

*Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg.
Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich
dewis iaith.*

*We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Please
let us know if your language choice is Welsh.*



**Gwasanaethau Gweithredol a Phartneriaethol /
Operational and Partnership Services**

Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line :01656 643148
Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Mrs Julie Ellams

Ein cyf / Our ref:
Eich cyf / Your ref:

Dyddiad/Date: Monday, 31 January 2017

Dear Councillor,

PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Partnerships and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held in the Committee Rooms 2/3, Civic Offices Angel Street Bridgend CF31 4WB on **Monday, 6 February 2017 at 2.00 pm.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
To receive for apologies for absence from Members.
2. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest (if any) from Members/Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Members Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008 (including Whipping Declarations)
3. Approval of Minutes 3 - 10
To receive for approval, the minutes of the meeting of the Partnerships and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 6 December 2016.
4. Forward Work Programme Update 11 - 14
5. Western Bay Safeguarding Invitees: 15 - 60

Councillor P White, Cabinet Member for Social Services and Early Help
Laura Kinsey, Head of Children's Social Care
Terri Warrilow, Adult Safeguarding & Quality Manager
Lynn Davison, Deputy Head for Safeguarding Adults in ABMU
Superintendent Martin Jones, South Wales Police
6. Domestic Abuse Strategy Update 61 - 92

Invitees

Andrew Jolley, Corporate Director - Operational and Partnership Services
Cllr C Reeves, Cabinet Member for Communities
Martin Morgans, Head of Performance and Partnership Services
Bethan Lindsay-Gaylard, Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator

7. Urgent Items

To consider any items of business in respect of which notice has been given in accordance with Part 4 (paragraph 4) of the Council Procedure Rules and which the person presiding at the meeting is of the opinion should by reason of special circumstances be transacted at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully

P A Jolley

Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services

Councillors:

N Clarke
E Dodd
DK Edwards
EM Hughes

Councillors

CL Jones
M Jones
JR McCarthy
AD Owen

Councillors

M Thomas
KJ Watts
C Westwood

Officers

Agenda Item 3

PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2016

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES ANGEL STREET BRIDGEND CF31 4WB ON TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2016 AT 2.00 PM

Present

Councillor N Clarke – Chairperson

E Dodd	EM Hughes	JR McCarthy	AD Owen
M Thomas	RL Thomas	C Westwood	

Apologies for Absence

M Jones, D Patel and KJ Watts

Officers:

Sarah Daniel	Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Mark Galvin	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Gary Jones	Head of Democratic Services

Invitees:

Councillor HJ David	Leader
Councillor H Williams	Deputy Leader
Darren Mepham	Chief Executive
Mark Shephard	Corporate Director – Communities
Peter Fox	Leader, Monmouthshire County Council

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

67. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services submitted a report, the purpose of which, was to present the items due to be considered at the Committee's meeting to be held on 6 February 2017, and sought confirmation of the information required for the subsequent scheduled meeting to be held on 10 April 2017. The report also outlined a list of further potential items for prioritisation by the Committee.

The Scrutiny Officer referred Members to paragraph 4.1 of the report, that detailed the items to be considered at the next scheduled meeting on 6 February 2017, together with the Invitees also due to attend.

Paragraph 4.2 then showed the items to be considered and the Invitees due to attend in respect of the subsequent meeting of the Committee to be held on 10 April 2017.

Finally, paragraph 4.3 of the report gave 3 suggested extra items for consideration at the scheduled meeting(s) to be held after the above two.

RESOLVED: That Members noted the items to be discussed at the 6 February 2017 and 10 April 2017 Committee meetings.

68. CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL

The Chairperson welcomed the Invitees to the meeting, and she was pleased to introduce to Members the , Leader of Monmouthshire County Council who was also the Vice-Chairperson of the City Deal's Joint Cabinet Project team.

The Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council advised that the City Deal was an extremely important project that would benefit all those involved in this as it would deliver:-

- £1.2 billion investment in the Cardiff Capital Region's infrastructure through a 20 year investment fund.
- The creation of a non-statutory Regional Transport Authority to co-ordinate transport planning and investment, in partnership with the Welsh Government.
- The development of capabilities in Compound Semiconductor Applications.
- The creation of a Cardiff Capital Region Skills and Employment Board.
- The CCR and the Welsh Government will work with Department of Work and Pensions to co-design the future employment support from 2017 for people with a health condition or disability and/or long term unemployed.
- A Cardiff Capital Region Business Organisation will be established to ensure that there is a single voice for business to work with local authority leaders.
- The Welsh Government and the Cardiff Capital Region commit to a new partnership approach to housing development and regeneration. This will ensure the delivery of sustainable communities, through the use and re-use of property and sites.

The Leader of Monmouthshire County Council advised that today's meeting would be one of many that would discuss and monitor future progress in respect of the City Deal, and this project reflected trust and unity between those local authorities and other organisations involved in it.

He added that the City Deal would have a tenure of between 4 and 10 years, and would affect half of the population in Wales. It would also address and improve opportunities for young people across the regions it covered, and would also look to improve quality of life in the more deprived areas, by re-shaping and creating opportunities particularly for employment through inward investment and increased regeneration and economic developments. The City Deal could he added, if it was very successful, improve considerably the welsh economy.

The Chief Executive then gave a Presentation entitled the 'Cardiff Capital Region City Deal' which covered the themes and areas below.

The Project would create 25,000 new jobs, lever in £4bn additional investment and raise Growth Value Added (GVA), and was a collaboration within and beyond local authorities,

with there being 10 local authorities (as equal partners), as well as working with the private sector, industry and Welsh Government.

It would also be a commitment for city-region level governance, being a devolution deal to regions (ie through financial commitments), and would be supported by a Joint Cabinet arrangement.

The Chief Executive confirmed that initial deals would then create opportunities for further deals, by realising the benefits of one deal then investing into others.

He confirmed that it involved an Investment Fund, comprising of £1.2bn to increase GVA by investing in the economic fabric of the region. £734m would be invested in Metro projects, whilst £495m would be invested in wider ambitions, for example, housing and site regeneration, and developing people skills so that they would be more equipped to obtain employment opportunities.. Details of the above would be published on the 9 December 2016, where an initial decision would be made on where to invest our money in order to fully make an impact on the economy. Details of initial projects were currently being examined.

The Chief Executive advised that the City Deal would be about investing, with assistance from the private sector in:-

- Innovation and Digital Networks
- Improving skills and training (across the board)
- Business Support and Investment
- Housing and Land Use (how this is to be done collectively so as to benefit both the communities and the economy)
- Transport and Connectivity

The City Deal was also about a robust investment and programme governance in order to allow for decisions to be made, as finance that will be invested in the Project was conditional upon benefiting achievements and outcomes.

The Chief Executive also explained that the City Deal would improve transport connectivity across the Capital Region, and that all 10 local authorities would work with Welsh Government to co-design a Metro, though this would not take place as part of the first tranche of proposals.

In terms of moving forward, issues to address were to complete all governance arrangements; engage business ie through HE, FE and the third sector, embed the Independent Growth and Competitiveness Commission findings and re-define the approved Heads of Terms Agreement. It was anticipated that the delivery of the City Deal would commence in early 2017.

The Chief Executive advised that the main project objectives of the City Deal were:-

1. PRIMARY Objective: Increase to Net Fiscal Bottom line (GVA uplift plus reduction in welfare costs, which would reduce the drain on the public purse;)
2. SECONDARY Objective: Regional spread of benefits, particularly impact on deprived communities, as well as other areas;
3. PROGRAMME MINIMA: Demonstrate a 'Minimum benefit' to every area, for example, every Council experiences at least a minimum level of benefit, to form a baseline for each of the 10 geographical areas.

He explained that the UK Funding Risk was entirely linked to the achievement of GVA targets based on the above.

The Chief Executive then explained the details of funding in respect of the City Deal and the formula based on how this would be allocated/ released to each of the Authorities who had committed to the Project.

In response to a question from a Member on the scrutiny arrangements in respect of the City Deal and accountability of work entailed in this, Invitees confirmed that further details regarding this were awaited, though it was anticipated that scrutiny examination with regard to the projects aims and objectives, would be provided both independently by each local authority and subsequently on a regional basis.

A Member hoped that the City Deal's aspirations would include a commitment of investment to valley and deprived areas.

The Leader of Monmouthshire County Council stated that transport infrastructures would connect valley to town areas so that there was an easy and convenient link for employment opportunities, and also investment opportunities would be encouraged in valley and deprived areas.

The Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council added that there were valley locations within 6 of the 10 authorities participating in the City Deal, with the other 4 comprising of 2 rural and 2 city locations. The purpose of the work of the City Deal, was to transform and improve opportunities in all areas and local authorities affected. If the Project was successful, he added that the region would be one of the most flourishing of all the regions comprising the UK.

The Chief Executive added that there was a time limit within which to spend funding on the Metro Project, and this would form Phase 2 of the project and would be delivered within the required timelines.

The Leader of Monmouthshire County Council made the point that 10 local authorities in the Greater Manchester area had combined to form a City Deal and the success of this was recognised by the fact that they were now on their 5th Deal.

The Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council added that it was proposed to put in place a Regional Transport Plan to support the proposed transport initiatives.

The Chief Executive advised that the collaboration had been looking at other City Deal models that were in place across the UK, for benchmarking purposes, particularly as this was a new, important and innovative initiative. He added that it was a very important Project that would deliver significant improvements of the scale that no one organisation could provide in isolation.

The Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council felt that more housing should be provided as part of the City Deal in valley communities, in order to negate population decline in these areas, which in turn leads to poverty and deprivation.

The Leader of Monmouthshire County Council supplemented this by adding that it was crucial for residential accommodation to be located near public transport provision, as this allowed for better access to employment opportunities, particularly for example, if people lived in the valley areas and had to commute to city locations to work. Any inward investment generated that would attract companies to set-up its business within the regions covered by the City Deal, would obviously attract employment opportunities and

a significant number of these would likely be taken up by people who live in or near the locality of the company. This was why the introduction of added public transport options particularly within valley areas, was so important.

A Member noted that the City Deal covered a period of 20 years, and he asked how this compared in terms of other City Deals that existed in the UK, including the paying back of loans that supplemented the Project. He also asked if Invitees could expand upon inward investment opportunities and how these would be approached.

the Leader of Monmouthshire County Council confirmed that there was an obvious need to obtain inward investment opportunities in order to create jobs and, in doing so, increase prosperity. It was about engaging with small starter enterprises with a view to them expanding and similarly 'scaling-up' medium sized companies also. There would also be a requirement to establish what potential investors wanted, and to find appropriate locations where such businesses could be adequately accommodated.

The Chief Executive added that there were 3 main timescales that needed to be met. Firstly, to obtain funding from Welsh Government via an Investment Fund, then to spend this, and then to pay the loan back over an agreed 20 year period. The 20 year period was fixed, but this compared favourably to similar such deals in other parts of the country, as some were over a longer period ie 30 years.

The collaboration had agreed to spend the money within a period of 10 years however, to increase GVA and not to compromise the receipt of funding and timelines within which to spend it.

Conclusions

Members sought assurance and commitment from Invitees that the valley communities and disadvantaged areas throughout the whole Cardiff Capital Region City Deal would not be left behind and that they would benefit from the City Deal as there was a large number of skilled people willing to secure employment in these communities.

The Leader of Monmouthshire Council advised Members that a new transport infrastructure would allow movement in and out of the valley communities, and, as well as improving the transport links to allow people to get into the city, it was also focussed on creating investment, to grow opportunities within the valley areas to encourage people to travel to these communities for work. He reassured Members that the purpose of the City Deal was to transform the region and create opportunities for the whole region.

Members of the Committee welcomed the commitment from The Leader of Monmouthshire Council to the valley communities.

Members questioned whether the funding commitment of £120m from the European Regional Development Fund was at risk as a result of the EU referendum vote to leave the European Union earlier this year.

The Leader of Monmouthshire Council responded that they had recently met with the First Minister and had assurances from them that City Deal would still go ahead, even if the funding from the ERDF was at risk. The Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council added that Welsh Government were working rapidly to ensure the next phase was achieved and that the metro was currently being procured which would be funded for using the ERDF funding.

Members asked Officers what the collaboration means for Bridgend Council in terms of in-house services and staff and the delivery of City Deal.

The Chief Executive advised Members that the models had not yet been developed, however they would look to replicate a similar model that had already been developed with the Regulatory Services Collaboration where there was a regional team between Bridgend, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council added that the collaboration would provide greater resilience for Bridgend in terms of skills in the workforce as they would be combining expertise that already exists in the Local Authorities in the City Deal.

Members asked for assurances from Officers that the City Deal would create strong links to education and learning opportunities in order to secure safe, well paid jobs for the children and young people that reside in the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal.

Officers responded that this would be a fundamental part of the City Deal and that a Cardiff Capital Region Skills and Employment Board would be established which would establish where the skills deficits were and prepare schools and young people to raise aspirations and ambitions to make the right career choices to secure good future employment prospects.

