

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

CABINET EXECUTIVE

9th January 2018

**REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rachel Powell
Portfolio Holder for Children's Services**

**SUBJECT: Powys Safeguarding Children
Quarter 2 Update**

REPORT FOR: Information

1. Summary

The purpose of the report is to provide an update in respect of work done in Quarter 2 (2017/18) to safeguard children in Powys itself and as part of the Mid and West Wales Region.

There is one Regional Safeguarding Board for Children (CYSUR) and one for Adults (CWMPAS) with cross-cutting issues managed jointly across both. The Boards now provide a website update for public and professionals (www.cysur.wales).

2. Inspection

Following publication of the CSSIW inspection report in October, Cabinet and the Improvement Board approved a children's services improvement plan. The plan contains considerable detail about actions which will help to ensure that children in Powys are kept safe from abuse or neglect. These include the following.

- An assurance mechanism must be implemented as a priority to ensure compliance with legislation, statutory guidance and protocols regarding Looked After Children and children at risk.
- Performance management and quality assurance arrangements, including scrutiny of service demand and routine auditing of the quality of practice needs to be embedded so that managers at all levels have timely, relevant and accurate performance and quality assurance information.
- At a corporate level the Local Authority must establish systems and structures effectively monitor and evaluate progress within Children's Services and throughout all relevant services.

2.1 Staffing

Staffing arrangements across Powys have now been reviewed. Currently, there are 47 agency workers in place. This has brought greater stability to teams but it is not a sustainable solution in terms of meeting the needs of children and families in the longer term. We continue to experience pressure points in some teams, notably Welshpool and Radnor, where a number of staff have tendered their resignation and there are high levels of absences through illness. There are plans in place to strengthen these teams with additional agency social work staff. Over the past three

months, there has been a concerted effort to improve practice and performance, focusing on making sure that children and families are seen and that assessments are completed in a timely manner.

3. Child Practice Reviews

There have been two new referrals for Child Practice Review over the reporting period. In both cases, the information shared to Cysur embedded within this report.

4. Quality Assurance

A Quality Assurance Framework was agreed in November 2017 and it will be implemented across Childrens Services from December. During Quarter 2, case file audits were undertaken by Skylakes, an independent social work agency. The findings from these audits are disseminated to enable learning and improvement in practice and service delivery.

4.1 Policies & Procedures Sub Group Update

A regional threshold document was launched during National Safeguarding Week in November 2017. This is designed to establish a consistent response to children and families in need across the region and to provide the 'right help at the right time'.

A number of other regional documents are nearing completion, including a protocol for children who are electively home educated, a protocol for parents who have identified mental health problems and a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) protocol.

5. Trends in Child Protection (CP) registrations

Child Protection Activity

Section 47 Investigations

The table below shows the number of Section 47 Assessments completed by team during the three month period between August and October 2017.

Area Team	August	September	October	Total
Brecon & Ystrad	14	12	20	46
Newtown	13	11	16	40
Radnor	10	16	27	53
Welshpool	6	11	23	40
Skylakes	5	0	1	6
Children with Disabilities	3	1	0	4
Total	51	51	87	189

There were more Section 47 investigations in October, coinciding with publication of the CSSIW report. This is often the case. Perhaps because agencies tend to re-refer cases and seek to classify referrals as child protection matters (rather than Care and Well-being referrals).

Child Protection Initial Conferences

The table below shows the number of child protection initial conferences convened by team area.

