

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5, Autumn 2024



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD MANAGER



Welcome to the Autumn 2024 edition of our Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board Newsletter!

We are pleased to share with you safeguarding information and activity that has taken place regionally and national since our last edition, as well as forthcoming events this autumn. This issue also highlights news and updates on important areas of safeguarding policy, practice and training, as well as news and good practice highlights from teams and services from our partner agencies across the region.

We are always keen to promote stories and examples of the excellent work taking place across the region, so please do continue to send in any news or information you would like us to highlight to [cysur@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:cysur@pembrokeshire.gov.uk)

Julie Breckon, Strategic Regional Safeguarding Manager for Children and Adults at Risk

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### REGIONAL

- ⇒ Our Annual Report 2023 - 2024 is now live!
- ⇒ National Safeguarding Week 2024
- ⇒ We are recruiting: Service user representative
- ⇒ New Published Child & Adult Practice Reviews
- ⇒ Safer Recruitment Events
- ⇒ Calan DVS Shares 2023-2024 Impact Report

### NATIONAL

- ⇒ Developing Resistance Against Grooming Online - Interactive Multimedia Platform to train professionals
- ⇒ Buttle UK Offering Grants of Up to £2,400 for Children and Young People

### NATIONAL

- ⇒ SafeCall: Confidential Support for Young People and Families
- ⇒ Older Victims of Economic Abuse - Free Training
- ⇒ Lucy Faithfull Foundation: Updates and Resources for Partners
- ⇒ Invitation to LOUDfence Event in Swansea
- ⇒ PRUDiC (Procedural Response to Unexpected Death in Childhood) Process: Information for Families
- ⇒ Welsh Government Modern Slavery Conference
- ⇒ Child Exploitation Programme of Learning

# OUR ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024 IS NOW LIVE!

We are pleased to publish our Annual Report in respect of achievements and progress during the year 2023-2024. The Report showcases outstanding safeguarding practice from across our region, in respect of both our partner agencies and the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Boards as a multi-agency partnership.

Our Annual Report outlines the progress we have made against the outcomes set by CYSUR and CWMPAS as part of our joint Annual Strategic Plan for the year 2023-24.

The full report can be found on our website at [CYSUR Annual Reports](#).



## DEVELOPING RESISTANCE AGAINST GROOMING ONLINE - AN INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA PLATFORM TO TRAIN PROFESSIONALS

The SAFE partnership based at Swansea University, are delighted to offer practitioners the opportunity to learn about DRAGON-Shield, a multimedia, interactive platform that provides training on the ways groomers and children communicate with one another during online grooming conversations.

The free online webinar will be facilitated by Professor Nuria Lorenzo-Dus and Ruth Mullineux-Morgan.

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Time:** 9.30 – 11am

**Venue:** Online

Further information is available at: [DRAGON-Shield - Swansea University](#) Please click on [this link](#) to register for a place.



# NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING WEEK 2024

This year National Safeguarding Week takes place from 11th to 18th November 2024.

The theme for our region is 'Right help at the right time' and we will be hosting a series of events focusing on sharing areas of practice improvement covering this topic. A number of online webinars will be held, as well as local events spread across the region. On Thursday 14th November, a regional safeguarding conference will be hosted by Ceredigion County Council with the theme of Trauma Recovery.

We have an exciting programme of events for the week, covering a range of topics from thematic reviews to Safeguarding transgender young people from exploitation. These events involve the Childrens Society, SHINE, West Wales Domestic Abuse Service, Institute of Public Care and many other contributors.

We will shortly be circulating the program and taking booking for individual events so do watch our website for details! In the meantime, if you have any questions, please email [cysur@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:cysur@pembrokeshire.gov.uk)



## WE ARE RECRUITING — SERVICE USER REPRESENTATIVE

Are you an adult with lived experience of safeguarding services, living in Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire or Powys whom can offer an informed perspective on the quality and delivery of Safeguarding services in the Mid and West Wales region?

The Mid and West Wales Regional Safeguarding Board for Adults (CWMPAS), is looking to recruit a service user representative to be a member of its Regional Executive Adult Board. This will be a pilot exercise over a 1 year fixed term period. Your role will ensure the perspective and voice of adults at risk is represented and considered in the business of the Board and your lived experience informs strategic objectives and plans.

