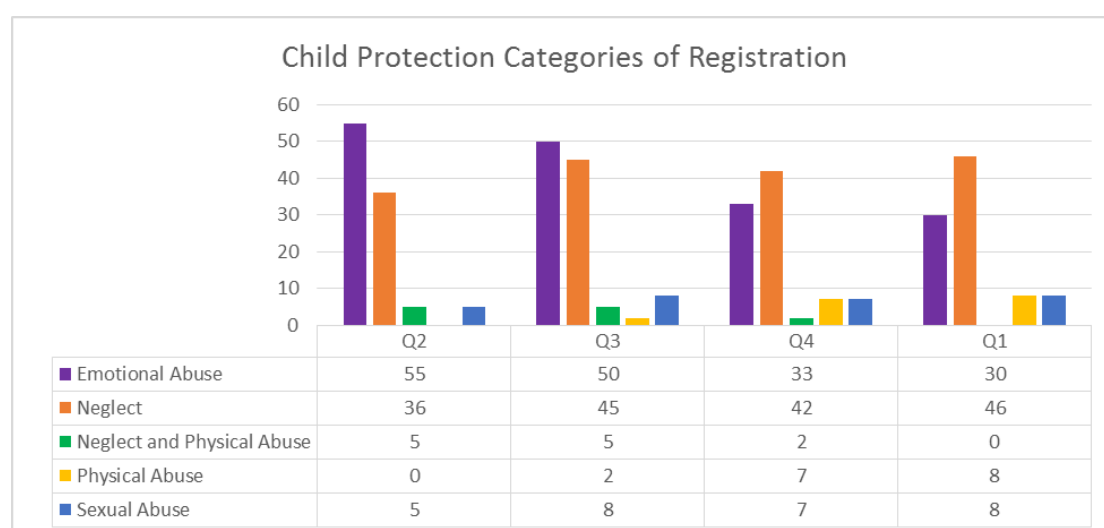
<b>30/09/2016</b>	<b>31/12/2016</b>	<b>31/03/2017</b>	<b>30/06/2017</b>
101	110	91	92

The table below further analyses the register as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and shows breakdown by allocated team.

Team	No.
Welshpool	12
Newtown	30
Radnor	23
Brecon	27
Children with Disabilities	0

A similar number of children are subject to Child Protection Plans but the distribution of the children has changed quite significantly with reductions in numbers in Welshpool and increased numbers in Newtown. There were small reductions in the Radnor and Brecon teams. No children from the children with disabilities team being subject to a child protection plan at the end of this period.

The chart below displays the number of children on the register as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 split by category of registration.



Neglect is the highest category of abuse. In Q3 and Q4 you can see a shift towards a decrease in the number of children registered under emotional abuse and an increase in the number being registered under the category of neglect.

During Q1 there were 32 Initial Child Protection Conferences that resulted in 87.5% of children being registered. There were 62 Review Child Protection Conferences at which 56.5% of children were deregistered.

## Regional Update

## Policies and Sub group update



The Right Help at the Right Time (Children's Threshold and Eligibility for Support) document has now been completed. It was agreed and ratified at the last Executive Board.

The Policies & Procedures Sub Group has a number of on-going work-streams and a number of key regional policies are actively under development. The main areas of focus in the coming quarter will include finalising the Elective Home Education Protocol. The first development day for this has taken place and a second development day is scheduled for July to complete this piece of work. Work is also on going on a regional FOI protocol.

### **Regional Training Sub Group Update**

The all-age group has agreed a short term training plan which will deliver on some immediate actions. One of which is to arrange and deliver a regional training event on working with challenging, difficult and evasive families. A pilot regional training event has been scheduled to take place in Carmarthen on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June which will be delivered by Reconstruct with the intention being each organisation should further commission and roll this out to larger staff numbers within their own individual organisations.

Six multi-agency regional training sessions are in the process of being delivered by the Gwella project worker, Giselle Moran, on working with children who display sexually harmful behaviour. Initial feedback received has been very positive.

A development day for the Training Sub Group and members has been scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> May to pull together a long term training strategy.

### **Regional Child Practice Review Sub Group**

There were no new referrals to the last Sub Group and there are no on-going regional child practice reviews. It has been agreed that when the CPR Sub group recommends that a MAPF should be undertaken, this will return to the local area for completion and will exit the CPR Sub Group. Progress of any on-going MAPFs will be tracked and reported as part of the regional QA framework. Any action plans will remain local action plans opposed to regional ones. The business unit will audit MAPFs as part of their function and identify any common themes that may need a regional approach or work. The regional CPR protocol for has now been agreed and ratified by the Executive Board (appendix 6).

