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Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan
Regional Safeguarding
Children Board



Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Boards

Newsletter

In this issue:

- “Together we can keep people safe” campaign
- “Together We’ll Keep Children and Young People Safe” - Non-statutory Guide for Practitioners
- Protecting older people from online crime and scams
- C&V RSB Induction Pack
- Resources added to the website
- Tackling Exploitation Strategy
- Radio advert
- National Safeguarding Week
- Stop It Now! Wales promotion leaflets
- Upcoming Autumn events

“Together we can keep people safe” campaign

A campaign launched on the 6th of July across Wales to encourage people to contact Social Services if they are worried that a family member, friend or neighbour is at risk of abuse, neglect and harm. Social Services in Wales has seen a reduction in referrals to its services since lockdown. Abuse, neglect and harm hasn't stopped but opportunities to spot the signs have reduced as access to childcare settings, schools, and social situations has been limited.

It is now more important than ever that we look out for each other and encourage people to contact their local Social Services or call 101 if they are worried that someone could be at risk. Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Regional Safeguarding Board said: “Social Services are open and ready to help if people are concerned that a family member, friend or neighbour needs support. “Although we have tried to maintain contact with people already known to us before lockdown, there is a risk that abuse, neglect or harm is happening behind closed doors and is even being exacerbated by the pandemic. We would encourage anyone who is worried to make the call to Social Services. It can be a difficult decision but one which could help to save someone from suffering abuse, neglect or harm. You can also call 101 or, in an emergency call 999. During this difficult time it's down to all of us to look out for each other – together we can keep people safe.” Visit the [Safe Help website](#) for more information about local Social Services and how to raise your concerns. If your call is more urgent dial 101, or in emergency call 999. Together we can keep children, young people and adults safe. #MakeTheCallWales



“Together We’ll Keep Children and Young People Safe” - Non-statutory Guide for Practitioners

The Welsh Government has produced this [non-statutory guide](#) to remind practitioners working across agencies of their responsibilities to safeguard children and to support them in responding to concerns about children at risk. The coronavirus pandemic (Covid-19) has presented new and difficult challenges for everyone. Many households have been put under strain or have faced adversity because of the social, psychological and economic impact of the pandemic and of lockdown. Welsh Government know that practitioners working across agencies in the statutory and third sector have had to adapt quickly to new ways of working, continuing to make sure that children and families get support. Services have done everything they can under difficult circumstances but we know that sadly some children will have come to harm without us knowing. Many practitioners are very experienced in safeguarding practice; others may not feel as confident in this area of practice. This guide includes information that many practitioners are already aware of but they hope that pulling this together into one guide will be helpful. This guide links to and should be used with the national [Wales Safeguarding Procedures](#)

Protecting older people from online crime and scams

With more older people using computers, tablets and smartphones as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, it's crucial that older people take a few simple steps so they can stay safe online. That's the message from an action group of organisations working together to safeguard and protect older people in Wales. Many older people throughout Wales have been getting online recently – some for the first time – to stay connected with loved ones and access vital information and services during lockdown. And with a few simple actions – actions we should all be taking – including using strong passwords and security software, and ensuring that apps and operating systems are kept up to date, older people can enjoy all of the benefits of being online whilst also protecting themselves from potential security risks. It's also crucial that older people know how to spot potential email and other online scams to protect themselves from criminals stealing their money and personal information. Helpfully, all the information that older people need to protect themselves is available from Get Safe Online, which provides practical advice on protecting yourself and your devices against fraud, identity theft, viruses and many other problems encountered online. The Get Safe Online website – www.getsafeonline.org – provides a wide range of easy-to-understand guidance and information relating to online safety, as well as useful tips and updates on the latest scams to look out for.

C&V RSB Induction Pack

An Induction Pack for new Board members was published on the 6th of July and can be downloaded from the Safeguarding Boards' website using the links provided below. This induction pack has been designed to provide new Board and Sub Group members with an introduction to their roles and responsibilities and to provide an overview of the functions of the Safeguarding Boards. Copies are also available from the Business Unit upon request if required. New members to the Safeguarding Board will automatically be sent a pack as part of the mandatory induction process. Children: [English](#) / [Welsh](#) Adults: [English](#) / [Welsh](#)



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During the Covid-19 pandemic, we collated and uploaded a variety of downloadable resources on both the children and adults section of our website. There's a whole range of resources available, including Welsh Government updates, resources on information for professionals, information for the public, resources on mental health & wellbeing amongst many others. Links to both the English and Welsh versions are included below for your information:

Children: [English](#) / [Welsh](#)Adults: [English](#) / [Welsh](#)**Radio advert**

In May we released a radio advert on Nation Radio's East Transmitter which delivered 84 forty second commercials over a 4 week period. The purpose of this radio advert was so to reach out to a wider audience in order to emphasise that during the pandemic, safeguarding was STILL everyone's responsibility. We highlighted the importance of remaining vigilant and looking out for others in the community. To note a safeguarding issue was brought to our attention as a result of this advert.

Tackling Exploitation Strategy

Cardiff & Vale Regional Safeguarding Boards launched the new Tackling Exploitation Strategy on 29 July 2020.

This strategy sets out the commitment of the Cardiff & Vale Regional Safeguarding Children Board (RSCB) and the Regional Safeguarding Adults Board (RSAB) to stand together to prevent exploitation, protect and support those affected by exploitation, pursue and disrupt perpetrators and offenders and to work together to prepare everyone in our communities across Cardiff and the Vale to respond to exploitation. An action plan will be developed to determine priorities and identify actions to support the delivery of this strategy for the region by September 2020. You can download [English](#) and [Welsh](#) versions of the strategy on our website.

National Safeguarding Week 2020**Monday 16th – Friday 20th November**

National Safeguarding Week is an annual event held in November. The aim of the week is to raise awareness about safeguarding issues and to reinforce the message that 'safeguarding is everyone's responsibility'. This year's regional theme will focus on Social Isolation. The planning arrangements for this year's events are underway. If your organisation is interested in hosting an event during this year's NSGW then please contact the Business Unit.

Stop It Now! Wales

Stop It Now! Wales is a child sexual abuse prevention project run by The Lucy Faithfull Foundation, a child protection charity and are funded by the Welsh Government. Since 2008, they have been working across Wales to make sure children and young people are protected from adverse childhood experiences by preventing child sexual abuse and exploitation. Stop It Now! Wales have produced three new promotion leaflets for Primary and Early Intervention new projects. One for the Primary awareness sessions, one for one-to-one work and the final one is for the Group programmes. We would appreciate it if you were able to distribute these to the relevant departments and organisations that may be interested. We have both the [English](#) and [Welsh](#) versions available to download on our website.

Upcoming Autumn events

- Publication of C&V RSB Annual Report 2019/20
- Multiagency Practice Leads Programme - Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse
 - National Safeguarding Week 2020