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Iechyd Cyhoeddus
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Public Health
Wales

Name of Meeting
Quality, Safety and
Improvement Committee
Date of Meeting
18th May 2022
Agenda item:
5.2a

Safeguarding Annual Report 2021-2022

Executive lead:	Rhiannon Beaumont-Wood, Executive Director, Quality, Nursing and Allied Health Professionals
Author:	Donna Newell Named Lead for Safeguarding

Approval/Scrutiny route:	Rhiannon Beaumont-Wood, Executive Director, Quality, Nursing and Allied Health Professionals
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Purpose

To provide the annual Safeguarding Annual report for 2021-2022 for assurance and identify where improvements need to be made.

Recommendation:

APPROVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CONSIDER <input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMEND <input type="checkbox"/>	ADOPT <input type="checkbox"/>	Assurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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The Committee is asked to:

- **approve** and take **assurance** from the Safeguarding Annual report for 2021-2022

Link to Public Health Wales [Strategic Plan](#)

Public Health Wales has an agreed strategic plan, which has identified seven strategic priorities.

This report contributes to all strategic priorities.

Summary impact analysis

Equality and Health Impact Assessment	An Equality and Health Impact Assessment is not necessary as no decision is required.
Risk and Assurance	N/A
Health and Care Standards	This report supports and/or takes into account the Health and Care Standards for NHS Wales Quality Themes Theme 4 - Dignified Care Person Centred Care Theme 2 - Safe Care
Financial implications	N/A
People implications	N/A

1. Purpose/Situation

The paper provides the Committee with the Public Health Wales (PHW) Safeguarding Annual report for 2021/22.

This report covers the period from 1st April 2021 to the 31st March 2022.

2. Background

This annual report seeks to provide assurance to the Business Executive Team and subsequently the Board (delegated to the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee) that there are effective arrangements in place to fulfill our organisational statutory responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.

3. Assessment

Public Health Wales recognises safeguarding is fundamental to the quality and safety of services and functions we deliver.

The Annual Report is also informed by Health and Care Standard 2.7 Safe Care: Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adults at Risk. Health services promote and protect the welfare and safety of children and adults who become vulnerable or at risk at any time (Health and Care Standards Wales 2015).

The all Wales Safeguarding Maturity Matrix (SMM) annual assessment is the main assurance tool to provide assurance on our current position and to identify where improvements need to be made. A cross organisational peer review process is well embedded in the approach of the NHS Safeguarding Network and Public Health Wales participates in this process and has identified this year's assessment scores and improvement actions as seen below.

The organisational assessment for the last 3 years can be seen in the table below in table 1:-

Whilst there has not been an improvement in the maturity scores during the past two years, this has been due to the impact of COVID-19 mobilisation on key staff and also the retirement of the Named lead for Safeguarding who left during this reporting period leaving a vacancy until the newly appointed Named Lead for Safeguarding commenced in post. The proposed improvement plan will be included in this year's SMM submission and will focus on further improvements in the areas identified.

Table 1

Standards	Maturity Score 2019 - 2020	Maturity Score 2020- 2021	Maturity Score 2021- 2022
1) Governance and Rights based approach	4	4	4
2) Safe Care	4	4	4
3) ACE Informed	4	3	3
4) Learning Organisation	3	4	4
5) Multi agency working	4	3	3

The key achievements for 2021/22 were:

Improvement 1	Bi monthly Safeguarding Ambassador Meetings were established with the newly appointed Named Lead for Safeguarding, a TEAMS channel was created to share a wealth of Safeguarding information, including Safeguarding Network Bulletins, training opportunities and legislative updates. Feedback has been gained through the development Microsoft Forms so that meetings can be improved and shaped by the Safeguarding Ambassadors professional needs
Improvement 2	Work has commenced on completing The Right Way: A Children's Rights for submission to The Children's Commissioner for Wales. Directorates within PHW will be supported to complete the matrix and consideration will be a made to engage the Young Ambassadors in this piece of work
Improvement 3	The VAWDASV Group 2 Training compliance has improved following the development of a virtual delivery platform
Improvement 4	Working in collaboration with screening a bespoke training package has been developed and delivered to ensure members of the public accessing screening services who lack capacity have best interest decisions made. The consent form 4s (consent form for those lacking capacity) has been implemented in AAA screening, with the aim of implementing in all screening services using a quality improvement methodology

2022-2023 Safeguarding Maturity Matrix planned improvements

Improvement 1	To continue with Quality Improvement project relating to MCA/ consent with aim of presenting evidence of good practice to the Safeguarding Network in 2022/2023
Improvement 2	The Named Lead for Safeguarding will work collaboratively with the Communication Team with participation from the Safeguarding Ambassadors in further developing and shaping a safeguarding intranet page to better meet the needs of staff
Improvement 3	To improve safeguarding training including strengthening awareness raising of ACE's through greater utilisation of tools and information from the ACE hub to and increase awareness, understanding and compliance across all relevant areas of safeguarding training.
Improvement 4	To continue to progress with The Right Way: A Children's Rights Approach, engaging the organisation and The Young Ambassadors in a piece of work that ensures that Children's Rights are embedded within the organisation
Improvement 5	<p>To further strengthen PHW's understanding around safe recruitment and DBS by maintaining the professional relationship with Regional Outreach Advisor for DBS. The Regional Outreach Advisor will deliver a range of training sessions to recruiting managers strengthening their understanding around requirements for DBS. An audit group have been identified and will develop an audit tool to review the requirements for DBS associated with roles within PHW</p> <p>Identify effective opportunities to engage further with Regional Safeguarding Boards potentially through the national Business leads meeting with Welsh Government.</p>

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The report contributes to Goal 3 "Support the NHS to deliver high quality, equitable and sustainable services". The below information follows the five ways of working, as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act, in the following ways:



The annual report seeks to provide the Board and relevant Board Committees with assurance that the organisation is meeting its responsibilities in relation to the management of Safeguarding.



Where possible Public Health Wales seeks to prevent the occurrence of concerns by taking a proactive approach to the reporting of Safeguarding concerns to ensure safe services are provided to the users and employees of our services.



The Safeguarding Annual report impacts a number of the wellbeing goals, including "A Resilient Wales" and "A More Equal Wales"



Public Health Wales is committed to dealing with safeguarding events and incidents in an open, accessible and fair manner. The report offers insight into how various teams are working together with Public Health Wales NHS Trust to provide the best outcomes



This annual report is an important aspect of the organisation's governance arrangements, and, as such, helps the organisation to improve the quality and safeguard the high standards of the services provided by Public Health Wales

4. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to consider and take **assurance** from Safeguarding Annual report for 2021-2022