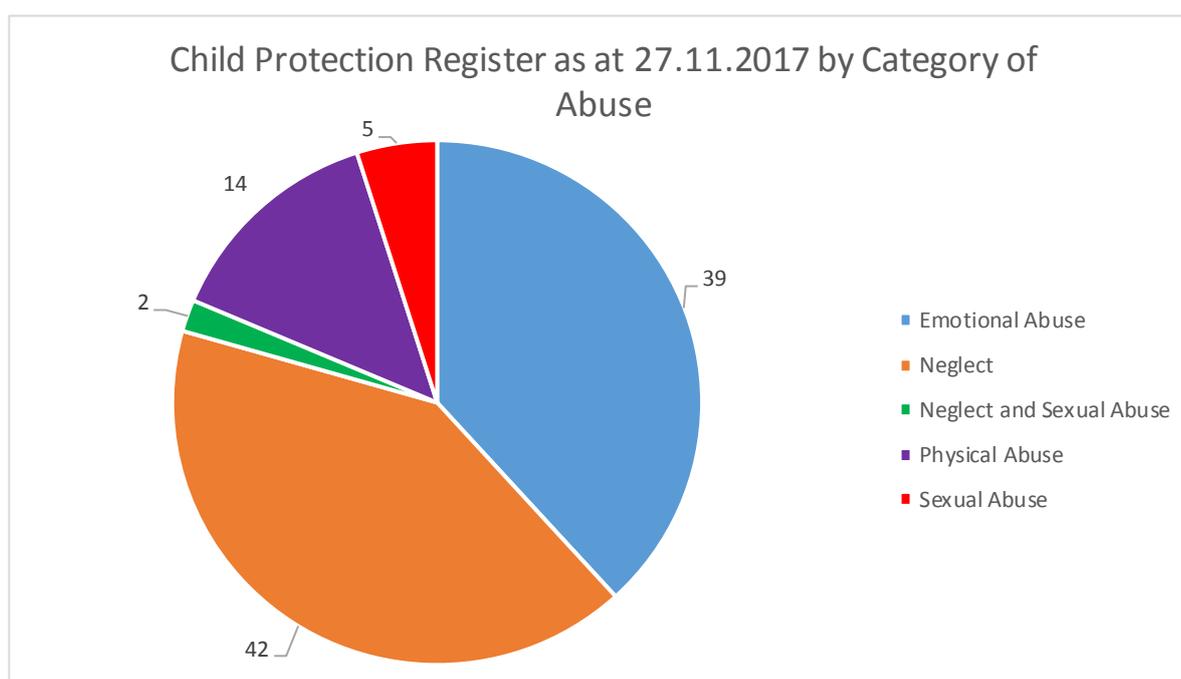
Area Team	August	September	October	Total
Brecon & Ystrad	5	7	0	12
Newtown	3	1	7	11
Radnor	5	0	1	6
Welshpool	1	5	9	15
Total	14	13	17	44

Child Protection Register

As at 27th November 2017, there are 102 children on the register. The table below shows the split by area team. 56% of the registrations are in the South (Radnor and Brecon). The Children with Disabilities team does not have any cases where are currently registered on the Child Protection Register.

Team Area	No. of Children on Register
Brecon & Ystrad	29
Newtown	24
Radnor	28
Welshpool	21
Total	102

The chart below shows registrations by category of abuse. Neglect is the highest category of registration at 41%, closely followed by Emotional Abuse at 38%.



The information below shows the number of children registered and de-registered each month. Over the past six months, there has been a total of 86 registrations and 75 de-registrations. As of the 27th November 2017, an additional 17 children have been registered and 11 children de-registered.

TABLE OF AGE RANGES:

MONTH	0-3	4-7	8-11	12+	Total
JULY	21	13	20	30	84

We do not have statistics about which agency most often makes generic referrals but Dyfed Powys Police are the most frequent referrers in respect of child protection matters.

6. INFORMATION PRESENTED TO CYSUR:

**CYSUR: The Mid & West Wales Safeguarding Children Board
LOG Chairs report to CYSUR Executive Board**



LOG Chair’s Report to CYSUR

Local area: Powys County Council

Date: October 9th 2017

1. Analysis of Quarterly Performance data:

➤ *Please summarise areas in which you are performing well. What impact is this having on professional practice and outcomes for children and their families?*

Reporting was not accurate for Q1 because of issues following implementation of WCCIS, which then required narrative and explanation of areas of concern. We have amended our recording and expect improvement during Q2 but this may not be reflected fully until Q3. Currently, the reporting data is limited in respect of safeguarding matters. This is being addressed as a high priority within the improvement plan.

