

CARDIFF AND VALE OF GLAMORGAN REGIONAL
SAFEGUARDING BOARD

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

Status and Update of Safeguarding Arrangements

All information within this document is accurate at the time of writing.

Arrangements are being reviewed continuously and this document will be updated in accordance with changes.

CONTENTS

	Page
SAFEGUARDING	3
CHILDREN AT RISK	4-5
ADULTS AT RISK	6
SAFEGUARDING ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PRACTITIONERS AND THOSE IN POSITIONS OF TRUST	7
OTHER BOARD UPDATES AND FUNCTIONS	8-9
WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SOMEONE	10

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding Adults and Children at Risk remains a priority throughout Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan. These are unprecedented times we are experiencing but it is vital that our safeguarding functions continue. Following the daily announcements from the Government, partners have been working to implement revised operating models which enable us to comply with Government advice and still provide a safeguarding service and response to the region. It is vital that partners (and members of the community) remain vigilant during these times.

Given the fast-changing nature of the current situation, models and arrangements are being reviewed throughout the region on a daily basis and regular updates will be provided on a weekly basis if necessary.

Thank you

C&V RSB Would like to thank all those incredibly hard-working key workers throughout our partner agencies who are helping to ensure our communities remain safe and our people are looked after.

CHILDREN AT RISK

- Staff are working from home wherever possible and are minimising face to face working. Essential home visits continue and the rest of the work is undertaken remotely.
- Enquiries continue to happen following the guidance from the Government in relation to safe contact and social distancing.
- Meetings and conferences also continue but using revised format. Conference calls, Skype meetings and other virtual platforms are being utilised to ensure these meetings can still go ahead.
- Initial Child Protection Conferences continue to take place and reviewing of child protection plans where children are subject to registration are continuing, utilising virtual means of communication.
- Strategy meetings/discussions are also taking place via the virtual platforms available to us, and all agencies are communicating in relation to points of contact during this period.
- Issues relating to agency reports and quoracy for child protection conferences will arise however, conferences will continue to take place given that the availability of agencies/parents/children may be limited during this period
- Parents and caregivers are given the opportunity to attend via conference/Skype if facilities are available.
- Where this is not possible, chairs will seek to liaise with carers/people with PR prior and post conference to establish their views.

Across the region there continues to be response to reports of children at risk and we would ask that those wishing to report concerns should always follow up any written report with a telephone call to the relevant point of contact within the Local Authority.

More information may be available in each individual agency, please contact your manager should you feel you need more information.

See below more detailed documents on Child Protection process:



VOG CYPS guide for partners re safeguard



Cardiff Council
Safeguarding Guidance

Child Protection Medicals

There is a community Paediatric safeguarding Rota for children requiring child protection medical.

- Children's services within the MASH or VOG Team will continue to make referrals for Child Protection medicals in the same way i.e. to the on call Community Specialist Registrar or Consultant on call at St. David's Children Centre between 09:00- 17:00 tel: 02920536789 after 17:00 by contacting switchboard 02920747747 and ask for the Consultant on call for child protection.

- All non-inpatients will be seen in St. David's Children Centre
- Pre examination: the child, his/her carer and attending professional need to be triaged using COVID 19 screening and at time of referral as well as on arrival at health setting. (If the child is in Category B, discuss with safeguarding Consultant on need for examination and how to do it) identify a room where the child and carer will be seen.
- On Patient arrival; screening triage tool will be completed to check all in attendance (i.e. patient/carer/ and professional) are well before opening the door:
 - No fever/ cough or contact with suspected COVID 19 positive person.
 - Not self-isolating
- **Category A:** if they are well i.e. category A, the Paediatrician undertakes usual safeguarding medical – proceed as normal.
- **Category B:** (known COVID 19 or symptoms of COVID 19) high risk/ known risk – safeguarding medical carried out in revised format with PPE and other specialised equipment to be worn (more information can be found in C&V UHB Guidance Booklet)

Documentation

Interim and final child protection reports will be sent by the Paediatrician directly to the appropriate Social Worker (SW) or Social Worker Team

More information may be available in each individual agency, please contact your manager should you feel you need more information.

See below more detailed document on C&V UHB Child Protection process:



Guidance booklet
Corporate Safeguarding

Procedural Response to Unexpected Deaths in Children (PRUDiC) Arrangements

PRUDiCs are proceeding in compliance with the guidance. Due to staffing/agency limitations, reports are accepted where necessary.

ADULTS AT RISK

Adults at Risk reports are being received in the same way and as with other arrangements S.126 enquiries; Strategy Meetings/Discussions and Adult Protection Conferences are being facilitated using conference/skype calling facilities.

Across the region there continues to be response to reports of adults at risk and we would ask that those wishing to report concerns should always follow up any written report with a telephone call to the relevant point of contact within the Local Authority.