Members of the Committee welcomed the commitment from Officers to have strong links with education and lifelong learning opportunities to create future job opportunities for children and young people.

Members asked how inward investment would look as discussion had taken place for the investment in transport to make it easier for residents to commute out of the valleys and into the City for work. Members commented that inward investment would be welcomed by all valley communities in the City Deal.

Officers advised that they would be working closely with WG to support inward investors and ensure the conditions and environment were right in order to attract and retain large businesses in the region. Officers stated that 25,000 jobs would not be created without inward investment into the region and that inward investors would receive the same support from Welsh Government in the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal as they would for any other part of Wales.

Members of the Committee welcomed the Officers commitment to ensuring inward investment opportunities will have a vast economic output as possible and that the Local Authorities in the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal would work together to ensure that any investment and initiatives have a benefit for the region as a whole.

Members thanked all invitees for their attendance at the meeting and for their openness and transparency in answering their queries in relation to the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal.

69. NOMINATION TO THE COLLABORATIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Scrutiny Officer presented a report, the purpose of which, was to seek nominations for the Collaborative Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED: That Councillors M Thomas, N Clarke and E Dodd be nominated onto the Collaborative Scrutiny Committee.

70. URGENT ITEMS

None.

The meeting closed at 4.15 pm

This page is intentionally left blank

REPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

06 FEBRUARY 2017

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – OPERATIONAL AND PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) present the items due to be considered at the Committee's meeting to be held on 10 April 2017;
- b) present a list of further potential items for prioritisation by the Committee.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The improvement priorities identified in the Corporate Plan 2016-2020 have been embodied in the Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes. The amended Corporate Plan adopted by Council on 10 March 2016 formally set out the improvement priorities that the Council will seek to implement between 2016 and 2020. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees engage in review and development of plans, policy or strategies that support the Corporate Themes.

3. Background

3.1 At its meeting 4 July 2016, the Partnerships and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee determined its Annual Forward Work Programme for 2016/17.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

Meetings of the Partnership and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.1 In relation to the Committee's next scheduled meeting to be held on 10 April 2017, the table below lists the items to be considered and the invitees due to attend.

Topic	Invitees	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
Community Safety Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Jolley, Corporate Director - Operational and Partnership Services; • Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development; • Community Safety Team Leader 	To provide Members with an overview of Community Safety Partnership priorities and projects.	Detail research / To be confirmed

Topic	Invitees	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
Community Policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Jolley, Corporate Director - Operational and Partnership Services; • Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development; • Community Safety Team Leader Super Intendent Martin Jones. 	To receive a review of the current community policing strategy within the County Borough with emphasis on local delivery, partnership intervention and community liaison.	Detail research / To be confirmed

4.2 Extra Items for Consideration

Dementia Care	Western Bay Health and Social Care Collaborative - Western Bay Mental Health Project - development and evidence of success of the regional Western Bay Dementia Strategy. Members have asked questions such a 'Are we able to cope with the increasing demand for dementia care?' Also a request for Case Studies as evidence.
Housing Strategy	TBC
Community Safety - Community Cohesion	Community Cohesion - Local Delivery Plan

Corporate Parenting

- 4.3 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a local authority towards looked after children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'corporate parent' therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for the children and young people looked after by Bridgend. ¹
- 4.4 In this role, it is suggested that Members consider how the services within the remit of their Committee affects children in care and care leavers, and in what way can the Committee can therefore assist in these areas.
- 4.5 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee in this by advising them of the ongoing work of the Cabinet-Committee and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

¹ Welsh Assembly Government and Welsh Local Government Association 'If this were my child... A councillor's guide to being a good corporate parent to children in care and care leavers', June 2009

5.1 The work of the Partnerships and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental well being in the County Borough of Bridgend.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 None

7. Financial Implications

7.1 None.

8. Recommendations

8.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Note the topics due to be considered at the meeting of the Committee for 10 April 2017 and confirm if it requires any additional specific information to be provided by the invitees listed or the Overview & Scrutiny Unit;
- (ii) Revisit and consider the list of future potential items for the Committees Forward Work Programme and reprioritise as the Committees feels appropriate.

Andrew Jolley,
Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services

Contact Officer: Gail Jewell, Scrutiny Officer

Telephone: 01656 643695

Email: gail.jewell@bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address: Democratic Services - Scrutiny
Bridgend County Borough Council,
Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend,
CF31 4WB

Background documents: None

This page is intentionally left blank

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6 FEBRUARY 2017

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING

WESTERN BAY SAFEGUARDING

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update the committee with information on the Regional Safeguarding Adults Board and Safeguarding Children Board and evidence how partners are working together.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The report links to the following priority in the Corporate Plan:
- Helping people to be more self-reliant.

3. Background

- 3.1 Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect.
- 3.2 Safeguarding adults includes:
- Protecting their rights to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect;
 - People and organisations working together to prevent the risk of abuse or neglect, and to stop them from happening;
 - Making sure people's wellbeing is promoted, taking their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs into account.
- 3.3 Safeguarding children and promoting their welfare includes:
- Protecting them from maltreatment or things that are bad for their health or development;
 - Making sure they grow up in circumstances that allow safe and effective care.
- 3.4 Effective safeguarding arrangements should be underpinned by two key principles:
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part; and
 - A person-centred approach: for services to be effective they should be based on a clear understanding of the needs and views of adults and children.

- 3.5 The key pieces of legislation relating to safeguarding children and adults at risk are the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the Children Act 1989.
- 3.6 Part 7 of the Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act relates to Safeguarding. Provisions contained in Part 7 include:
- Definitions of an ‘adult and child at risk’;
 - A duty on relevant partners to report adults and children at risk;
 - A requirement on a local authority to investigate where they suspect that an adult with care and support needs is at risk of abuse or neglect;
 - The introduction of an Adult Protection and Support Order (APSO);
 - The requirement on the local authority to consider undertaking an investigation when there has been a report that a child is at risk and then carry this out in line with Section 47 of the Children Act 1989;
 - The establishment of a National Safeguarding Board;
 - The functions and procedures of Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children Boards.
- 3.7 Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 sets out the duty on a Local Authority, with the help of other organisations as appropriate to make enquires if they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering harm, to enable them to decide whether they should take any action to safeguard and promote the child’s welfare.

National Safeguarding Board

- 3.8 The National Safeguarding Board is an advisory board that advises Welsh Government on the effectiveness of arrangements to safeguard people in Wales. The Board is chaired by Dr Margaret Flynn with Board members having being appointed by Welsh Ministers through an open public appointments process.
- 3.9 One of the National Board’s duties is to provide advice and support to regional Safeguarding Boards and each Board member has been assigned to a regional board. The Board member linked to the Western Bay Safeguarding Board is Keith Towler.

Regional Safeguarding Boards

- 3.10 Part 7 regulations of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act specify the establishment of regional Safeguarding Boards and require each region to specify a lead partner agency for each Board. The Western Bay Safeguarding Boards cover the Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea regions, with Neath Port Talbot CBC as the lead partner agency. **Appendices 1a – 1f** shows the structure and associated business plans for both the Adult Board and the Children’s Board.
- 3.11 The objectives of the Safeguarding Boards are to both protect adults and children who are experiencing, or at risk of abuse, neglect or other kinds of

harm and to prevent them becoming at risk of abuse, neglect or other kinds of harm.

- 3.12 Membership of Safeguarding Boards is prescribed within the Act. A Board include senior representatives from agencies who exercise functions or who are engaged in activities in relation to children and adults. At a minimum a Board must include a representative from:
- Each Local Authority
 - Police
 - Local Health Board
 - NHS Trust
 - Probation services provider(s)

The current chairs of the Western Bay Safeguarding Boards are:

- Adults Board - Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing at Bridgend CBC.
- Children Board - Nick Jarman, Director of Social Services at Neath Port Talbot CBC

- 3.13 Governance: The Safeguarding Adults and Children Boards have outcome focused business plans in place. There are management group structures in place which support the delivery of the business plans on behalf of the Boards. Reports are routinely submitted to the Boards to raise risks and issues against the delivery of the plan and for decision and action from the Board. This enables the Board to take ownership of its work at strategic level and provide leadership to the management groups. There is an established business unit based in Neath Civic Offices that supports the Boards in this respect. The team is funded through the Safeguarding Board budget and consists of one Strategic Business and Development Manager, two Strategic Business Coordinators and a Business Administrator. The reporting arrangements into each Local Authority area, Local Service Board or equivalent are inconsistent however each receives progress updates when required. Work on wider governance issues, links with other partnerships and robust reporting mechanisms are being developed by the business unit.

- 3.14 The Terms of Reference developed for Safeguarding Boards are reviewed annually and promotes the requirement for accountability. There are clear definitions for professional challenge and holding to account. Each Board member is required to sign up to a member Role Profile to which they are individually accountable in relation to their contribution to the Board and attendance at Board meetings. The Boards also have measures within a Performance and Impact Framework which assist in reporting activity of Board members against elements within their role profiles. This allows the Boards to demonstrate multi-agency working at a strategic level.

4. Current situation/Proposal

- 4.1 The core functions for Safeguarding Boards are set out in the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

To assist the Safeguarding Boards in carrying out their duties effectively to safeguard adults and children a number of functions have been delegated to various subgroups. Each of the sub-groups is composed of relevant managers and practitioners who can bring expertise and knowledge to a group. The sub-groups carry out work which is informed by the Safeguarding Board's priorities. These groups report to the Boards through the relevant Chair.

4.2 The sub-groups of the Safeguarding Adults Board are:

- *Quality Monitoring, Review & Escalating Concerns* (to include adult practice reviews); function:
 - Develop maintain and review a Performance Framework to ensure that the Board is satisfied and can scrutinise safeguarding adult practice.
 - Establish links and reporting mechanisms for the Local Case Audit and Review groups to enable thematic review of safeguarding functions across the region.
 - Receive referrals and consider cases against the criteria set out in the Adult Practice Review Guidance and monitor the progress of individual APRs.
- *Policy and Practice Management Group*; function:
 - Coordinate and ensure the effective development of multi-agency Policy, Procedure and Practice documents for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Adults and Children's across the Western Bay area.
 - Take a lead role in providing comments towards the review of national and regional policies on behalf of the WBSAB.
- *Strategic Training Management Group* (joint with Children's) function:
 - To set regional training and development priorities related to the strategic safeguarding priorities set by the Boards.
 - To commission, quality assure, monitor and evaluate Board specific multiagency safeguarding training where appropriate.
 - To assure the Boards that partners have specific evaluation procedures to enable assurances on the quality of safeguarding training.

All sub groups have individual work plans that link into the overall Business Action Plan 2016 – 2017 of the Safeguarding Adults Board.

4.3 The Safeguarding Adults Board in addition to discharging its core functions has focused its attentions on the following priorities:

- Response the Older Peoples Commissioner's report 'A Place called Home' and Operation Jasmine response
- Governance
- Domestic Abuse

4.4 The Safeguarding Adults Board has focussed its work on two key reviews;

1. A Place to Call Home published by the Older People's Commissioner in November 2014. This focused on the quality of life and care of older people living in care homes in Wales. The overall conclusion of the review was that too many older people living in care homes have an unacceptable quality of life and that the view of what constitutes 'acceptable' needs to shift significantly.

2. In Search of Accountability which details the findings of Operation Jasmine, which was a seven year investigation by Gwent Police into allegations of abuse at several care and nursing homes in South East Wales.

4.5 The Safeguarding Adults Board has responded to Welsh Government regarding both of these reports and given assurance of actions that have been taken as a result.

4.6 There have been several key achievements this year for the Safeguarding Adults Board; a performance framework has been developed which allows for local audit; data collection and analysis this will assist in identifying which specific groups of adults should be identified for regional prioritisation e.g. domestic violence.

4.7 The Safeguarding Adults Board was tasked by Welsh Government to organise a National Safeguarding week 14 – 18th November 2016 for both adults and children, a programme of events took place across the Western Bay region which included training on Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery, Hate crime, Child Sexual Exploitation and promotion of White Ribbon Day. The week was well supported by partner agencies e.g. Probation, Fire Service, Trading Standards etc. The annual conference held by the Boards "Safeguarding Matters" took place on the 25 November 2016 and was extremely well attended by over 400 delegates with very interesting key note speakers.

4.8 The sub-groups of the Safeguarding Children Board are:

- Quality Performance and Monitoring Group.
- Policy and Practice Management Group
- Strategic Training Management Group (joint with Adults)
- Child Practice Review Group; function:
 - Receive referrals and consider cases against the criteria set out in the Child Practice Review Guidance and monitor the process of individual CPR's
 - Contribute to the reviews and provide professional challenge and consider strategic implications for improving systems and practice in individual agencies or on an interagency basis.

All sub groups have individual work plans that link into the overall Business Action Plan 2016 – 2017 of the Safeguarding Children Board.