Currently, there is no data being captured in respect of Professional Strategy meetings, MISPER and other data required for CYSUR.

There are currently 196 Looked after Children for Powys County Council and 88 named children on the Powys Child Protection Register. There has been an increase in numbers of Looked after Children within the last quarter due to court proceedings and complex family situations. The number of children on the Powys Child Protection Register has begun to reduce slightly within this quarter from 95 to 88.

Categories of registration

Emotional abuse followed by neglect has continued to be highest category of registration and this has been a consistent trend over the previous three quarters.

This correlates with concerns about Domestic Abuse within the household and the emotional

impact on the child. This is a characteristic of 60% of registrations closely followed by emotional impact on the child of their parent's mental ill health and/or substance misuse, both of which are recorded at 40%.

➤ *Please highlight areas in which data suggests your area is below target or not performing well.*

The aim is to continue to strive to reduce the Looked After Children's population and child protection registrations by offering an Edge of Care resource which will be operational from October 9th 2017. This Edge of Care service will provide Family Group Conferencing, Family Mediation and Intensive work with Families to prevent family breakdown. Action for Children have been commissioned and will lead on this project, supporting and building on existing strengths in Operational Teams.

➤ *Please explain what action you have taken to improve this and the timescale for improvement.*

Powys County Council is committed to improving service provision for children and their families. It has been agreed that a risk assessment model called "Signs of Safety" will be introduced as soon as possible. The improvement plan contains a commitment to begin this process by the end of January 2018, with full implementation during the year.

The Regional Threshold document has been agreed and launched during National Safeguarding week in November 13-17th 2017. This includes working with partner agencies in a multi-agency training event.

A revised Quality Assurance and Performance strategy will be introduced at the end of October 2017.

Skylakes organisation have undertaken themed audits on all children who have become Looked after children in Q2- Q3. The findings from these audits will be disseminated within the service to enable learning and improvements in practice and service delivery. There are Monthly management meetings which have a regular performance and practice section to inform the learning required from these audits, as well as identify professional and governance issues that will aid as a reflective exercise for future practice.

Recording of Parental Factors –: Domestic Violence; Substance Misuse; Mental Health

There has been a significant rise in the identification of DV; MH; Substance Misuse as parental factors recorded at initial conferences. Compared with Q3 15/16 where DV was recorded at 27%, Q2 recorded 60%. Similarly MH Q1 recorded as 17% whilst Q2 recorded 40%. Substance Misuse 13% (Q1 15/16) 40% (Q2 16/17). Figures indicate a steep rise in the recording of DV and SA. On-going awareness raising, training and legislative requirements have led to a more consistent approach to the management of the three main factors impacting on child outcomes.

➤ *Please highlight areas in which data suggests your area is below target or not performing well.*

Professional Strategy Meetings

Total number of Professional Strategy meetings for Q2 ranged from 21 in Brecon /Ystrad to 12 in Newtown. 7 PS's in Q2 were COLA (Child placed in Powys from another Local Authority). The context for the increase is PS's in the North of the county is due to the volume of independent residential homes in this part of the county. Over the latter two quarters of the last four there has

been a significant increase in the numbers of PS's questioning whether a consistent approach to practice across the county for the threshold /criteria to trigger a professional strategy meeting. In Q2 14 Professional Strategy meetings were held in relation to Foster care / Adoptive or Kinship arrangements, this is a rise from a total of 9 in the previous three quarters to 14 in Q2. We plan to investigate what might be creating the increase and what, if any, changes to practice or service delivery is required.

Missing Children and CSE

Currently Powys is unable to consistently report on missing children and children at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). This is due to the WCCIS system. Both these matters are discussed elsewhere within the body of this report.

The protocols and processes around CSE within Powys Local Authority are currently being reviewed by the Safeguarding Lead for Childrens services, Safeguarding Lead for Health and Police Lead for CSE.

The following actions have been agreed with timescales:

Review of Terms of Reference for MACSE by end of October 2017.

Referral form to be developed for MACSE by end of October 2017.