Your role and responsibilities will include:

- To attend approximately four Regional Safeguarding Board meetings per year (virtual attendance can be facilitated).
- To attend other relevant regional meetings as appropriate and as agreed between you and the Chair.
- To adequately prepare for Regional Safeguarding Board meetings by reading board papers and agenda in advance of the meeting.
- To maintain the confidentiality of agenda papers, discussion and decisions made.
- To provide a service user perspective to the business of the Regional Safeguarding Board.
- To contribute to the development of plans and proposals, providing constructive input from a service user perspective.
- To provide a link between the Regional Safeguarding Board and other service users where appropriate.

You will report to the Regional Safeguarding Board Chair and will receive direct support from the Strategic Regional Safeguarding Manager for Children and Adults at Risk. Full Reimbursement of reasonable expenses can be claimed.

To arrange an informal discussion with the Regional Safeguarding Manager or to request an information pack, please email [CWMPAS@Pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:CWMPAS@Pembrokeshire.gov.uk) or phone 01437775200. Applications are invited by way of a covering letter to the Mid and West Wales Regional Safeguarding Board Chairs Michael Gray and Jake Morgan. Please ensure this includes, your motivation for applying, your lived experience as a service user of safeguarding services and how you feel you can contribute to the Regional Safeguarding Board and its development and response to Adults at risk in Mid and West Wales.

The role will require a basic DBS check to be undertaken.



# BUTTLE UK OFFERING GRANTS OF UP TO £2,400 FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN WALES



Buttle UK is awarding grants of up to £2,400 to support children and young people in Wales who are facing significant challenges. These grants are designed to assist those who:

- Have experienced a recent crisis
- Are struggling with educational engagement and wellbeing
- Are living on a low income and facing financial hardship

The *Chances for Children* grants provide individually tailored support packages that address both the educational and wellbeing needs of the child or young person.



For more information on the *Chances for Children* grant criteria and how to apply, please visit their website [here](https://www.chancesforchildren.org.uk), or to seek guidance regarding an application, email Buttle UK's Grant Development Officer for Wales, Kate Zaczek at [katez@buddleuk.org](mailto:katez@buddleuk.org)

If you are applying for the first time, it is recommended to contact Buttle UK to discuss the case before submitting an application. Their goal is to keep the process quick and responsive, with application outcomes typically provided within five working days.

## PUBLISHED CHILD & ADULT PRACTICE REVIEWS



The prime purpose of practice reviews is to identify any steps that can be taken by Safeguarding Board partners to achieve improvements in multi-agency practice. These contain lessons learned which should be disseminated, and any recommendation arising should be implemented so that the changes required result in children being protected from suffering or harm in the future.

Please find copies of recently published practice reviews available on the Child and Adult Practice Review pages of our website.

### **CYSUR 1 2021 Concise Child Practice Review**

- ◇ [Published report](#)
- ◇ [7 Minute Briefing](#)

## SAFECALL: CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES



SafeCall is a free, confidential, and anonymous helpline and support service dedicated to assisting young people and family members affected by issues such as missing persons, county lines, and criminal exploitation. The service is available by phone, text, or online chat from 9am to 11pm, seven days a week. To contact SafeCall, individuals can call or text 116000.

### Training and Resources

SafeCall also offers training and support for professionals working with those affected by these issues and the Home Office has developed several resources to aid in the promotion of SafeCall's services. These include:

- **Posters:** Outlining the support available for young people, families, and professionals.
- **Business Cards:** Designed for young people to easily access support.

For more information and to download the posters, please visit [SafeCall Resources](#).

The Home Office is funding Missing People's SafeCall service until March 2025.

## OLDER VICTIMS OF ECONOMIC ABUSE - FREE TRAINING

Hourglass offers resources and support for older victims of financial abuse. The regional Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse, and Sexual Violence partnership is collaborating with them to provide training on addressing economic abuse faced by older victims. This training aims to address the specific barriers older individuals face and improve support across the region.