- 4.9 The Safeguarding Children Board in addition to discharging its core functions has focused its attentions on the following priorities:
- Neglect
 - Child Sexual Exploitation
 - Domestic Abuse
- 4.10 Neglect: The Safeguarding Children Board has a Neglect Practice Guidance Toolkit which is clear, focused and is regularly reviewed and updated with links to research and practice learning. This guidance is in place and will remain in place while the Board works with National initiatives to develop a consistent suite of tools to assess and manage neglect in Wales.
- 4.11 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE): CSE is actively debated at each Safeguarding Children Board meeting as a standing agenda item. A comprehensive multi-agency data set has been developed with all partners which enables the Board to actively enquire about the prevalence of CSE across the region and to be clear on local interventions. Performance data is provided to the Board with 6 monthly updates on how agencies respond to cases of identified or suspected CSE and allowed the Board to target areas in need of training and awareness. A dedicated pool of Child Sexual Exploitation awareness raising trainers has been established using accredited training and resources with over 2000 staff trained across the region.
- 4.12 Domestic Abuse: The Safeguarding Children Board understands the impact domestic abuse has on children living in domestic abuse situations and wishes to improve knowledge on prevalence, interventions and support provided to safeguarding children from living in domestic abuse situations.
- 4.13 The Board continues to work with the 3 domestic abuse forums to develop consistent information which will enable the board to understand more fully the prevalence of domestic abuse across the region.
- 4.14 2017 will see the implementation of a programme of training in line with the National Training Framework on violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence. The National Training Framework is one of the key mechanisms for delivering on The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.

Bridgend Operational Safeguarding Group

- 4.15 Bridgend Operational Safeguarding Group is committed to practices that protect children and adults at risk. The two regional Safeguarding Boards have been established to ensure that the statutory safeguarding responsibilities are discharged appropriately and effectively. The Bridgend Operational Safeguarding Group focuses on Bridgend specific matters as well as the regional operational issues which are relevant to Bridgend and receive and review policy and guidance from the regional boards and national enquiries whilst ensuring that there are effective local monitoring arrangements.

4.16 The Group is chaired by the Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing, its membership includes representatives from partner agencies such as Health, Police, Education and the third sector. **Appendix 2** sets out the membership of this local safeguarding group.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

5.1 There is no effect upon the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 There are no direct financial implications linked to this report.

8. Recommendation

8.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the report.

Susan Cooper,
Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing
Jan 2017

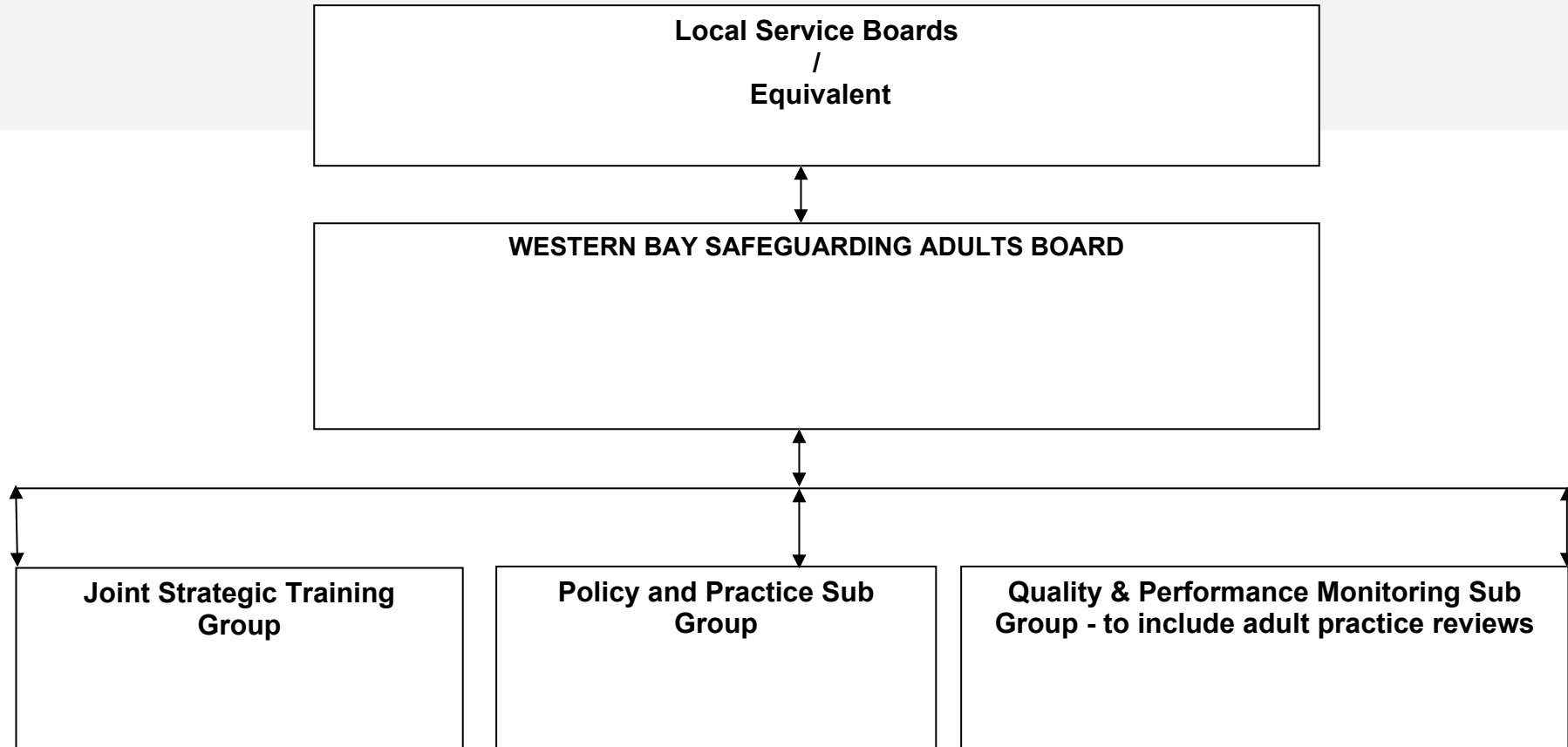
9. Contact Officer: Elizabeth Walton-James
Group Manager Safeguarding & Quality Assurance
Telephone: (01656) 642073
Email: elizabeth.walton-james@bridgend.gov.uk

10. Background documents:

None.

This page is intentionally left blank

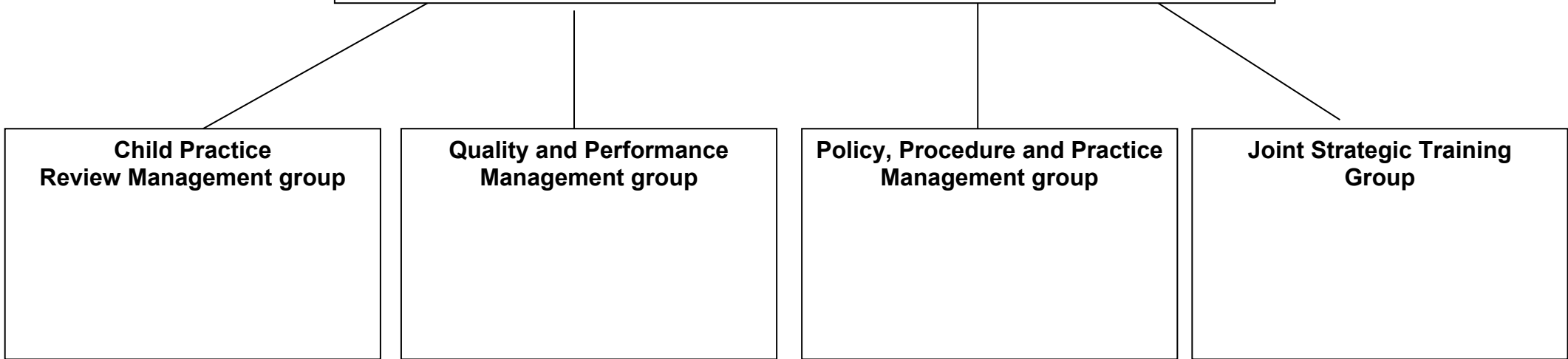
WESTERN BAY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD STRUCTURE



This page is intentionally left blank

**Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board
Structure**

Appendix 1b



This page is intentionally left blank



WESTERN BAY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

Business Action Plan 2016 -17

Introduction

The Western Bay Safeguarding Adults Board has been established since April 2013 and each year since, has developed a business and action plan which outlines the Board's strategic priorities and how they align with its core business. On 6th April 2016, the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act (SSWWA) 2014 became law and sections 134 – 141 (Part 7) replaces the requirements for Local Safeguarding Adults Boards with new provisions for Safeguarding Boards. Following the implementation of the SSWWA, the Western Bay Safeguarding Adults Board held a workshop to enable business planning and identification of strategic priorities to inform the Board's annual plan. The workshop made clear the responsibilities and requirements placed on the Board to have an effective outcomes focussed annual plan published by March 2017.

Core Business

The Board recognises its functions under Section 139 of the Safeguarding Board Regulations within the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 as core business. Core Business/core functions underpin the effectiveness of a Safeguarding Adults Board and are therefore written into the Terms of Reference for the Board and its management/sub groups. Membership and structures are regularly reviewed and updated within the Safeguarding Board arrangements and work plans will be aligned with this business plan and include core business functions to monitor effectiveness. These plans are regularly reviewed and amended throughout the year.

Strategic Priorities

One of the major challenges for this, or any other Safeguarding Board is to get everyone's attention and thus make a difference. For this reason, the WBSAB is run in a very business-like way, with a streamlined, priority-driven programme; and emphasis upon results and outcomes, not process.

The Board is not a provider organisation; it is an Enabler. That is to say it is there to make sure that things happen and vice versa. So for example, the Board cannot and should not 'provide' training; but it ensures that where required, agencies do.

The WBSAB must demonstrate that it makes a definite, positive impact upon safeguarding and priorities the wellbeing of Adults at Risk. The business action plan will be reviewed against its outcomes in 2017 in order to meet the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 to publish an annual business plan and annual report in July each year.

The Western Bay Safeguarding Adults Board has identified 3 strategic priorities within its Business Plan for 2016 – 17. They are as follows:

Strategic Priority 1 – Governance

The Board clearly identifies which specific group(s) of adults require focus at safeguarding level.

Strategic Priority 2 – Establish Links with Partner Agencies

The Board will pursue collaborative working with other Board, partnerships, and persons / bodies engaged in activities relating to the Board's objectives

Strategic Priority 3 – Engaging with Citizens

The Board is proactive in engaging with its community and people are given the opportunity to participate in the work of the Board.

Summary of Improvement Actions for 2016/17

Strategic Priority 1 – Governance					
Priority Area	Actions	Who is responsible?	Timeline	Outcome	RAG Status
1.1 Develop a performance Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish what an effective performance framework looks like • Develop a draft performance framework • Pilot the framework for usefulness 	Quality and Performance Monitoring sub group	August 2016	The WBSAB has a performance framework that allows for local audit, data collection, analysis & regularly reports to the Board.	GREEN
1.2 Effective data collection & analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Quality and Performance Management Subgroup will collect data and analyse on a regular basis • The subgroup will ensure data is collected from multi agencies on a range of themes such as DoLS, Anti Slavery, Human Trafficking, Domestic Abuse, Sex workers • Analysis will be able to identify trends, peaks and themes within specific groups in order to make recommendations for audit and focus 	Quality and Performance Monitoring sub group	March 2017	The Board will be fully informed about the specific groups of adults which require safeguarding focus	AMBER
1.3 Develop consistency of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring a consistent 	Policy, Procedure & Practice Subgroup	March 2017	Consistency of Practice	

<p>practice across the work of the Safeguarding Board</p>	<p>complaints policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensuring that we implement the new APSO and Adult at Risk procedures consistently• Consistency of approach in the application of DoLS				<p>AMBER</p>
---	--	--	--	--	---------------------

Strategic Priority 2: Establish Links with Partner Agencies					
Priority Area	Actions	Who is responsible?	Timeline	Outcome	RAG Status
2.1 Ensure that the Board is informed of relevant national reports e.g. Older Persons Commissioner “A place called home”, Flynn Report “In search of Accountability” and makes necessary link with other Boards (WBSCB, Domestic Violence Forum, National Independent Safeguarding Board)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish links with the National Independent Safeguarding Board Receive reports from other Boards as appropriate in order to share good practice and area for learning and improvement Both WBSAB and WBSCB feed into the Business Management Unit as necessary 	Business Management Unit / Chair / Subgroup Chairs	March 2017	Improved collaboration, knowledge and understanding	GREEN
2.2 Ensure learning lessons from practice reviews are disseminated to all agencies as appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the Board as appropriate Dissemination information Co-ordinate a learning event 	Strategic Training Management Group	Ongoing	Improved Learning and Sharing Information	AMBER

Strategic Priority 3: Engage with Citizens and Providers					
Priority Area	Actions	Who is responsible?	Timeline	Outcome	RAG Status
3.1 The WBSAB ensures that citizens, providers and the wider workforce are fully informed & engaged in the work of the Safeguarding Board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicise the work of the Board – use safeguarding week as a vehicle to do this Proactively recruit to the Board Safeguarding Conference Proactively encouraging the feedback from citizens and providers on policy development and proposed changes in practice 	Business Management Unit / Chair / Subgroup Chairs	March 2017	Greater engagement and consultation to service users, carers and providers. The Board need to be proactively seeking views and contributions and an appropriate representative to sit on the Board.	AMBER



Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board Strategic Priorities and Business Plan

Appendix
1d

Introduction

The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board has been established since April 2013 and each year since, has developed a business and action plan which outlines the Board's strategic priorities and how they align with its core business which was previously set out in Chapter 4 Safeguarding Children: Working Together under the Children 2004.