Review of the structure and business processes for Practitioners to refer into Mace by end of October 2017.

Audit of all CSE cases held in Operational teams by the end of October 2017.

Review risk assessment processes and recording of information by end of October 2017.

➤ *Please explain what action you have taken to improve this and the timescale for improvement.*

In discussion at our Local Operational Group (LOG) we have agreed improvements in the area of multi-agency working with missing children and those at risk of child sexual exploitation both at a strategic and operational level and we anticipate having more consistent data in Q4 2017/18.

Actions to further develop the data development agenda

Areas for data development and thematic audits for local practice audits;

- Missing children
- Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework (SERAFs)
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Electively Home Educated (EHE) Children
- Ensuring a Safe Workforce
- Trends in CP registrations

2. Summary / Outcome of any local practice audits:

- *Please provide the Board with a summary of any local practice audits you have undertaken, actions you intend to take as a result of this and the timescale for completion.*

A Quality Assurance and Performance strategy has been introduced since last summer within children's services and regular case file audits and themed audits are undertaken and the findings from these audits disseminated within the service to enable learning and improvements in practice and service delivery. Monthly management meetings have a regular performance and reflective practice section to inform the learning required from these audits.

Other than the monthly case file audits across all service areas undertaken there have been themed audits undertaken or are planned for in the forthcoming year on:

- Strategy discussions and meetings
- Emotional health and wellbeing needs and how these are provided for older children in care and care leavers
- Assessments including analysis of information and management of risk
- Contacts and referrals to our Front Door (Powys People Direct – PPD)

A key finding from themed audit on strategy discussions / meetings was the lack of multi-agency involvement. Generally only police and children's social services had been routinely involved in strategy discussions even where a medical may be required. This was raised at the LOG to ensure more robust and effective multi-agency attendance to include health and education services.

Multi-agency themed audits are planned for in Q4 2017/18 in relation to the emotional and health needs of children and young people and how their needs are provided for as well as how risks are appropriately managed through multi-agency care planning. The learning from these audits will be disseminated through the LOG.

3. Child Sexual Exploitation Regional Strategy (CSE):

- *Please highlight to the Board any actions that your area has RAG-Rated as Amber or Red on the action plan.*

ACTIONS

CYSUR currently have a regional pathway to improve services around CSE. There is a scrutiny process around CSE matters which are discussed at MACSE (Multi) agency Child Sexual Exploitation). There will be local plans in place within Powys to work on these matters. CYSUR will then ensure that Powys is undertaking the work that is required as part of the regional plan.

- *Please explain to the board what actions you intend to take to improve your performance and the timescale for this.*

Actions are as outlined in sections above – all actions should be completed by end March 2018.

4. Child Practice Review Regional Action Plan:

- *Please highlight to the Board any actions that your area has RAG-Rated as Amber or Red on the action plan.*

- a. **CYSUR 3/2015 (Powys MAPF)** – PLOG and CYSUR Child Practice Review sub group have agreed an action plan which is to enable multi-agency learning, and where appropriate consideration for regional learning will be addressed through the sub group. LOG will monitor the implementation and progress of the action plan and also report to the sub group progress. (Child A was a Powys young person who died in April 2015)

- a. One case has been agreed to be put forward to the regional board for a decision around a Child Practice Review. This was agreed in a LOG meeting in September 2017.

5. Outcome of any CSSIW Inspection Reports:

- *Please report on any CSSIW Inspections that have been undertaken. Outline the outcome of any safeguarding themes and actions that have been advised as a result of this.*

The CSSIW Inspection report for Powys County Council is due for release on October 17th 2017. Following the release of this report the safeguarding themes and actions will be documented within a service improvement plan. This information will be made available to Cysur on release of the Inspection report.

6. Other relevant issues:

- *Please highlight any other issues discussed at your LOG that you would like to bring to the Board's attention.*

Following the release of the Inspection Report regarding Powys County Council, the themes and issues will be discussed at LOG in November 2017.