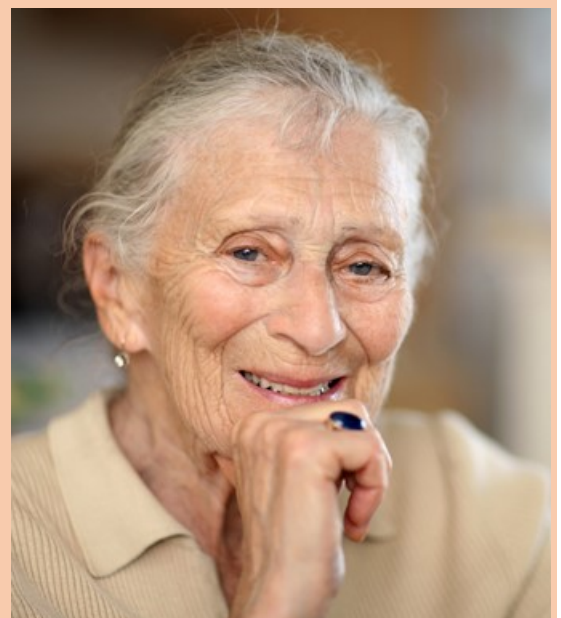
The project is also developing a Community Response model in Wales to support older individuals who are victims of financial abuse. The goal is to:

- Reduce the number of future victims and those at risk through awareness-raising and prevention work.
- Develop referral pathways to and from relevant organisations and agencies.
- Enhance older people's independence, confidence, and knowledge about protecting their finances.

### Training Sessions

Four training sessions will be delivered in Mid and West Wales, with the first session scheduled for 27th November via Teams. Expressions of interest are invite by email to Natalie Hancock at [nhancock@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:nhancock@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

For more information about Hourglass services and resources, please visit [their flyers and posters page](#).





# MID AND WEST WALES SAFER RECRUITMENT EVENTS



Disclosure &  
Barring Service



Bwrdd Partneriaeth  
Rhanbarthol  
Gorllewin Cymru  
  
West Wales  
Regional Partnership  
Board

This summer, Disclosure Barring Service (DBS), Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA), the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board and Carmarthenshire/Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations (CAVO) worked together to deliver a series of events across the region to help support organisations to deliver safe and effective safeguarding practice.

Events were supported and delivered by senior staff from the DBS Service, WCVA, the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board, alongside learning and development leaders from local authority training departments.

Training days consisted of three workshops focussed on:

- \* **Good practice in relation to Safeguarding Policies and Procedures** - These offered an opportunity to consider your own safeguarding policies, review current resources and consider organisational process around your DBS responsibility.
- \* **Safe Recruitment and the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service)** - Offered an overview of how DBS and your organisation can effectively work together for Safer Recruitment, and where you may have a legal duty to refer to the DBS.
- \* **The National Safeguarding Standards Training Standard** - These sessions supported mandatory required training requirements in line with the National Safeguarding Training and Development Standards.

Events have now been delivered across all four Mid and West Wales regions, with a concluding mop up session held online for those unable to attend in person.

Attendance was very positive, with approximately 75% of participants from the voluntary sector and 25% from the statutory sector. A full evaluation of the programme will now follow, aiming to assess how improved safer recruitment practices are being implemented across the region.





# HOURLASS ECONOMIC ABUSE HUB



**Is somebody close to you  
being controlling and abusive?**

**We're here to help you**

**Hourglass' Economic Abuse Hub** offers direct support for older people affected by economic abuse, domestic abuse and more.

**Contact us at** [\*\*cymru@wearehourglass.org\*\*](mailto:cymru@wearehourglass.org)

Our 24/7 helpline is entirely confidential and free to call from a landline or mobile. The number will not appear on your phone bill. Our lines are open 24/7 - including weekends and bank holidays. Texts from outside the UK will be charged at their standard international rate which will differ depending on location and service charges of your phone provider. The number will appear on your bill and in your phone records but will not be identified as Hourglass. Our Chatbot is available 24/7. All other services are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.



**E:** [\*\*helpline@wearehourglass.org\*\*](mailto:helpline@wearehourglass.org)

**W:** [\*\*www.wearehourglass.org\*\*](http://www.wearehourglass.org)

Hourglass is the working name of Hourglass (Safer Ageing), a charity registered in England and Wales (reg. no: SC046278). Hourglass (Safer Ageing) is registered as a company in England and Wales under number 07290092

# LUCY FAITHFULL FOUNDATION: UPDATES AND RESOURCES FOR PARTNERS

The Lucy Faithfull Foundation is delighted to share their latest *Information for Partners* pack, designed to provide adults with the support and advice they need to prevent child sexual abuse. This comprehensive pack includes valuable resources for professionals, parents, and carers, along with detailed information about the services offered by the Foundation. To download the *Information for Partners* pack in both English and Welsh, visit their website [here](#).