Pembrokeshire have agreed to lead upon the development of a regional MAPF framework.

### **CSE and SERAF Review**

A national review of CSE guidance including the definition of CSE and a review of the SERAF tool is under way. CASCADE research facility attached to Cardiff University has been commissioned by Welsh Government to undertake this review. As part of this process six national focus groups have taken place in each Safeguarding Board area across Wales with input from practitioners and managers on a multi-agency basis. The event in Mid and West Wales took place on 30<sup>th</sup> March, facilitated jointly by the business unit and Dr Anne Crowley from CASCADE at Dyfed Powys Police Headquarters. This was attended by practitioners and managers from all four local authorities

and the key statutory partners. The national review and accompanying recommendation will be concluded by the end of May.

- **CPR/APR Training**

The Welsh Government are working on rolling out new national training for CPR/APRs which will consist of some generic online training materials and some more specific direct training for Independent Reviewers. A specific meeting has been arranged with Regional Safeguarding Board Managers to take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May to discuss and plan in more detail.

- **Information Sharing and Ownership**

The National Independent Safeguarding Board has formally raised the issue of ownership of information within the context the governance and responsibilities in relation to information sharing for Safeguarding Boards. Ruth Henke is leading on this from the National Independent Safeguarding Board and is completing a report to advise Welsh Government. This is likely to recommend guidance needs to be issued to strengthen and clarify parameters, legal ownership and responsibilities.

- **SAIT Tool**

This tool and process remains under review and the Welsh Government are now giving serious consideration to starting afresh with the procurement of a new tool.

- **Child Death Reviews**

Discussions are on-going with the National independent Safeguarding Board as to whether Regional Safeguarding Boards should have more robust oversight of Child Death Reviews.

### **Regional Board Annual Report**

The board annual report has been included with this report (appendix 7).

### **3. Options Considered / Available**

3.1 Not applicable.

### **4. Preferred Choice and Reasons**

4.1 Not applicable.

### **5. Impact Assessment**

5.1 Is an impact assessment required? No

### **6. Corporate Improvement Plan**

6.1 Safeguarding is everybody's business and links to objectives within the Corporate Improvement plan.

**7. Local Member(s)**

7.1 Not applicable.

**8. Other Front Line Services**

Does the recommendation impact on other services run by the Council or on behalf of the Council? Yes

If so please provide their comments:

The Powys Local Safeguarding Group engages with frontline staff/services through its child protection fora. Both the PLOG and PLOGA have active training programmes co-ordinated by the local authority and attended by staff from all agencies. The Safeguarding team give advice and information to managers and staff working with children and adults' at risk from all sectors.

**9. Communications**

Have Communications seen a copy of this report? Yes

Have they made a comment? Communications officers from the People Directorate have contributed to the development of the CYSUR website, and continue to promote the work of the regional board. Officers supported and promoted a positive campaign with both public and private sector organisations during Safeguarding week, and will continue to support and promote Safeguarding Week in November 2017.

**10. Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)**

10.1 Legal – no comment received.

10.2 Finance - The Finance Business Partner notes the content of the report re safeguarding matters.

10.3 Corporate Property – The Professional Lead notes the contents of the report.

10.4 HR – no comment received.

10.5 ICT – no comment received.

**11. Scrutiny**

Has this report been scrutinised? No

If Yes what version or date of report has been scrutinised?

Please insert the comments.

What changes have been made since the date of Scrutiny and explain why Scrutiny recommendations have been accepted or rejected?

11.1

## 12. Statutory Officers

## 13. Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
<b>That Cabinet accepts the safeguarding update in line with its safeguarding responsibilities.</b>	<b>Safeguarding is everyone's business and this report provides assurance to Cabinet of work that is underway both locally and regionally on important safeguarding matters.</b>

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>			
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<b>Y</b>

<b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>	<b>All</b>
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<b>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</b>	<b>Agency representatives</b>
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Contact Officer:	Karen Arthur, Contact & Safeguarding Senior Manager
Tel:	01686 617637
Email:	<a href="mailto:karen.arthur@powys.gov.uk">karen.arthur@powys.gov.uk</a>
Contact Officer:	David Johnston, Interim Lead Children's Services
Tel:	01597 826393
Email:	<a href="mailto:david.johnston@powys.gov.uk">david.johnston@powys.gov.uk</a>

**Background Papers used to prepare Report:**