On 6th April 2016 the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 will become law and with it Section 134 – 141 (Part 7) of the SSWA 2014 replaces the requirements for Local Safeguarding Children Boards referenced above with new provisions for Safeguarding Boards. The Safeguarding Board (General) (Wales) Regulations 2015 make provisions for the requirements of Safeguarding Boards including the production of an annual business plan. This is the first Business Plan developed in accordance with the Safeguarding Board (Wales) Regulations 2015.

Governance

The Governance arrangements within the WBSCB are strong and robust with a clear business plan setting out required outcomes. It has a clear and effective management group structure which supports the delivery of its business plan on behalf of the Board. Reports are routinely submitted to the Board to raise risks and issues against the delivery of the plan and for decision and action from the Board. This enables the Board to take ownership of its work at strategic level and provide leadership to the management groups on the delivery of the business plan. The reporting arrangements into each LA's Service Board or equivalent remain inconsistent however each receives progress updates when required. Work on wider governance issues, links with other partnerships and robust reporting mechanisms continue to develop.

Core Business

The Board recognises its functions under Section 139 of the Safeguarding Board Regulations within the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 as core business. Core Business/core functions underpin the effectiveness of a Safeguarding Children Board and are therefore written into the Terms of Reference for the Board and its management groups. Membership and structures are regularly reviewed and updated within the Safeguarding Board arrangements and work plans are aligned with this business plan and include core business functions to monitor effectiveness. These plans are regularly reviewed and amended throughout the year.

Core Business is undertaken through its established Management Groups: Child Practice Review, Policy Procedure & Practice, Quality & performance, Strategic Training and Communication and Engagement. It is therefore expected that the management groups continue to review, establish, monitor and report to the Board against individual work plans in place to undertake Core Business whilst also addressing individual actions set out within the Board's strategic priorities in order to achieve the overarching outcomes of the plan.

Strategic Priorities

One of the major challenges for this, or any other Safeguarding Board is to get everyone's attention and thus make a difference. For this reason the WBSCB is run in a very business-like way, with a streamlined, priority-driven programme; and emphasis upon results and outcomes, not process.

The Board is not a Provider Organisation; it is an Enabler. That is to say it is there to make sure that things happen and vice versa. So for example, the Board cannot and should not 'provide' training; but it ensures that where required, agencies do.

The WBSCB must demonstrate that it makes a definite, positive impact upon safeguarding and prioritising the wellbeing of children and young people. The business action plan will be reviewed against its outcomes early in 2017 in order to meet the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 to publish an annual business plan at the end of March and annual report in July each year.

Strategic Priorities

The following Strategic Priorities are set out with overarching outcomes using the 4 Ps methodology. An action plan to achieve the outcomes will align with individual priorities and identify actions for the Board's individual Management Groups and other business arrangements.

NEGLECT

OVERARCHING OUTCOME:	
All children resident or visiting the region are safeguarded from Neglect effectively and at the earliest opportunity	
PREPARE	Operational arrangements and practitioner tools are in place and understood in order to ensure a timely approach and appropriate responses to indicators of neglect.
PREVENT	Families and the general public are made aware through targeted campaigns of the indicators and impact of neglect for children
PROTECT	Children on the Child Protection Register for neglect have robust care and protection plans in place which are timely, effective and keep children safe
PURSUE	The Western Bay region is hostile to all types of neglect and takes a child centred approach to addressing risk factors and incidences of neglect

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

The WBSCB has developed mechanisms for responding to CSE and assessing effectiveness of partner agencies in identifying and managing CSE cases by adopting the Bedfordshire CSE assessment tool. The following aligns with Welsh Government's CSE action plan but also takes into account the work already achieved and underway through the Bedfordshire CSE assessment.

OVERARCHING OUTCOME:

All children and Young People resident or visiting the region who are subject to or at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation are identified and safeguarded effectively, consistently and at the earliest opportunity.

PREPARE	WBSCB assumes CSE to be present and has specific objectives to support:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The identification of children and young people subject to or at risk of CSE - A range of appropriate responses and resources designed to improve the well-being for children subject to or at risk of CSE:
PREVENT	WBSCB has a prevention programme and responsive services in place to help children and young people a risk of CSE and their families
PROTECT	WBSCB actively protects children and young people from CSE, by ensuring all agencies work together to achieve the continuity and effectiveness of services for those children and young people subject to or at risk of CSE
PURSUE	WBSCB and partner agencies have a clear and shared understanding about how they contribute to the disruption and prosecution of perpetrators and to the support of victims who have suffered CSE

Domestic Abuse

When considering the strategic priority of Domestic abuse the WBSCB should focus on the implementation of the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act (Wales) 2015 (VAWDASV Act):

OVERARCHING OUTCOME:	
All Children and young people are safeguarded so that they develop healthy relationships with successful futures.	
PREPARE	<p>The WBSCB ensures the Training Framework for the VAWDASV Act is aligned with the requirements of those who experience GBV, DA & SV.</p> <p>The WBSCB fully understands the extent to which trained staff have met the key competencies set out within the Training Framework and holds to account agencies with identified gaps in training.</p>
PREVENT	<p>The Safeguarding of Children and Young People features throughout Welsh Government's National Strategy designed to implement the VAWDASV Act</p> <p>The Safeguarding of Children and Young People features strongly within LA/LHB strategies for tackling Gender Based Violence (GBV), Domestic Abuse (DA) and Sexual Violence (SV).</p> <p>Local authorities across Western Bay have made provisions in schools across the region to implement key actions to address GBV, DA and SV within Education functions.</p>
PROTECT	<p>The WBSCB actively protects Children and young people affected by GBV, DA or SV by ensuring all agencies work together to deliver effective services for affected families who are identified, safeguarded effectively and supported consistently and at the earliest opportunity</p>
PURSUE	<p>WBSCB and partner agencies have a clear and shared understanding about how they contribute to the disruption and prosecution of perpetrators and to the support those affected by GBV, DA & SV.</p>

New Psychoactive Substances

When considering new psychoactive substances the WBSCB should focus on the wider aspect of substance misuse and the statutory obligations placed on Area Planning Boards to respond to the management of substance misuse across the region.

OVERARCHING OUTCOME: All Children and young people affected by New Psychoactive substance misuse issues are able to make informed choices in order to prevent and reduce the harm associated with the use of NPS	
PREPARE	The Working Together to Reduce Hidden Harm Delivery Plan has clear objectives to safeguard children and young people from associated NPS harm. The WBSCB is fully informed of the training and awareness raising plans for staff and children and young people relating to substance misuse and in particular NPS.
PREVENT	The WBSCB is informed and can hold to account against plans to reduce the availability of substances including NPS to children and young people. The WBSCB is informed and can hold to account against the effectiveness of e-learning modules developed to ensure prevention and response to substance misuse in particular NPS is more integrated into mainstream health service delivery for children and young people.
PROTECT	The WBSCB actively protects Children and young people affected by the use of substances in particular NPS by ensuring all agencies work together to deliver effective services for affected families who are identified and safeguarded effectively at the earliest opportunity
PURSUE	WBSCB and partner agencies have a clear and shared understanding about how they contribute to the disruption and prosecution of vendors of NPS in order to reduce availability, harm and related crime.

WBSAB

Western Bay Safeguarding Boards

Quality & Performance Monitoring Management Group

Work Plan 2016/17

Strategic Priority 1				
Objective	Milestones to Achieve	Responsible Lead	By When	Comments
To ensure the Board meets the requirements of the Act and monitor the implementation of the actions identified through self-assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversee and monitor Adult Practice Reviews Ensure the escalating concerns protocol is implemented, consistency of approach and reporting mechanism. Adult Protection Support Orders 			
Strategic Priority 2				
To ensure independent advocacy including IMCA are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To undertake multi-agency audits on the use of IMCA's 	Terri Warrilow Cathy Richards	June 1 st 2016	

appropriately and consistently considered and used where required.	<p>and report into QMR&EC subgroup for analysis and recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop an action plan to address recommendations arising from audit for implementation. • To collate performance data to evidence improvements following recommendations. • To undertake a review audit to monitor recommendations and actions taken. 	Adam Greenow		
To monitor and evaluate the implementation of recommendations from the National Inspection into DOLS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit implementation of recommendations for assurance to the Board. • Monitor outcomes of legal proceedings in relation to DoLS to ensure consistency and best practice. 			
Strategic Priority 3				
To seek assurance that recommendations from the Care Homes review for which it is responsible are fully implemented and effective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build quality measures into the Board's performance framework. • Monitor national developments in anticipation of the Regulations and Inspection Bill and its implications for the SAB in the 			

	future.			
To seek assurance that recommendations from the Care Homes review for which it is responsible are fully implemented and effective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify which recommendations have a specific bearing on the Safeguarding Adult Board. Monitor and review implementation of the recommendations in relation to Safeguarding. 			
Strategic Priority 4				
To ensure the Board meets the requirements of the Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (Wales) Act 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and review action plan to ensure compliance with the Act. Ensure appropriate recording of incidents in relation to Domestic Abuse. Ensure effective audit recording of Domestic Abuse incidents. 			This will be rolled onto next year's business plan with a date of March 2017.
To understand the pathways for responding to Adults over 60 years old who suffer from domestic abuse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To monitor and evaluate the agreed "ask and act pilot" for older people within ABMU HB. Undertake audits across VA1/DA referrals for older people to identify appropriate pathways. 			
To establish links with CSP's to develop consistent processes to support DHR's.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build into WBSAB's performance framework and data set in relation to DHR's. 			



Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board

Appendix 1f

Quality & Performance Management Group Work Plan 2016 - Sub group actions from 2016 Business Action Plan

Outcome	Action Needed	Timeline	RAG	Comment/Analysis
1.1 National Assessment Tools are used consistently and effectively to manage neglect in children and young people	1.1b Monitor effectiveness of the use of assessment tools and the impact on how neglect in children and young people is being managed.	December 2016	RED	Waiting on WAG to circulate National Assessment Tools
1.3 There are clear and seamless Step up – step down arrangements between early intervention/prevention resources and statutory child in need processes	1.3a Local authority Early Intervention and Prevention Strategies across the region have a consistent approach to step up – step down arrangements which are sensitive to local needs and services. 1.3b Cases which appear “stuck” in early intervention and prevention services to be audited and reviewed against local strategies to ensure the right level of intervention is applied.	September 2016 December 2016	AMBER	All 3 LAs have provided early intervention and prevention processes. These differ and are at different levels of being embedded. The SCB agreed that an audit of cases would take place when the processes had been in place for a period so that the audit can be meaningful. The audit will be revisited in the new year for methodology to be agreed and agreed by the Board.