## New Dates: Train the Trainer Sessions

The Foundation continues to deliver *Train the Trainer* sessions for professionals who are in roles that involve preventative work with parents. This is a fantastic opportunity for professional development, and they particularly encourage practitioners working with marginalised groups across Wales to take part.

Dates for the next event are 6 and 7 November 2024 (both days) For more information or to express interest, email [wales@lucyfaithfull.org.uk](mailto:wales@lucyfaithfull.org.uk).

## Coming Soon in Wales

The Lucy Faithfull Foundation will soon release a new *Faithfull Paper* highlighting how a public health approach can help prevent child sexual abuse in Wales. The paper will focus on the importance of cross-sector collaboration, offer practical tips, and discuss challenges in safeguarding children when working with families and professionals.

Additionally, the Foundation is bringing back its popular Welsh Government-funded multi-agency training sessions for practitioners. Stay tuned for further details about these upcoming events.

For any additional information about the Lucy Faithfull Foundation's work in Wales, email [wales@lucyfaithfull.org.uk](mailto:wales@lucyfaithfull.org.uk).



# CALAN DVS SHARES 2023-2024 IMPACT REPORT

Calan DVS, one of the largest domestic abuse charities in Wales, has released its 2023-2024 Impact Report, highlighting the progress made in supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

In introducing the report, **Michelle Whelan**, Chief Executive of Calan DVS, shared her reflections:

*"I have great pleasure in sharing our 2023-2024 impact report. As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and hope. Our journey has been marked by resilience, dedication, and the unwavering support of our communities. This report is a testament to those we have supported, the challenges we have overcome, and the progress we have made in our mission to support and empower all victims/survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence."*

*I am profoundly grateful to all our staff within Calan for their unwavering dedication and compassion they show*

*every day in their support of victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence. Their commitment to Calan's mission and the tireless effort they put into their work have made an immeasurable difference to the lives of countless individuals and families. As we present this impact report, we acknowledge the resilience and strength of survivors, the dedication of service providers, and the importance of a collaborative, community-driven response."*

You can read the full impact report on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERVBj5eWaw>





# INVITATION TO LOUDFENCE EVENT IN SWANSEA



**LOUDfence** is a survivor-led initiative that provides a platform for those who have experienced abuse within faith-based settings or have been affected by it. It is open to everyone and aims to raise community and institutional awareness, challenging the silence and shame surrounding abuse, and supporting survivors by validating their experiences and celebrating the act of speaking out.

Archbishop Mark O'Toole and the Safeguarding Departments of the Catholic Dioceses of Cardiff and Menevia invite you to join their next LOUDfence event in Swansea. This event aims to raise awareness of abuse, acknowledge the harm it causes to individuals, families, and communities, and provide an opportunity for people of all faiths and none to come together in solidarity and support for those affected by abuse.

## Event Details

- ⇒ **Date:** Saturday, October 19th
- ⇒ **Time:** Noon
- ⇒ **Location:** St David's Church, St David's Place, Swansea

The event will begin with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Mark at St David's Church. Following the service, light refreshments will be available in the Church Hall, providing an opportunity for community and support networking. For those who might feel uncomfortable in the cathedral setting, a neutral room without ecclesiastical décor will be available.

## What Happens at a LOUDfence Event?

LOUDfence events focus on tying brightly coloured ribbons and messages of support in public spaces, such as railings and fences, to show solidarity with all victims and survivors of abuse. Participants are welcome to tie ribbons and messages of support on the day of the event or during the following week, either to the railings or to the dedicated LOUDfence tree inside the church.

During the Swansea event, members of the Safeguarding Team, clergy, and laity will be available to offer support, guidance, and a listening ear to survivors and anyone with concerns about abuse in any context.

For more information, please email [safeguarding@rcadc.org](mailto:safeguarding@rcadc.org)

# PRUDiC (PROCEDURAL RESPONSE TO UNEXPECTED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD) PROCESS: INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

The unexpected death of a child is a profound tragedy for both the family and the wider community. To address this, it is crucial that all such deaths are carefully reviewed to prevent future tragedies and support the bereaved family, carers, and friends.