More information may be available in each individual agency, please contact your manager should you feel you need more information.

See below more detailed document on Adult Safeguarding process:



Cardiff Adult
Safeguarding



Covid 19 Adult
Safeguarding VoG.do

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)

The ability to undertake the formal process in relation to the deprivation of an individual's liberty is restricted due to the nature of the settings where people are being deprived of their liberty. Consideration of the proportionality and whether the deprivation is least restrictive is being considered within assessment process and care and support plans. This is subject to regular review. The regional DoLS team are remote working and remain available via email and telephone.

SAFEGUARDING ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PRACTITIONERS AND THOSE IN POSITIONS OF TRUST

Cardiff

- Cardiff Professional Concerns Team continues to screen referrals and notifications remotely.
- Cardiff's Children's Services to continue to send notifications to PCT via Care First Part 4 button
- All other Directorates, partner agencies and providers to continue to send referrals and enquiries about the conduct of practitioners and those in a position of trust to the central mail box - Professional Strategy Meetings / Cyfarfodydd Strategaeth Proffesiynol
<ProfessionalStrategy.Meetings@cardiff.gov.uk
- PCT business support continues to monitor the central mail box and forward referrals to the relevant Designated Safeguarding Officer (DOS) for assessment and action as required
- In the event of the DOS not being available to work, Cardiff MASH will manage these concerns where the person works with children
- In the event of the DOS for Adult Safeguarding not being available to work, , Adult Safeguarding Consultants will manage these concerns via **safeguardingadults@cardiff.gov.uk**
- Cardiff continues to ensure Business Support cover to the PCT

Vale of Glamorgan

The Team Managers for Adult and Children Safeguarding continue to receive and screen all such reports

All activity and responses will continue to take place during this period

Where needed strategy discussions/meetings will take place via remote platforms

Reports/referrals should continue to be sent to the Adult Safeguarding or Children Safeguarding mailboxes.

AdultSafeguarding@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk – for the attention of Nicole Devonish, Team Manager

Childprotection@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk – for the attention of Ann Williams, Principal Officer

OTHER BOARD UPDATES AND FUNCTIONS

Wales Safeguarding Procedures

Work around the implementation of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures is continuing, however, the current situation will impact on the timescales for a range of activity such as training that had been planned to support the implementation programme. More information on this will follow shortly.

C&V RSB meetings and sub group work

Given the current situation, whilst the Board partners continue to work hard to carry out their statutory functions as set out in the Act, it is clear that normal Board business cannot continue as usual. This will be reviewed on a frequent basis and when possible and safe to do, we will look to revert to usual practice.

Below are the steps taken by the Business Unit (where possible) to ensure Board work is prioritised suitably and where needed, temporarily postponed (dates to follow in future):

- All non-essential events have been cancelled and we will look to rearrange in the future
- We are mapping the facilities available within individual agencies (Skype/conference call etc.) and will continue with meetings remotely where possible
- Where this is not possible, we will be looking to postpone meetings and rearranging in the future

We will be contacting those attending our meetings directly to notify them of the arrangements for each meeting.

FUNCTION	POSTPONED	TO CONTINUE
Child and Adult Practice Reviews	CPR/APR Sub Group meetings Panel meetings and Learning Events	Development of Learning Framework Overseeing the PRUDIC process in relation to child deaths
Policies, Procedures & Practice	Meetings of the Protocols, Procedures and Practice Group Review and development of existing non-essential protocols Implementation of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures – to be delayed until 6 th July 2020	Where possible (under facilitation of Business Unit), development of new policies etc. agreed previously i.e. Board constitution
Communications	Newsletters etc. will not be produced during this time	Communications required to support and enhance critical safeguarding functions during the pandemic Updates to Board website Comms work on existing policies etc.
Quality Assurance	Meetings of the QA Sub Groups and associated audit work	Internal QA process if supports critical functions
Learning & Development	Meetings of the Training and Learning Sub Group All Training and learning events	None

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SOMEONE

For emergencies when a child or adult is in immediate danger please call the Police on 999.

If you have concerns about a child's or adult at risk's health or well-being act on them. Even if your concerns seem small to you, please report them. All reports are taken seriously and acted upon sensitively. Action will be taken to safeguard children and adults at risk in immediate danger.

If you have concerns about a child:

Intake and Family Support Team:

01446 725 202

Out of Office Hours

Emergency Duty Team:

029 2078 8570

VALE of GLAMORGAN



Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH):

029 2053 6490

Out of Office Hours

Emergency Duty Team:

029 2078 8570



If you have concerns about an adult at risk:

Vale of Glamorgan Adult Services:

01446 700111

VALE of GLAMORGAN



Cardiff Adult Safeguarding:

02922 330888