2.2 Members of the local communities are active in identifying and responding to neglect concerns appropriately	2.2a Develop and agree an audit process for neglect referrals from all sources.	October 2016	GREEN	Work has started with the neglect audit however this has not concentrated on referrals from the community. This will follow on from the ongoing neglect work being completed by the safeguarding leads.
	2.2b Neglect referrals and their outcomes should be audited and quality assured for neglect referrals made by the community/member of the public	February 2016	AMBER	
3.1 Children on CPR under neglect have clear protection plans in place to ensure the wellbeing of those children is efficiently improved and maintained	3.1a An agreed % of Children on CPR under the category of neglect should have their protection plans quality assured using a “peer review” process to monitor improvements if registration is continued at the second review conference. The benefits and outcomes should be reported to the WBSCB for information and action.	October 2016	GREEN	Audit completed by safeguarding leads – report awaited.
3.3 Children and young people with repeat registrations following an initial CPR registration under neglect do not remain in neglectful households which impact on their long term wellbeing.	3.3b An audit of peer case reviews should be undertaken to ensure change has been effected in cases where long term wellbeing has been impacted.	December 2016	AMBER	The safeguarding leads have taken a peer review approach to the neglect audit but not in the manner outlined in the South East Wales Safeguarding Children Board Multi-agency Supervision Document. This has been passed to the PPP group for further

				exploration.
5.2 WBSCB and partner agencies have established operational arrangements and practitioner tools to support the identification of CSE and enable a timely range of appropriate responses.	5.2b Undertake a service analysis of demand and need to include those resulting from risk/impact of CSE	December 2016	GREEN	<p>This area of work is ongoing across all agencies and the CSE data has given a robust picture of need – being realistic about those hidden areas of concern. SERAF tool is widely used. Other tools are developing including the screening questions used by health professionals. CSE work delivered in schools is slightly different – there is a need for an overarching framework.</p> <p>The Gwella Project lead has joined the group and a specific working group has been set up to further develop the work stream relating to CSE, MISPERS and Risky Behaviour.</p>
	5.2c Review the availability and usefulness of risk assessment processes/tools and improvement action taken as needed	December 2016	AMBER	
5.3 WBSCB and partner agencies contribute to a national shared dataset informed through local evidence and intelligence to improve understanding, profiling and response to CSE.	5.3a WBSCB regularly collates CSE data in line with the national CSE data set and report to Welsh Government on prevalence and analysis	April 2016	GREEN	<p>The group has concentrated on not only gathering the data which was achieved by the set date of April but ensuring it is accurate robust and meaningful. The work quality assuring the data itself was concluded in November 2016.</p>

7.2 CSE is considered as part of any risk management process/mechanisms	7.2a SCB to be assured that children, young people and their families are supported through a responsive child protection/care and support plan aimed at reducing risk based on individual need	July 2016	AMBER	Original thematic review was completed but the case review due in January 2017 to follow progress has slipped to March 2017. The review did not specifically cover the action 7.2 so will be carried forward within the work stream.
7.3 WBSCB and partner agencies have identified a range of services available/needed, to help those children and young people affected by CSE in their locality	7.3a Undertake a needs assessment that enables the Board to understand: - service demand in relation to children and young people at risk of CSE - the impact and effectiveness of the activity and services available to help those affected by CSE in their locality - identify any gaps in service and areas for development	December 2016	AMBER	This will be taken forward by the Gwella lead work stream where the gap analysis is now being undertaken.
7.4 WBSCB and partner agencies hold to account for their contribution to the safety and protection of children and young people subject to CSE and challenge practice shortfalls	7.4a Evaluate the differences and/or improvements made by changes in guidance, operational systems and practice reviews makes to outcomes for children and young people	December 2016	RED	All CPR recommendations from the last 12 months have been taken to the group January 2017 from here the specific audits will be agreed with the CPR group chair. This will form a specific audit work stream not purely for CSE. The CPR group have taken

				responsibility for the identification of shortfalls. Taking 12 months reviews will ensure that there is time to measure the difference/improvement the subgroup chairs met in November 2016 but work plan still to be agreed.
10.2 Local authorities across Western Bay have made provisions in schools across the region to implement key actions to address GBV, DA and SV within Education functions.	TBC	TBC		

ACTIVITY LOG (INCULDING LIVE CARRY OVER ACTIVITY FROM 2015)							
The work below aims to give additional information and analysis to the PMF which will be overseen by the group on a 6 monthly basis.							
PRIORITY: Child Sexual Exploitation							
No		Method	Lead	Timescales	Findings	Actions	Comments
1	<p>Missing Children Protocol</p> <p>THE SUBJECT OF MISPERS REMAINS LIVE FOR THE GROUP AS THE WORK CONCENTRATES ON CSE IN 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police undertaking an audit of children who have been reported missing between 3 & 5 occasions. • Q&PMG will be provided with the findings in relation to any patterns, missed opportunities and reporting processes 	To be completed by Darren George	Darren George	Target March 2015	There were no concerns raised by the audit that required remedial action. The findings were it was reassuring that procedures were in place and working effectively.	<p>Quarterly meetings have now been set up in NPT and Swansea to continue the monitoring and sharing of information between Childrens Service and Western BCU. This practise will now be shared with Central BCU.</p> <p>The audit to be kept in a central library of audits for the group</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>Details of all Missing persons aged between 11 and 16 who went missing more than 5 times in the previous 12 months were circulated to Neath & Port Talbot Social Services and Swansea S/S so they could cross reference with their systems, this can be expedited.</p> <p>Approximately 40 names have been shared and gaps/anomalies were identified in relation to processes followed/accurate recording that needed</p>

							follow up but this was in the minority of cases and no concerns arose from the further checks made.
2	<p>Thematic Review of CSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission an independent audit to be undertaken to establish local themes and trends 	<p>The group has put forward the possible commissioning of an audit that provides an academic read of all relevant information already available eg PCC research document into CSE, thematic inspections and associated recommendations etc as an effective practice evidence base. Then look at cases across WB identifying what has worked/or not with cases so that this can be brought together with learning from other areas gathered to develop an action plan based on “what works”</p>	Lisa Hedley				<p>July SCB agreed for this piece of work to be held back because of the amount of activity already in place regarding CSE. For now until further notice from the Board, this will be considered as COMPLETED.</p>

3	<p>The Quality and Performance Management Group has been providing quantitative performance information to the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board on a regular basis since 2014. The management group has recognised that this statistical data is helpful in recognising the prevalence and incidence of child sexual exploitation (CSE). In order to improve our understanding of the operational and practice challenges a sub group was established to undertake a short time limited thematic review of a sample of cases across the Western Bay region. The group consisted of</p>	<p>The group partially based the analytical approach on “Framework” Analysis which was originally established through the work of social policy researchers (Ritchie & Spencer, 2002). This provides a staged process to qualitative data analysis and is probably best categorised as a thematic methodology. The framework comprises themes and sub themes established through immersion in the data; in this case the notes of strategy meetings etc. for the sample of cases. In summary the group followed specific steps in the data management and formal analysis process as follows. The initial step was reading through the data using</p>	<p>LA leads coordinated by Mike Holding</p>	<p>January 2016 for revisiting “where they are now?” in January 2017</p>	<p><u>“Relationships” with older male peers or adult men</u> <u>The role of the parent/carer</u> <u>Vulnerable Families</u> <u>What we know about the young people vulnerable to CSE</u> <u>New Psychoactive Substances</u> <u>Who can best engage the young person?</u> <u>Characteristics of the perpetrator</u> <u>Social Media</u> <u>Child Abduction</u> <u>Warning Notice</u> <u>What has worked well?</u> <p>The group noted a number of areas of practice that presented as working particularly well with this group of young people. The statutory framework of planning interventions through multi-agency meetings such as strategy meetings represents a consistent</p> </p>	<p>Findings to be shared and group to be revisited in 12 months to see where they are now.</p>	<p>July 2016 SCB reminded of the work undertaken and plan to review. Also reminded to share the work undertaken.</p>

	<p>representatives from the three Western Bay authorities including the local authority safeguarding leads and South Wales Police.</p> <p>Review Questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What has worked well in working with these young people? 2. What areas can be identified to develop practice? 3. What specific practice areas need to be highlighted as essential in working with CSE? 	<p>an interactive board as well as paper copies of the written materials. As the data accumulated notes were taken of issues/ characteristics and recurrent themes as they become apparent. The basis for this stage of the early analysis was for the data and emerging themes to be as grounded as possible. A large amount of data accumulated through this process and a revision of the themes and their connections was agreed through discussion in the group. Mason (2002) refers to interpretive readings of data involving researchers developing a representation of the data and giving some inference to it.</p>			<p>structure to identify and manage risk as effectively as possible. The Seraf All Wales assessment tool was regularly used as a helpful measure of risk in conjunction with the statutory planning process. A widening group of professionals are becoming skilled and competent to work with CSE which represents increased opportunities to help young people recognise risk and stay safe. As noted above Child Abduction notices are regularly considered as a mechanism to protect young people</p>		
4	<p>Out of county placements of looked after children</p>	<p>Consider how placements are matched, the management, the</p>	<p>Mike Holding</p>		<p>Swansea has already started a piece of work in this area – how do we ensure that this is</p>	<p>Information to be gathered regarding ToR etc from Powys</p>	<p>PPPMG to hold this.</p>

		management and accountability of placing children in neighbouring authorities and seeking reassurance that safeguarding concerns are being met			covered regionally. Powys has set up a forum where LA meet with private providers.	and the work already started in Swansea and this area to be taken by the PPP group	
5	CSE Data Analysis	Breakdown of data Story behind the baseline to be developed Questions to be answered Are we satisfied with the differentials of CSE across the LA areas? Why does access to sexual health clinics remain low? Who refers and how does that impact on eg SERAF scores and how cases are managed Review CSE National action plan.	BMU and safeguarding leads	ONGOING	Detailed reports are held containing statistical evidence and agency activity to respond to the CSE risk. There is a need to link strategically with MISPERS data the work of the PCC etc Review if the CSE national action plan identified the lack of a prevention strategy relating to CSE and that it is unclear if MASE meetings are taking place as per the recommendation within the national action plan	Specific work stream to be agreed outside of the group. This can take over the monitoring that has been feeding through the quality group and PPP group and develop the prevention strategy	The work for the group is now completed – Nov 2016 and passed to specific work stream.

No		Method	Lead	Timescales	Findings	Actions	Comments
PRIORITY: Neglect							
6	19 Indicators of neglect – Welsh Neglect Project • Suggested area of audit benchmarking cases referred in to services against the 19 indicators focusing on early intervention	Samples of TAF case load from each local authority and applying the 19 point check list the results to be fed into the Q&PMG.	Karen Burrows	Target November 2015 Actual May 2016	An audit was completed of cases referred by early help services to NSPCC matching the family profiles against the 19 indicators of neglect. All referrals were suitable with assessment and planning in place. Of the audited cases against the indicators the strongest indicators were unemployment and mental health problems. Mental health services were being accessed appropriately but unemployment was a huge issue as one would expect. Substance misuse did not feature highly nor did issues of non- school attendance.	No specific action followed. Findings to be shared – strong links confirmed to families in poverty.	COMPLETED Delays experienced due to sickness and work load pressures.
7	Re-registration of neglect cases	The number of children initially registered under neglect who have been de-registered but later re-registered under a different category are relatively small. This raised the question “has neglect continued” 9 cases to be re-registered to be audited.	LA Safeguarding leads	Target date May 2016 Extended to November 2016			

		<p>Specific attention to be given to the cases and timescales as one case was re-registered within a month of de-registration.</p> <p>The existing SCB audit tools to be used by a small working group.</p>					
	<p>Education Welfare response to signs of neglect in cases where there is below 80% attendance</p>	<p>Period of audit - Jan 15 to Jul 16</p> <p>From an alphabetical list of pupils with attendance below 80% select the 1st & last pupil on the list in each of these settings:</p> <p>Biggest comprehensive Smallest comprehensive</p> <p>Biggest primary school Smallest primary school</p> <p>Where a pupil may no longer be on roll at that school, if they were on roll during the scope period the file will still be analysed.</p> <p>This is a qualitative audit where the lead EWO will analyse the files activity, actions & outcomes. For each case provide a short summary of the</p>			<p>Despite the scope being agreed at the group the three LA representatives had undertaken foundation work prior to the scope that differed so the group were not in a position to compare like with like. However each LA reported that there were no concerns raised regarding the referral pathways and no indication that signs of neglect were being missed. The LA's prepared a paper that was presented to the Board outlining process and existing monitoring and reporting.</p>	<p>The audit will be undertaken again with the period adjusted but the scope remaining.</p>	

		background, EWO & agency involvement to date, an analysis of the work undertaken & where applicable, comment upon activity that might have been considered & wasn't at the time. Consider the range of actions/resources available & comment upon the effectiveness of the service provided in this case.					
--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--