## What is PRUDiC?

PRUDiC, or Procedural Response to Unexpected Death in Childhood, is the process that outlines how professionals in Wales should respond to the unexpected death of a child. This process ensures that the response is safe, consistent, and sensitive to the needs of the grieving family.

A series of leaflets have been created to provide clear information about the PRUDiC process for both parents and relevant professionals. These leaflets were developed by the National Safeguarding Service (NSS) on behalf of the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network. Recognising the need for clear communication, the leaflets were developed through consultation with parents who have lived experience, as well as health and education representatives.

Two leaflets have been produced: one for parents and carers, and another for professionals. These leaflets aim to clearly and compassionately explain the PRUDiC process to those affected by the unexpected death of a child.

The leaflets are available for download at the following links:

- [PRUDiC Information for Families Leaflet \(English\)](#)
- [PRUDiC Information for Families Leaflet \(Welsh\)](#)
- [PRUDiC Information for Professionals Leaflet \(English\)](#)
- [PRUDiC Information for Professionals Leaflet \(Welsh\)](#)

## PRUDiC Information for Professionals



PRUDiC Information for Professionals Leaflet

## PRUDiC Information for Families



PRUDiC Information for Families Leaflet

# WELSH GOVERNMENT MODERN SLAVERY CONFERENCE

Welsh government are currently planning to hold a modern slavery conference at Aberystwyth University and online on Wednesday 16 October from 10:30 to 15:30.

As with last year's conference, Anti-Slavery Wales 2024 is intended to be centred around the four Anti-Slavery Wales thematic areas:

- Victims and Survivors
- Prevention
- Training and Awareness
- Supply Chains and International

They would like to invite:

- Volunteers for a working group for organising the conference – they welcome expressions of interest from all sectors and backgrounds.
- Ideas for topics, sessions and speakers to include in the conference. They particularly welcome suggestions for speakers and topics connected to West Wales.
- Suggestions for potential networks and platforms that they could use to raise awareness of this event.

If you would like to contribute or to learn more, contact: [Joshua.Vuglar@gov.wales](mailto:Joshua.Vuglar@gov.wales)



# CHILD EXPLOITATION PROGRAMME OF LEARNING

The Children's Society is pleased to invite professionals to join their latest #LookCloser programme of learning, focused on addressing child exploitation and abuse. All sessions are free of charge and will be delivered via Microsoft Teams Live.

The learning events are aimed at upskilling professionals, offering key points of reflection to apply in practice and share with wider teams and networks. They have been created to engage a wide range of professionals, from various sectors and levels of seniority. The timetable below includes links to each learning event on Eventbrite, where individuals can register for as many sessions as they wish.

For any questions about the learning events, please contact [prevention@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:prevention@childrenssociety.org.uk).

Date	Session	Time
Thursday 17 October 2024	<u>Anti-Racist practice to tackle child exploitation: why anti-racist practice is essential in our fight against child abuse and exploitation</u>	13:00 - 15:00
Wednesday 20 November 2024	<u>Safeguarding transgender young people from exploitation</u>	10:00 - 12:00
Tuesday 10 December 2024	<u>Safeguarding care experienced young people from exploitation</u>	13:00 - 15:00
Wednesday 29 January 2025	<u>Financial Exploitation</u>	10:00 - 12:00
Tuesday 11 February 2025	<u>The digital lives of children and young people</u>	13:00 - 15:00

The  
Children's  
Society

## Programme of Learning

free child exploitation learning sessions

# #LookCloser

# UPCOMING AWARENESS DAYS

Please find upcoming awareness day dates for your diaries. Remember to follow us on social media for links and resources that support each of these days.

## October

10th October	World Mental Health Day
11th October	International Day of the Girl

## November

2nd November	Supporting male victims of domestic abuse day
11th—17th November	National Safeguarding Week
19th November	International Men's Day
20th November	Universal Children's Day
25th Nov — 10th December	16 Days of Activism
25th November	White Ribbon Day

## December

5th December	International Volunteers Day
10th December	World Human Rights Day

# OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

## FACEBOOK



@CYSURCYMRU

## INSTAGRAM



@CYSURCYMRU

## TWITTER



@CYSURCYMRU  
@CWMPASCYMRU

# CONTACT US

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