7. Any specific information requests by the Chair in relation to this Board:

- *Please provide an update of progress in relation to the interface with the Adult's LOG in your area and progress in terms of timings and locations of meetings and the development of your local cross over 'all age agenda'.*

- *Please provide details for your planned local audits for Q3 October to December 2017 and reported to the Exec Board in January 2018. Please include:*
 - Audit theme
 - Brief Terms of Reference
 - Sample size
 - Identified outcome

A Quality Assurance Framework will be introduced, agreed and be operational between October and December 2017. This QA framework will highlight and target Operational Teams to ensure that all Care and Wellbeing Assessments are completed within 10 and 42 days. It will also provide an audit theme of quality of analysis within assessments as well as identified outcomes for children and families. It is expected that up to 40 assessments will be audited.

The themed audit will be around CSE over Q3.

The theme will look at the quality of risk assessments, cases proceeding to strategy discussion and Seraf meeting and how this is monitored and scrutinised within the MACE process. The sample size will be 20 cases.

7. Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV)

Improvement Plan for VAWDASV

Introduction.

The Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act (Wales) 2015 (VAWDASV) places legal duties on the Council and other relevant agencies (such as the Health Board and Fire Service) to take action to reduce the acceptability of all forms of gender-related violence and to improve services for victims and survivors.

These issues affect many of the services and departments of the Council and the obligations under the Act are corporate in nature. The Commissioning Manager for VAWDASV, located in the CYPP, seeks to co-ordinate the Council's response to the Act.

Under the provisions of the Act there are a number of statutory deadlines with which the Council and other relevant authorities have to comply. Monitoring of compliance is undertaken by the VAWDASV team in the Welsh Government.

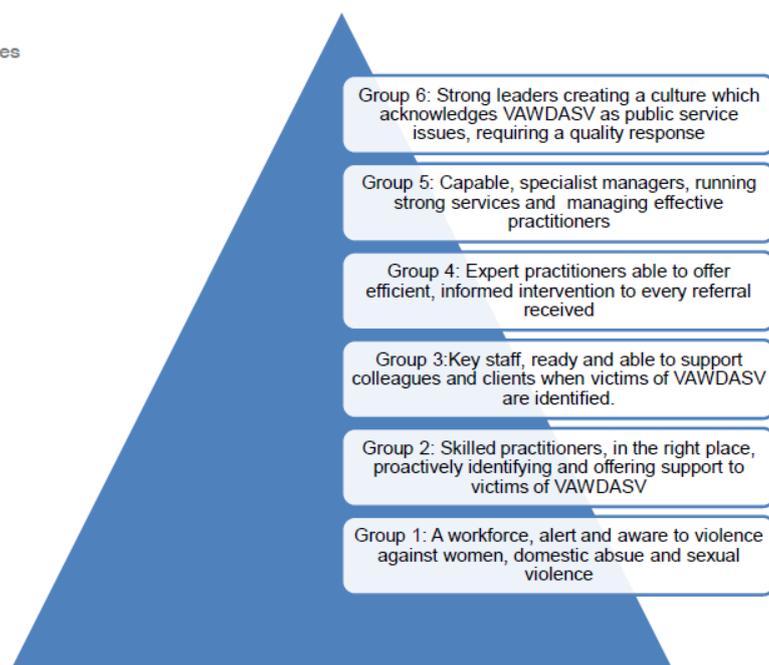
Regional arrangements

VAWDASV requires new strategic regional partnership arrangements to ensure co-operation and liaison between the statutory and voluntary agencies involved in providing services. In Powys and the West Wales regions, these structures have been aligned with existing safeguarding arrangements to maximise efficiency. The VAWDASV strategic board for Mid and West Wales has started to prepare a Local VAWDASV strategy which requires Cabinet approval by April 2018.

Training

A key requirement of the VAWDASV Act is a very major investment in training within relevant authorities. The statutory guidance identified six levels of training required with all staff employed by the Council coming within at least one and potentially several of these groups. For each group, specified training is required and, in some cases, there is an associated timetable for compliance.