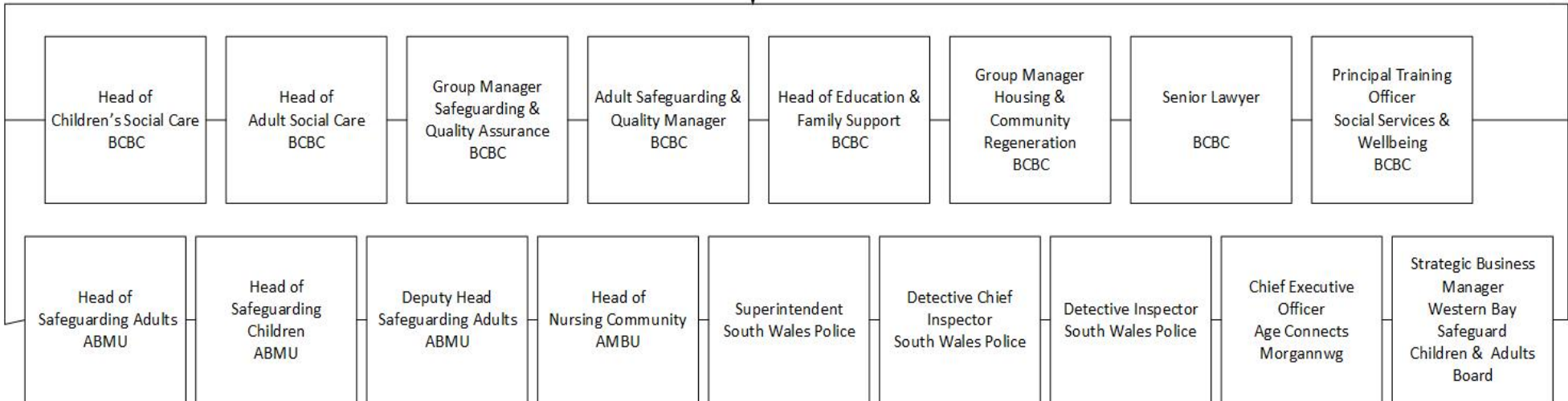
No		Method	Lead	Timescales	Findings	Actions	Comments
Duty to report and within the PMF:							
8	Professional abuse	During the review of the Performance Impact Framework	Lisa Hedley	Raised in May 2016 to be revisited by Leads and reported on in six month monitoring	The group raised concerns that outcomes of professional abuse Strategy meetings being effectively communicated	The Board required further information and assurance that outcomes were routinely shared in a timely manner.	CP leads did not always receive information on outcomes following the completion of HR or criminal investigations.
9	Use of restraint	In line with requirements of working together LA's with secure establishments in their area need to	Caroline Dyer	YJB letter requested information by December 2016. However this request was missed	Hillside visited in December 2016 and Parc visited in January 2017.	There is a YJB HMP YPI Parc and SCB project Board now looking in detail	

		review the use of restraint		as key member of staff of sick. Yjb contacted and deadline extended to January 2017 due HMPYOI Parc's inspection.	Findings differed as There are 22 beds in Hillside (12 YJB and 10 Welfare) There are 1600 beds in Parc (64 of which are in the YOI) The review in Parc was undertaken during a time of a number of emerging issues. The final report is due for completion by January 26 th .	at the safeguarding mechanisms within Parc.	
10	Review of Performance Impact Framework	Group QA'd the PMF to ensure realistic information is being gathered	Lisa Hedley	March 2016	Areas were updated and addressed in line with SS&WB act.	Taken to Board for sign off in March. Further amendments made and signed of in May 2016	Signed off in May 2016 but work continues to realise areas to be included -Annual reports are currently obtained from secure estate these need to be more robust and include information specific to use of restraint. Referral and response. Care and support needs.

No		Method	Lead	Timescales	Findings	Actions	Comments
PRIORITY: Domestic Abuse							
	Still to be confirmed						
No		Method	Lead	Timescales	Findings	Actions	Comments
Additional Areas: Protocols & Procedures							
11	Minor Injuries in non-mobile babies protocol	Andrea Warlow and Matthew Obaid are to audit cases where minor injuries have been referred to the PAU following the ratification of the protocol, to see if the process has been followed.	Janet Morgan	January 2016	Further analysis was needed of files to check on actions pre and post the referral. No concerns were raised - information passed to PPPMG to inform ongoing ratification of the protocol		COMPLETED There has been a delay in the completion of the minor injuries audit as this involves requesting the records initially from both hospital sites and we haven't had them yet , then a physical trawl through to review processes as recorded in the notes.
12	Final report on Audit of CP paediatric services in Wales – rec 5	Update required in six months on progress made against the recommendation	Lisa Hedley	February 2017			

No	Area of Audit	Method	Lead	Timescales	Findings	Actions	Comments
Additional Areas:							

Bridgend Operational Safeguarding Group



This page is intentionally left blank

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6 FEBRUARY 2017

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OPERATIONAL AND PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

DOMESTIC ABUSE STRATEGY - UPDATE

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update Members on the progress made on the current 2016-2017 Domestic Abuse Strategy and to highlight the proposed objectives and priorities for the strategy for 2017-2018 in alignment with the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 (VAWDASV).

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 Both the Local Housing Strategy 2016-2018 (approved by Cabinet on 8 June 2016); and the Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2013-17 (approved by Cabinet on 10 December 2013); highlight the work currently and planned to be undertaken to address domestic abuse issues. Both documents assist the Council in meeting all three of its Corporate Plan priorities:-
- Supporting a successful economy
 - Helping People to be more self-reliant
 - Smarter Use of Resources

3. Background.

- 3.1 The Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 received Royal Assent on the 29th April 2015 and consultation and the subsequent guidance on the various elements of the Act is ongoing.
- 3.2 The Act places a duty on Welsh Ministers to prepare, publish and implement a National strategy and on local authorities to prepare, publish and implement a joint local or regional strategy in conjunction with the local health board. The latest date provided by Welsh Government for this to come into effect is March 2018.
- 3.3 The Authority has a local VAWDASV Strategy for 2016/17 (progress given below) and the 2017-2018 strategy will build on the work already undertaken and at the same time prepare the Authority for its statutory duties cited within the VAWDASV Act.
- 3.4 The Authority will be required to submit quarterly progress reports to Welsh Government along with financial information relating to grant funding received in

relation to the domestic abuse co-ordination role, based on the priorities set by the partnership Domestic Abuse Steering Group. This Group consists of Authority representatives (Housing; Community Safety; Social Services and Wellbeing - Adult and Childrens Safeguarding; and Youth Offending Service) as well as third sector organisations (such as Welsh Women's Aid, Victim Support), NHS Wales, South Wales Police, South Wales Fire & Rescue, ABMU and Probation Services Wales.

4. Current situation / proposal.

4.1 The current strategy although entitled the 'VAWDASV' strategy (2016-2017) has a focus on domestic abuse rather than the wider VAWDASV agenda although it does seek to align the Authority with the VAWDASV Act. The current Strategy (2016/17) has six principle areas of development and these are listed below together with a position update as at the end of the third quarter of the 2016/17 year. A summary of this update is included at Table A below with more detail given below.

Table A

Areas of Development	Actions	RAG status	Comments
Ensuring the smooth and effective roll out of VAWDASV Act within the local authority and partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement National Training Framework (NTF) • Implement VAWDASV Workplace Policy • Respond to Consultations • Develop Regional Strategy by 2018 • Align National Indicators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amber • Amber • Green • Amber • Amber 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline of 31/3/18 • Awaiting template from WG for consistency • Deadline of 31/3/18 • Awaiting WG publication of indicators
Strategic Equality Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure VAWDASV is considered when undertaking and reviewing policies and strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green 	
Raising awareness of VAWDASV and VAWDASV Act (Wales) 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend multi-agency Meetings • Awareness Events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green • Green 	
Safer Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement Target Hardening Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green 	
Domestic Abuse One-stop-shop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop one stop shop 'Assia Suite' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green 	
High Risk Crisis Intervention Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor (IDVA) • Undertake MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) co-ordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green • Green 	

4.2 Ensuring the smooth and effective roll out of VAWDASV Act within the local authority and partners

- 4.2.1 **National Training Framework (NTF)** - In accordance with Welsh Government's timescales, Strategic and operational group meetings have been held with key partners (such as Welsh Government, ABMU, Police, South Wales Fire & Rescue) to develop and ensure that the training to be delivered will meet the requirements of the NTF to ensure that it is delivered in a consistent manner.
- 4.2.2 The next stages will be to develop a local training plan that feeds into a regional training plan to be rolled out to all BCBC staff. A pilot of the e-learning module has been undertaken by BCBC Housing Solutions Team before wider rollout to the rest of the workforce to meet the Welsh Government target of April 2018.
- 4.2.3 The Spectrum Project is a national training programme funded by Welsh Government to raise awareness of domestic abuse and associated issues and is offered to all primary and secondary age children. The training provided by Hafan Cymru, is being offered to all schools in the Borough (currently 75% of secondary schools have taken up the training); however it is unknown whether this will be repeated/continued in 2017/18.
- 4.2.4 Calan Domestic Violence Services (DVS) provide and collate data on training provided in the Bridgend area. This training meets the requirements of the VAWDASV Act. Bridgend Police teams are currently receiving training on the newly introduced coercive control legislation which consists of defining and identifying coercive control.
- 4.2.5 A National Training sub group was set up at the beginning of the year consisting of representatives from human resources, safeguarding, training and development and social services. This group will oversee delivery of the 'groups' of training within the Act and ensure the Authority meets the time scales set by Welsh Government.
- 4.2.6 **National Indicators** – The Welsh Government have indicated that they will be producing a set of national indicators to report on domestic abuse. Upon receipt of the national indicators from Welsh Government, the Authority will ensure that this data collection will align with data currently collated by Calan DVS on behalf of BCBC on domestic abuse.
- 4.2.7 **VAWDASV Workplace Policy** – The Authority has a current Domestic Abuse workplace policy that contains information on services relating to the VAWDASV agenda. Welsh Government will advise if the current policy is sufficient moving forward. The Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator is awaiting guidance from Welsh Government for a Wales-wide policy template to provide consistency to victims in the workplace across Wales and throughout the public sector.
- 4.2.8 **Consultations** – The Authority has responded to a number of consultations, guidance and other inquiries from Welsh Government on the various elements of

the Act which have been distributed to partners both internal and external for their views. These have included;

- Draft statutory guidance on Ask and Act (under section 15 of the VAWDASV (Wales) Act and section 60 of the Government of Wales Act 2006).
- Information and guidance on domestic abuse and sexual violence: Safeguarding older people (60+) in Wales.
- National Training Framework on violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence – statutory guidance.
- Post-legislative Inquiry into the VAWDASV (Wales) Act 2015 (Welsh Local Government Authority).
- National Strategy on VAWDASV – A framework for delivery 2016-2021.
- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 – Topic Paper 8

4.2.9 **Regional Strategy** - there is a requirement under the Act that a local or regional strategy with Abertawe, Bro Morgannwg University Health Board is set in place by March 2018. Currently links have been built with regional partners and early stage meetings held as to how the Authority can potentially take this forward. Progress will depend on the outcome of these discussions.

4.3 Strategic Equality Plan

4.3.1 **To ensure VAWDASV is considered when undertaking and reviewing policies and strategies** – The domestic abuse co-ordinator has made recommendations for the inclusion of violence against women in the Strategic Equality Plan.

4.4 Raising awareness of VAWDASV and VAWDASV Act (Wales) 2015

4.4.1 **Meetings** - The domestic abuse coordinator continues to attend multi-agency meetings (such as Bridgend Equality Forum, MASH development meetings etc.) in order to raise the profile of the VAWDASV agenda on both a local and regional (Western Bay) basis.

4.4.2 **Events** – Calan DVS as the commissioned domestic abuse service participate in key events to raise the profile of the agenda, such as college fresher's week, International Women's Day, White Ribbon Campaign. There is an ongoing communication strategy for social media where relevant articles and advice are shared with the public and partners. Bridgend County Borough Council has official White Ribbon Town status and organises events, such as town centre mobile stands to publicise the Campaign and BCBC Status.

4.5 Safer Homes

4.5.1 **Target Hardening Project** – Cabinet on 1 September 2015, agreed grant funding for the works required to fit measures to increase security in the homes of victims of domestic abuse where they have private rented or home owner/occupier status, Registered Social Landlords applying security measures on behalf of victims residing in these properties. This, along with one-off Western Bay regional funding has enabled 107 households (June – December 2016) to remain within their family home.

4.6 Domestic Abuse One-stop-shop

4.6.1 **Assia Suite** the Authority has developed a one-stop-shop with third sector and statutory services working together to provide a wraparound service to victims of domestic abuse and their children – the Assia Suite, based at the Civic Centre. This service aims to be immediate, to ensure information sharing with partners and to ensure that service delivery becomes a seamless service, with the victim able to tell their story only once and then to have holistic support services tailored to their needs without being referred to a number of agencies and which also gives the victim the confidence to pursue that support.

4.7 High Risk Crisis Intervention Service

4.7.1 **Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor (IDVA)** – the Authority has implemented an IDVA service that is robust and resilient to meet the needs of high risk victims of domestic abuse and it meets the need of the area in line with Safe Lives IDVA caseload guidance. In addition, the service includes MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) co-ordination capacity and is based in the Assia Suite.

4.8 Next stages

4.8.1 The Domestic Abuse Strategy for 2017/18 is currently being drafted (draft copy attached at Appendix 1) and will follow the format proposed by Welsh Government in accordance with VAWDASV. Welsh Government have therefore proposed that a Strategy should follow the 6 objectives of the Act

- Objective 1** Increase awareness and challenge attitudes of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence across the population of Bridgend County Borough Council
- Objective 2** Increase awareness in children and young people of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships and that abusive behaviour is always wrong
- Objective 3** Increase focus on holding perpetrators to account and provide opportunities to change their behaviour based around victim safety
- Objective 4** Make early intervention and prevention a priority
- Objective 5** Ensure relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors
- Objective 6** Provide victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs led, strength based, gender responsive services across Bridgend County Borough

4.8.2 The Strategy 2017/18 will continue to develop the services currently within the 2016/17 strategy together with ensuring that new and enhanced local priorities are met. Particular focus will be placed upon ensuring the work for the National Training Framework is rolled out to all staff in order to meet the target of April 2018.

4.8.3 In addition, particular emphasis will also be given to working with partner organisations and working groups to promote the awareness of domestic abuse

issues. In particular, the Authority will be working with neighbouring Councils, Police and Health Board to ensure that a regional strategy is in place by the Welsh Government timescale of March 2018.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

5.1 There is no effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 The VAWDASV 2016/17 was equality impact assessed whilst being drafted and there are no equality impact implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report and the implementation of the 2017/18 Strategy will be met from existing resources

8. Recommendation.

8.1 The Committee is recommended to note and comment on the contents of this report.

ANDREW JOLLEY

Corporate Director - Operational and Partnership Services

10 January 2017

Contact Officer: Martin Ridgeway (Team Leader – Housing Strategy)
Bethan Lindsay-Gaylard (Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator)

Telephone: (01656) 643527 or 679580

E-mail: Martin.Ridgeway@Bridgend.gov.uk or
Bethan.Gaylard@Bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address Civic Offices
Angel Street
Bridgend
CF31 4WB

Background documents

None

**Violence Against Women, Domestic
Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy**

Bridgend County Borough Council

2017/2018

Foreword

To live a life free from violence and abuse is a human right that applies to everyone. There is a collective responsibility for society to be a safe place for everyone. No one deserves to be abused and it should never be acceptable or normalised. Abuse is not a naturally occurring phenomenon within societies and by focusing on primary prevention approaches to the reduction of risk and the promotion of protective factors this can be changed.

For those subjected to violence and abuse, the effects can be long term. This violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence strategy focuses on three main areas. These are -

- Protection
- Prevention and
- Support

Focusing on the above will improve physical, psychological and social outcomes for the residents of Bridgend.

The strategy has been compiled by the Domestic Abuse Steering Group and is based on consultation with statutory and third sector partners and also reflects the views of the community and victims/survivors of the aforementioned violence.

The vision for Bridgend is

Vision: All citizens living free from fear, abuse and violence. There is no excuse for violence and abuse.

The following pages have been taken from the Welsh Government's National Strategy. Over the coming year data pertaining to Bridgend will be sought via a full needs assessment and analysis. Where possible data will be obtained on a local level but where data only exists on a UK level will be broken down to a Bridgend level (please see Data Development Agenda).

Although the Act could appear to focus more on 'violence against women', it is important to note that the Act and this strategy encompasses any victim of domestic abuse.

Background

This strategy is founded on the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015, namely Sections 5 to 8 that places a duty on Local Authorities (LA) and Local Health Boards (LHB) to prepare and publish and implement joint Local Strategies for tackling VAWDASV. Local Authorities are required to take into account the most recent needs assessment under Section 14 of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 (SSWBA) relating to the needs for care and support, support for carers and preventative services and strategic assessments under Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (CDA) relating to reducing crime and disorder, combatting substance misuse and reducing re-offending. LAs and LHBs are under a duty to consult with all relevant persons prior to publishing their Local Strategies.

What is violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence?

Definitions of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

The **Home Office cross-government** definition of domestic violence and abuse is:

'Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional. Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour. Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.'

The **Welsh Government's** Right to be Safe

Strategy 2010-2016 defines violence against women as:

'a form of discrimination against women and a violation of human rights and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological, or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.'

The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 includes the definition for violence against women and girls as:

'Gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence where the victim is female.'

It defines **sexual violence** as:

'sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, or threats of violence of a sexual nature.'

The Welsh Government's Strategy definition is supported by the current internationally accepted definition of 'violence against women' used by the United Nations, World Health Organisation, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Crown Prosecution Service, UK Government and other international governments. These contextualise violence against women as:

'violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman, or that affects women disproportionately' and further define this as:

'Violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following:

a) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation

b) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution

c) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.'

The **Crown Prosecution Service** defines violence against women within crime typologies, some of which can also be suffered by men.

This includes:

- Domestic violence/abuse
- Forced marriage
- So called 'honour' based violence
- Female genital mutilation
- Rape and sexual offences
- Stalking and harassment
- Prostitution
- Human trafficking/slavery, with a focus on trafficking for sexual exploitation
- Child abuse
- Pornography
- Coercive control

Rape Crisis, England and Wales, defines sexual violence as:

'Any unwanted sexual act or activity. There are many different kinds of sexual violence, including but not restricted to: rape, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, sexual harassment, rape within marriage/relationships, forced marriage, so-called 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation, trafficking, sexual exploitation, and ritual abuse.'

The **Welsh Government** has also advised:

'If a person is pressured to do something sexual against their will, it is a form of sexual abuse, whether or not it takes place within marriage or a relationship. Sexual assault, sex with children under the age of 16, incest, rape by a stranger or inside marriage, is all crimes and matters for the Police. Sex without a person's consent due to drugs, alcohol or unconsciousness is rape.'

Overlap of other legislation in this area

Welsh Context

Other overlapping legislation pertinent to the area of business:

These are:

- **The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** sets out seven wellbeing goals which are relevant to prevention of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence and support of survivors, including an equal Wales, a healthy Wales and a Wales of cohesive communities, that public sector bodies have to take action to achieve.
- The **Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014** provides a legal framework for improving the well-being of people (adults and children) who need care and support, carers who need support, and for transforming social services in Wales. This requires local population needs assessments to inform the development of local strategies (with the first due no later than 1 April 2017).
- The **Housing (Wales) Act 2014** enshrines in legislation the role of the local authority in preventing and alleviating homelessness. This Act specifies that whether a person or a member of that person's household is at risk of abuse, including domestic abuse, is a factor in determining whether it is reasonable to continue to occupy accommodation.
- The **Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016** sets out a new approach to joint contracts which will help survivors by enabling perpetrators to be targeted for eviction.

The UK context

The UK Government '**Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2016-2020**' builds on a number of initiatives undertaken by the UK Government including the introduction of a new offence of controlling or coercive behaviour, the Modern Slavery Act, Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) under the **Crime and Security Act 2010**, the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS), FGM Protection Orders under the **Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003** ("the 2003 Act") and an FGM

mandatory reporting duty inserted into the 2003 Act by the **Serious Crime Act 2015**, and strengthening measures to manage people who commit sexual offences or those who pose a risk of sexual harm. The UK Government strategy sets out a number of actions which are applicable to Wales. These include actions relating to the National Statement of Expectations, commissioning resources and the introduction of the Home Office's Violence against Women and Girls Transformational Fund.

In 2014, the **National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE)** issued "**Domestic violence and abuse: how health services, social care and the organisations they work with can respond effectively**". This guidance, which applies across England and Wales, highlights that domestic abuse is a complex issue that needs sensitive handling by a range of health and social care professionals. The cost, in both human and economic terms, is so significant that even marginally effective interventions are cost effective.

In 2016, **NICE** issued further **Domestic Abuse Quality Standards** for healthcare providers. The Welsh Government has an agreement in place with NICE covering the Institute's guidelines, and there is an expectation that NHS bodies in Wales take full account of the recommendations made by the Institute when commissioning and delivering services to patients.

The NICE guidance is for everyone working in health and social care whose work brings them into contact with people who experience or perpetrate domestic violence and abuse. This includes: people working in criminal justice settings and detention centres, health and social care commissioners, including clinical commissioning groups and local authorities, and staff working for specialist domestic violence and abuse services. The latter could be working in local authorities, Local Health Boards and other organisations in the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. The guidance is also aimed at local strategic partnerships.

See Appendices for further information on:

- **Global Context**
- **Feedback from consultations with service users**

The Global context

Principles of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence ('Istanbul Convention'), to which the UK is a signatory. This sets out minimum standards to prevent violence against women, protect victims and prosecute perpetrators including:

- a) protecting women against all forms of violence, and prevent, prosecute and eliminate violence against women and domestic violence;
- b) contributing to the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and promote substantive equality between women and men, including by empowering women;
- c) designing a comprehensive framework, policies and measures for the protection of and assistance to all victims of violence against women and domestic violence;
- d) promoting international co-operation with a view to eliminating violence against women and domestic violence;
- e) providing support and assistance to organisations and law enforcement agencies to effectively co-operate in order to adopt an integrated approach to eliminating violence against women and domestic violence.

This Strategy further strengthens our commitment to the principles of the Convention by setting out further measures which are directly relevant to the provisions of the Convention. The purpose of the Act is to prevent, protect and support which links with the purposes of the Convention as noted above. By working to fulfil the purposes of the Act, this Strategy is directly linked to a number of the provisions of the Convention, including:

- a) by teaching and educating our children and young people about healthy relationships (articles 12 and 14);
- b) by training professionals and other public sector workers via the National Training Framework (articles 12 and 15);
- c) by raising public awareness (articles 12 and 13);
- d) by supporting and encouraging collaborative approaches between relevant authorities and other providers and by publishing commissioning guidance (article 7);

- e) by developing work on perpetrator programmes (articles 12 and 16)
- f) by supporting relevant authorities to provide immediate, short and long term support services to all women victims and their children based on local and regional needs (articles 22 and 25);
- g) by continuing to provide specialist support including refuge and floating support provision and support for victims of sexual violence (article 23 - 25); and
- h) by recognising children and young people as victims and witnesses and the provision of support (article 26).

Internationally, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) has provided a platform for addressing discrimination against women. Work to fulfil the purposes of the Act links to the Convention purposes in that:

raising awareness of healthy relationships, and public awareness campaigns to combat violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence will help to reduce discrimination against women; b) the National Training Framework will offer proportionate training to strengthen the response provided across Wales to those experiencing these issues, including women. It will formalise the requirements of those offering specialist and universal services and raise awareness and understanding of such violence and abuse.

See section 81(1) of the Government of Wales Act 2006.

Welsh Ministers are also under a duty to have regards to the requirements of Part I of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Act, this Strategy and our wider policy programme supports victims and acknowledges violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence as issues for children and young people. The actions and principles contained in this Strategy have been identified and developed in the spirit of the principles of all these international instruments and where possible to further embed those principles in the measures that have been adopted in Wales to combat violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

Survivors

“...survivors’ experiences of protection and support services and systems in Wales are key to understanding their effectiveness and to informing practice and service improvements. Survivors’ voices and experiences are also essential to informing prevention work and to ensuring that legislative and policy developments, the National Strategy and National Adviser’s Plan place survivors’ needs and experiences at the centre.”

This strategy has been informed by survivor voices and experiences. In early 2016, survivors of violence and abuse were invited to attend focus groups in every region of Wales to help inform national and local priorities. 66 survivors attended focus group across Wales, who had experienced a range of violence and abuse including domestic abuse, sexual violence, forced marriage, FGM, ‘honour-based violence’, sexual exploitation, trafficking and child sexual abuse. A report on the findings and their recommendations was provided to the Welsh Government.

The gendered nature of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

There are significant differences in the frequency and nature of abuse experienced by men and that experienced by women. The gender of both victim and perpetrator influences behaviour, risk and the severity of harm caused. Abuse perpetrated by men against women is a quantitatively and qualitatively distinct phenomenon. Women and girls experience violence and abuse in their everyday lives at higher rates:

☐ Women are far more likely than men to be killed by partners/ex-partners

Over three-quarters (77%) of female domestic homicide victims were killed by a partner/ex-partner, with the remaining 23% killed by a family member. For male homicides, there was a much more even split, with around a half (51%) of victims killed by a partner/ex-partner and the other half (49%) killed by a family member¹.

☐ Men are significantly more likely to be repeat perpetrators and significantly more likely than women to use physical violence, threats, and harassment

1

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/compendium/focusonviolentcrimeandsexualoffences/yearendingmarch2015/chapter2homicide> (2016)

Men's violence tends to create a context of fear and control; which a study found was not the case when women are perpetrators.

▣ **Women may experience different and multiple forms of abuse in their lives**

For example, some BME women may be experiencing forced marriage, domestic abuse and sexual violence simultaneously.

▣ **Lesbian and bisexual women experience domestic violence and abuse at a similar rate to women in general (1 in 4); a third of this is associated with male perpetrators and the rest with female perpetrators.**

Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence as a cause and consequence of inequality between men and women, causes harm, vulnerability and disadvantage in a number of overlapping ways. It impacts on physical and mental health, damages self-esteem and confidence, and can cause isolation, homelessness, and reduced economic prospects. Not all women have equal access to safety and freedom or the means or ability to leave a context of violence. For many women and girls, their experience of violence and abuse can be **compounded by multiple, intersecting inequalities and a broader context of social exclusion and marginalisation** which are more conducive to violence, and in which empowerment routes may be more restricted.

Women and men, children and young people, can all experience and perpetrate domestic abuse and sexual violence. Clearly any form of violence is unacceptable. Every case must be taken seriously and each individual given access to the appropriate support they need.

Service User Involvement

Survivors and their experiences of services and support are a key component and should be used to shape services and strategies going forward.

Survivors identified 10 key recommendations for Welsh Government:

1. Dedicated specialist services for children and young people impacted by or experiencing domestic abuse, sexual violence, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, sexual exploitation or harassment.