Outcomes



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Under the statutory guidance the Council is required to ensure that there is proper governance. The requirements and our current performance are identified below:

Requirement	Status
Identify the CX or another Director who will be specifically responsible for the NTF	Phil Evans has been designated as the Lead Director
Ensure the NTF is included within the Terms of Reference of a relevant strategic board or group who will monitor activity and progress.	The NTF has been incorporated into the remit of the Corporate Management Team.
Although not a legal requirement it is good practice to have a champion for VAWDASV issues in the Cabinet.	It is proposed that two Cabinet members jointly share the lead for VAWDASV.

National Training Framework Group 1

Group 1 contains all Council employees including part-time staff and staff in schools. It does not automatically apply to agency staff and contracted staff who are not employees of the Council, although we have decided to extend this requirement to staff employed to provide a care service under a contract with the Council in line with a recommendation from a Domestic Homicide Review held in Powys.

The Council's performance against the statutory requirements is detailed below:

Requirement	Date by which it had been completed	Status
That all new starters receive this training	October 2016	This will be addressed when a new corporate induction process is implemented.
50% of staff trained	April 2017	Powys did not reach this target.
100% of staff trained	April 2018	Because of the number of staff involved (over 6,000) it is unlikely that Powys will achieve this target, but we aim to reach 100% compliance by the end of 2018. We have gone above and beyond our obligations under the Act by requiring certain contractors to train their staff to group 1.

Many of the Council's employees have IT access and so can complete this training by e-learning. For others, a presentation has been prepared which can be delivered along with a workbook for employees to complete.

Key actions needed to achieve compliance:

Action	Who	When
To initiate action to ensure that those employees who have IT access undertake this training.	All Directors	By Dec 2017
To organise staff who do not have IT access into groups, secure suitable venues and contact the CM for VAWDASV who will provide the required training.	All Directors	April 2018
To add Group 1 VAWDASV training to the list of mandatory training for Council members in accordance with the National Training Framework.	Democratic Services	Nov 2017

National Training Framework Groups 2 and 3

Group 2 are professionals such as Social Workers and Teachers who work is impacted on and complicated by VAWDASV issues. The Council has assessed that there are 867 employees falling within Group 2 and who will need "Ask and Act" training.

Group 3 are the VAWDASV champions who, amongst other duties will be responsible for the provision of the accredited training to Group 2 staff. We have assessed there are 86 employees falling into this category in Powys.

The training for Group 2 staff will not be available until March 2018. It is intended that it is delivered on a regional basis. Before March 2018 the Council is required to undertake the following actions:

- Consider the establishment of an "Ask and Act" steering group.
- Develop an "Ask and Act" workplace policy.
- Develop an "Ask and Act" Referral Protocol or care pathway
- Appoint an "Ask and Act" "lead" to co-ordinate and support the work
- Identify who will be in Group 3 (Ask and Act champions) so they can be the first to be trained in Ask and Act (in accordance with the work plan submitted to the WG in April)
- Plan for the regional rollout and coordination of "Ask and Act" training

National Training Framework Group 6

Group 6 comprises the Senior Management Team and Cabinet. Delivery will be taken forward in two work streams: a Strategic Engagement Plan and the Strengthening Leadership Series.

Requirement	Status
Design a programme for the Cabinet and Corporate Management team to complete the VAWDASV elements of the Strengthening Leadership series	Not yet undertaken

Services to Victims and Survivors

Powys Council in consultation with the Health Board has re-commissioned Calan DVS and MFCC to provide services to victims and survivors using money from the Supporting People Programme. These new contracts come into force on the 1st October 2017.

Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs)

IDVAs are currently provided by Hafan Cmryu, funded by the police and Powys Council. Last year the Council, through the CYPP provided £40,000 in grant aid to this service. As a result of the loss of Home Office funding this year, there is only £13,000 available, leaving a short-fall of £27,000. A commitment was given by the previous Head of Children Service to continue to fund this service for 2017/18, however to do so requires the Council to find £27,000 in additional funding, which has not yet been identified.