2. Specialist domestic abuse and sexual violence services for survivors that is accessible and resourced to meet the needs of specific survivor groups.
 3. Improvements in family court and CAFCASS Cymru practice and safe child contact for children in cases of domestic abuse and sexual violence.
 4. Accessible 'refuge service' support in every area, accompanied by safe, affordable, longer-term housing options to provide flexibility and choice.
 5. Women's groups and peer support that reduce isolation and maximise independent spaces to increase confidence, esteem, and empowerment.
 6. Equal access to safety, support, protection and justice, and finances to live independently, irrespective of survivors' immigration status.
- 2 Are you listening and am I being heard? Survivor Consultation: A report of the recommendations of survivors of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence in Wales, March 2016: Cymorth i Ferched Cymru / Welsh Women's Aid
- 3 Are you listening and am I being heard? Survivor Consultation: A report of the recommendations of survivors of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence in Wales, March 2016: Cymorth i Ferched Cymru / Welsh Women's Aid
7. Counselling and therapeutic services for survivors that is available when needed and is age-appropriate, and helps build resilience and recovery.
 8. Greater focus on stopping perpetrators' behaviour and, where coercive control is a feature, on getting perpetrators to leave and end abusive relationships.
 9. Improved training for all services on all aspects of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, informed by survivors' experiences.
 10. Preventing violence against women from happening in the first place, through compulsory prevention education in all schools and increasing awareness of the issues and help available in local communities.

These recommendations and the principles outlined by survivors are key to underpinning this Strategy and will further inform the development of the Delivery Framework. Where matters fall outside responsibilities of Welsh Government we will identify and work with relevant partners to address the recommendations made.

Survivors' voices and experiences must be central to informing the continued development and delivery of legislation, policy and strategy in order to ensure systems and services best meet survivors' needs. It is important that we listen to survivors, and act upon what they tell us. We need to ensure that appropriate mechanisms are developed so that we can engage with all survivors, including individuals with complex, multi-faceted needs, men, LGBT+ individuals and children and young people. Survivor engagement should be a continuous process that informs the development of policies and services.

To ensure that survivor's voices and experiences continue to inform this work in Wales we will develop a sustainable national survivor engagement framework to ensure that the needs and experiences of the most marginalised survivors, those who face multiple disadvantage in accessing help and support are understood. A national engagement framework will ensure the voices of survivors are heard in the delivery and review of this Strategy and accompanying delivery framework and the design and delivery of services from their earliest stages.

The scale of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

There is now a substantial body of evidence about the far-reaching nature and impact of violence against women and girls, domestic abuse and sexual violence. Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence includes different types of abusive and controlling behaviours which are often used together intentionally, to control another person or to have power over them. Incidents are rarely one-off and usually get worse over time. Perpetrators are most likely to be known to the survivor. Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence can happen to people of all ages, sexualities, gender, abilities, cultural, social and ethnic backgrounds.

Intersecting inequalities increase barriers to protection and help-seeking. It is essential that services are designed with this awareness. For example, research has found that:

'BME women are disproportionately affected by different forms of abuse e.g. forced marriage, "honour-based" violence, female genital mutilation, sexual exploitation in the form of commercial sex work, trafficking etc. The multiple vulnerabilities arising from

these overlapping Disabled people experience disproportionately higher rates of domestic abuse, and also experience domestic abuse for longer periods of time, and more severe and frequent abuse than non-disabled people. Disabled women are twice as likely to experience domestic violence as non-disabled women (1995 British Crime Survey, also confirmed by data from other countries). They are also likely to experience abuse over a longer period of time and to suffer more severe abuse and injuries as a result of the violence, than disabled men.

NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) guidance on how services can respond effectively to domestic abuse states:

‘Domestic violence and abuse is a significant public health problem. People of all ages, from all sectors of society, may experience it. The effects can last a long time after the final incident. For example, childhood exposure can disrupt social, emotional and cognitive development. This can lead to the adoption of risky behaviours such as alcohol misuse or illicit drug use which, in turn, can cause poor health, disease, disability and early death.’

Evidence shows that **women disproportionately experience repeat incidents of domestic abuse, all forms of sexual violence and other forms of violence and abuse such as forced marriage and female genital mutilation**. All governments have a responsibility to work to eliminate such gender-based violence under international directives upheld by the United Nations. This is of utmost importance in part due to the sheer scale of the problem:

☐ In 2014-2015, the Crime Survey for England and Wales estimated that 1.3 million women and 600,000 men (aged 16-59) experienced any type of domestic abuse in that year; with **over 1 in 4 women** (4.5 million women) reporting having experienced domestic abuse since the age of 16.

☐ Walby et al, 2015, has shown that **violent crime against women is in fact rising**, and most violent crime against men is falling; domestic violent crime has a different trajectory from other forms of violent crime and has been rising since 2009. This is often not shown by statistics such as the Crime Survey for England and Wales, which cap the number of incidents which can be recorded.

☐ 137,000 girls and women in the UK are living with consequences of FGM and 60,000 girls in the UK, under the age of 15, are at risk of FGM. It is estimated there are 140 victims of FGM a year in Wales.

☐ Nearly one in three (31%) pregnant teenagers at intake to one targeted early intervention programme had experienced domestic violence and abuse.

☐ 82% of cases dealt with by the Forced Marriage Unit involved female victims; 18% involved male victims. It is estimated there are up to 100 victims of forced marriage a year in Wales.²³

☐ **In a workplace with 4,000 employees, between 800 and 1,000 of the staff will have directly experienced domestic abuse at some point in their lives.**

☐ In a street made up of 100 houses, 20 of the women residing there will have been the victim of a sexual offence.

☐ Approximately 124,000 women, men, boys and girls over the age of 16 in Wales, have been the victim of a sexual offence.

☐ In November 2009, Sylvia Walby estimated the **total costs of domestic violence to the UK economy to be £15.7 billion a year.**

This is broken down as follows:

o The cost to services (Criminal Justice System, health, social services, housing, civil legal) is estimated at over £3.8 billion per year

o The loss to the economy – where women take time off work due to injuries – equates to more than £1.9 billion per year

o Domestic violence also leads to pain and suffering that is not counted in the cost of services. The human and emotional costs of domestic violence amounts to almost £10 billion per year.

☐ In Wales, the cost of domestic abuse is estimated to be £303.5m annually:

£202.6m in service costs and £100.9m in lost economic output. These figures do not include any element of human and emotional costs, which research estimates costs Wales an additional £522.9m; taking the costs of sexual violence and other forms of abuse into account would increase this amount even more.

2. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO TACKLE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE?

Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence is a fundamental violation of human rights, a cause and consequence of inequality and has far reaching consequences for families, children and society as a whole.

Since the enactment of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, public bodies are required to think more about the long-term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and to adopt a strategic approach to improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

Objectives

The Welsh Government 6 objectives. These are as follows:

- Objective 1 – increase awareness and challenge attitudes of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence across the population (of Bridgend County Borough Council)
- Objective 2 – Increased awareness in children and young people of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships and that abusive behaviour is always wrong
- Objective 3 – Increased focus on holding perpetrators to account and provide opportunities to change their behaviour based around victim safety
- Objective 4 – make early intervention and prevention a priority
- Objective 5 – relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors
- Objective 6 – Provide victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs led, strength based, gender responsive services (across Bridgend County Borough)

The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015 (Wales) Act Indicators directly or indirectly related to domestic abuse

Indicator 6 – measurement of the development of young children

Indicator 17 – gender pay difference

Indicator 24 – Percentage of people satisfies with their ability to get to/access the facilities and services they need

Indicator 25 – Percentage of people feeling safe at home, walking in their local area, and when travelling

Indicator 27 – percentage of people agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and treat each other with respect.

The Social Services and Wellbeing 2016 (Wales) Act

Protection from abuse and neglect

I am safe and protected from abuse and neglect

I am supported to protect the people that matter to me from abuse and neglect

I am informed about how to make my concerns known

Incidence of domestic abuse and sexual offences

Percentage of re-registrations of children on local authority child protection registers

Percentage of people reporting they feel safe

Percentage of adults at risk of abuse or neglect reported more than once during the year

There are other indicators under this Act (indirectly relating) relating to services that could go under the heading of 'Service User Engagement'

Objective 1			
increase awareness and challenge attitudes of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence across the population of Bridgend County Borough Council			
		Timescales	Partners
White Ribbon Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-apply with partners for White Ribbon Town Status • Identify WRC champions within the Local authority and statutory sector • Complete action plan with partners • Communication strategy • Update action plan and feedback to WRC Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarter 1 • Once per quarter 	Domestic abuse Steering Group
Awareness raising campaigns	<p>Disseminate campaigns on social media through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCBC corporate account <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimum of XX tweets 2. Minimum XX Facebook posts • Calan DVS account <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimum of XX tweets 2. Minimum XX Facebook posts • Raise awareness through <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emails to networks 2. Poster campaigns attached to WG campaigns • Identify community hubs in the Borough and disseminate VAWDASV information – Live Fear Free website and resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calan DVS • DAC • BCBC Communication s Team

Sporting	<p>Training and awareness raising sessions NTF compliant proposed delivery to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 sports clubs across the Borough of Bridgend <p>Undertake analysis of sport's clubs in the Borough and disseminate information via email</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAC
Key dates as per the equalities calendar	<p>Raise awareness of Welsh Government campaigns and other timely campaigns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with the equalities calendar <p>1. Minimum of 6 per year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing and in line with dissemination from Welsh Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAC • Calan DVS • BCBC Communication Team • Human Resources

DRAFT

Objective 2			
Increased awareness in children and young people of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships and that abusive behaviour is always wrong			
Spectrum project in schools – primary and secondary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of primary schools in Bridgend receive training on Spectrum project for teachers and whole school approach • 50% of secondary schools in Bridgend receive training on Spectrum project for teachers and whole school approach 	Timescales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2018 	Partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCBC Education • DAC
Community setting – awareness raising	Make links with the following with an aim to deliver training sessions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Youth Volunteers <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 session • Young Fire and Rescue Services <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarter 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAC • Calan DVS
Youth Offender Service	Make links with the YOS team with a view to exploring the delivery of Respect training to young people identified as either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. witnessing violence and abuse or 2. displaying signs of violent and abusive behaviour towards others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarter 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAC • DASG

Objective 3			
Increased focus on holding perpetrators to account and provide opportunities to change their behaviour based around victim safety			
		Timescales	Partners
Perpetrator programme Respect accredited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role out the programme in Bridgend • Embed the programme • Raise awareness of the programme with partners internal and external • Link programme with CSP and other referral pathways • Data collection arrangement • Submit data to DASG and CSP Executive Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2017 • Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atal y Fro • DAC • Calan DVS
Perpetrator programme Respect accredited for young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor data from YOS • Raise awareness of the programme with partners • Support the programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Bay YOS • DAC

Objective 4			
make early intervention and prevention a priority			
Safer Homes Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and evaluate project • Feed data to DASG and CSP Executive Group 	Timescales	Partners
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAC • Calan DVS • Care and Repair Bridgend

Objective 5			
relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors			
National Training Framework – Group 1 E-learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue role out to all employees • Gather information from Human Resources and report to Welsh Government on progress and completion numbers 	Timescales	Partners
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2018 – first report due to Welsh Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Resources • DAC
National Training Framework – Group 2 – Ask and Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin rollout of training following on from learning received from Welsh Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginning in Quarter 2 (dependant on learning from pilot sites) and ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAC • Human Resources • Learning and Development – Social Services

National Training Framework – Group 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify cohort for training Rollout of training subject to Welsh Government guidelines and guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarter 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DAC Human Resources Learning and Development – Social Services
---------------------------------------	---	---	--

Objective 6			
Provide victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs led, strength based, gender responsive services across Bridgend County Borough			
Service User Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission service user involvement exercise Write research paradigm/outline 	<p>Timescales</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 2017 	<p>Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DAC Contracts and Monitoring BCBC
Equality and Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with partners to identify barriers to seeking help and support on a local basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DAC Calan DVS BCBC Equalities
Local needs assessment and analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the population needs assessment – undertake full needs assessment to ensure it is up to date 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DASG DAC Calan DVS
Data Development Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demographics of Bridgend Population DA/SV rate IDVA data – high risk MARAC data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2018 ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DASG DAC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police data – repeat and no. of incidents • Assia Suite data • Service User engagement work • Refuge – and lack of spaces in refuge • Referral pathway – who is referring where? Self-referral vs professional referral • Standard and medium risk numbers are now unknown due to the PPNs • Homelessness and Housing data • Domestic homicide data • UK level data manipulation where possible 		
--	---	--	--

Other Priorities			
Preparing Bridgend Local Authority area for the Act			
Communication Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear communication strategy for Bridgend with partners. 	Timescales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2018 	Partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAC • Communications Team - BCBC

Multi-agency accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore the multi-agency groups:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Strategic Partnership2. Operational Partnership3. Multi-agency Fora• Terms of Reference for the groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DASG• CSP Executive Group
Regionalisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore regional working and how this will work for the Local Authorities and relevant partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• January 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BCBC Head of Service

DRAFT

This page is intentionally left blank