As from March 2018, the IDVA service is being jointly commissioned (with the Police) on a regional basis across Mid and West Wales. It will be funded from the regional VAWDASV grant.

Public Awareness raising

The Commissioning Manager for VAWDASV co-ordinated activities on behalf of the Council and its partners on White Ribbon Day in 2016 and 2017. The Chairman of the Council opened the event and the Cabinet Members for Children services and Highways spoke. It is hoped that more members will be able to attend his event in the future.

Whole Schools Approach

Under VAWDASV guidance, schools are encouraged to consider VAWDASV not just as a curriculum issue but in the management and leadership of their school. In Powys

the Spectrum project (funded by the Welsh Government) is available to schools and meets the requirements of the guidance. However, not all schools have chosen to adopt this approach and some have only adopted parts of the programme. A comprehensive approach to meeting the requirements is required.

Governance

The Welsh Government has published guidance on multi-agency arrangements at strategic, operational and practitioner levels. In partnership with the police, a report has been presented to the PLOG proposing that an operational partnership and a multi-agency forum co-ordinates our response to domestic abuse. This is currently under consideration.

A task and finish group of Council officers has been meeting to consider the organisational issue involved in the roll-out of Group 1 training for VAWDASV. However in view of the significant additional work needed to comply with the legal obligations, it is considered that the governance of the National Training Framework in Powys Council be placed on a more senior basis and chaired by the appointed designated member of the Corporate Management team.

Funding

The work on VAWDASV is funded from the following sources:

Provision	From	Application
£80,000 pa	Welsh Government VAWDASV funding	For the salary of the Commissioning Manager, contribution to the region and to the IDVA service and for printing booklets and promotional materials
£400,000pa	Supporting People	Contract with providers for support services to victims and survivors
£30,000pa	Powys Council – Children Services	Contribution to the above contract

Apart from the £30,000 from Children Services, no core funding from Powys Council is provided for VAWDASV, although domestic abuse has been identified as the single greatest parental factor in children being entered onto the Child Protection register. The regional VAWDASV board has resolved that Local Authorities should consider making a contribution to VAWDASV from their core budgets in 2018/19. If the VAWDASV grant from the Welsh Government is managed by the region and not apportioned to individual local authorities there will be a funding gap in the provision for the post of the Commissioning Manager for VAWDASV which has been funded from that grant.

8. Welsh Government Update

Members will wish to be aware that Ministerial responsibility for UASC/refugee children has now passed to Huw Irranca-Davies AM as Minister for Children and Social Care and (at Cabinet level) to Julie James AM as Leader of the House and Chief Whip who has Equalities as part of her portfolio.

The Enabling People Division within the Social Services and Integration Directorate has

worked closely with the WSMP and WLGA to arrange the transfer of four children from France to Wales under the Dubs Amendment (s67 of the Immigration Act 2016).

Safeguarding

Cross Departmental Welsh Government Safeguarding Group: The Group has general oversight of the Welsh Government's policy on safeguarding for children and adults and its relations with partner agencies. The Group's remit includes the provision of: advice and guidance from the perspective of the area they represent; a forum to share policy developments and learning on safeguarding; liaison with external agencies as relevant and developing a shared response to issues that arise and have cross-government relevance. The Safeguarding Policy Team from the Health and Social Services Directorate provides the secretariat to the Group. The Group meets on a quarterly basis but can call meetings or liaise virtually at other times to respond to safeguarding matters that arise with cross departmental links. The Group includes representatives from all parts of the Welsh Government with an interest in the work of the Group. Agreement has been reached to include Refugee and Asylum Seekers as a standing agenda item.

National Protection Procedures: Cardiff and the Vale Safeguarding Board have been commissioned to review the existing All Wales Child Protection Procedures and adult procedures on behalf of ADSS Cymru. Welsh Government has provided funding to enable this work. There are a number of additional protocols which have been issued under the All Wales Child Protection Procedures.

This includes Safeguarding-and-Promoting-the-Welfare-of-Unaccompanied-Asylum-Seeking-Children-and-Young-People-All-Wales-Practice-Guidance. The Wales Strategic Migration Partnership led the work to produce this protocol which was issued in 2011 and work to update it will be led by the WSMP and undertaken in 2018. The work to update it will include a review of the recently published *Care of unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery - Statutory guidance for local authorities* linked in section 1 above. The revised and newly titled *Care of unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery - Statutory guidance for local authorities*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-of-unaccompanied-and-trafficked-children>

PREVENT training

Recent tragic events have highlighted the importance of safeguarding people, including young people and children, who may be vulnerable to radicalisation. The PREVENT programme includes awareness training which is intended to provide help to identify those vulnerable to radicalisation and importantly, where to access support where there are concerns. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of wider safeguarding and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms. Under the Counter Terrorism Act 2015, there is a 'PREVENT duty' on specified authorities but currently, the PREVENT Duty does not extend to foster carers – however, organisations providing fostering services may be subject to 'the duty'.

Following the Parsons Green attack, questions were raised about PREVENT awareness raising for foster carers and the Minister has requested, as part of the safeguarding vulnerable people (including children) agenda, to know the extent to which social workers, social care staff and foster carers (local authority and independent), have received PREVENT awareness training.

So, although the PREVENT duty does not extend to foster carers, your views are being sought to establish:

- if you have already received PREVENT awareness training; and
- whether you believe there would be merit in rolling out PREVENT awareness training to social care staff and foster carers that work with UASC and refugee children.

Please reply to

Sarah.Austin@gov.wales

9. Child Practice/Adult Practice Review Protocol

The Regional Board has commissioned support to write and develop a regional protocol to compliment the new CPR guidance to ensure consistency of approach.

10. Regional Quality Assurance Reporting

The Mid & West Wales Safeguarding Children (CYSUR) and Safeguarding Adults' (CWMPAS) Annual Plans for 2017-18 are available on their website (www.cysur.wales).

11. Options Considered / Available

11.1 Not applicable.

12. Preferred Choice and Reasons

12.1 Not applicable.

13. Impact Assessment

13.1 Is an impact assessment required? Yes/No

13.2 If yes is it attached? Yes/No

14. Corporate Improvement Plan

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

15. Local Member(s)

15.1 Not applicable.

16. Other Front Line Services

Does the recommendation impact on other services run by the Council or on behalf of the Council? Yes/No

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.

17. Communications

Have Communications seen a copy of this report? Yes

Have they made a comment? Communications have no comments but will help publicise aspects of the report.

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

18.1 Legal - The recommendation can be supported from a legal point of view

18.2 **Finance** - The Finance Business Partner notes the content of the report. Some funding issues have been identified within the report re Independent Domestic Advocates (IDVAs) and there is uncertainty how these and VAWDASV more generally are being funded from April 2018, particularly around regional working and funding distribution. This potential financial pressure is not currently identified within the budget plan so will be kept under review as more information becomes available.

18.3 Corporate Property (if appropriate)

18.4 **HR** - Any implications that may affect staff will be dealt with appropriately in line with Powys County Council's Management of Change policy.

18.5 ICT (if appropriate)

18.6 **Business Support** - Business Support staff continue to provide safeguarding support to Safeguarding and Operational Officers. Support tasks and activities have been reviewed and safeguarding support requirements confirmed.

19. Scrutiny

Has this report been scrutinised? Yes / No?

Children's Scrutiny Group will be meeting on 14th December and will be focussing on Safeguarding matters at this session.

20. Statutory Officers

20.1 The Head of Financial Services (Acting S151 Officer) notes the comments from the Finance Business Partner and the need to better understand the funding arrangement of VAWDASV from April 2018, the impact of this will have to be considered as part of the budget proposal.

20.2 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: "I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report".

21. 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.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
That Cabinet accepts the safeguarding update in line with its safeguarding responsibilities.	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.

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

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

Contact Officer:	Sharon Powell - Interim Safeguarding Lead for Children
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Email:	sharon.powell@powys.gov.uk
Contact Officer:	David Johnston - Interim Head of Childrens services
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