

National Safeguarding Service & NHS Wales Safeguarding Network

Update

Quality, Safety & Improvement Committee 15th May 2023

**Gwasanaeth
Diogelu Cenedlaethol**
Diogelu GIG ar gyfer Cymru Ddiogelach

**National Safeguarding
Service**
NHS Safeguarding for a Safer Wales

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Who are the National Safeguarding Service?

- Part of the QNAPS directorate, the NSS is a team of external facing **Designated Nurses, Designated Doctors & Business Support** providing **expertise & leadership** on safeguarding within the NHS & its multi-agency partners in Wales.
- The NSS provides the coordination of the **NHS Wales Safeguarding Network** which was established ten years ago following a recommendation from the Aylward review (2010). It was proposed that the Network would connect organisations creating a collaborative approach to improving safeguarding services across NHS Wales. The inaugural meeting of the Network, which initially focused on child protection, took place in October 2012.
- The Network/Network subgroup meetings include **representatives and stakeholders** from Health Boards, Trusts, the office of the Chief Nursing Officer, the Children's Commissioner Office and the Older People's Commissioner Office.
- The Network provides a platform for a '**community of practice**' a rich environment for collaboration, learning and creating new knowledge, horizon scanning, sharing challenges, problem solving, innovation and sharing best practice.
- NHS network members supported by the National Safeguarding Service enable the articulation and delivery of the annual **Safeguarding Network work plan**.
- The work plan is driven and informed by current and pending changes in **legislation and statutory guidance; learning** from recent safeguarding reviews, **recommendations and feedback**, as well as identified improvements drawn from the annual assurance review process of the **Safeguarding Maturity Matrix**; common issues that would benefit from leadership and consistency across NHS Wales.



Celebrating the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network National Conference

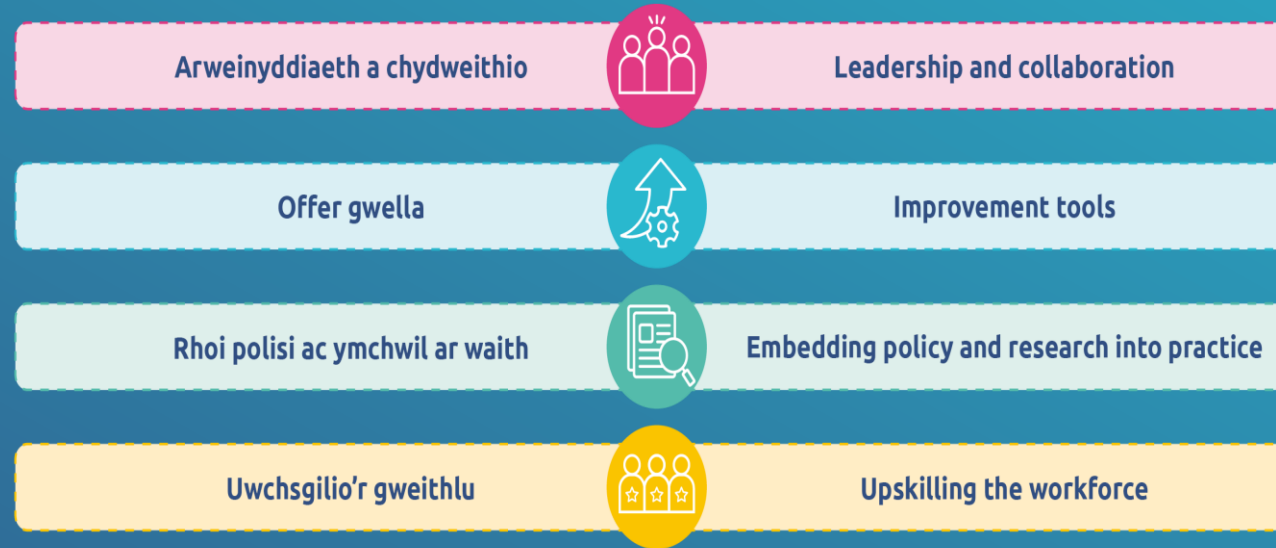
- The NHS Wales '**Safeguarding Together: Then, Now, Next**' Conference took place at City Hall, Cardiff on 8th March 2023 and superbly chaired by Jan Williams.
- The Conference marks 10 years of the **NHS Wales Safeguarding Network** and brought together key professionals to listen to expert and high-profile speakers on the latest research and theories relevant to safeguarding. The aim was to present a life journey approach on how safeguarding services have evolved and changed in response to legislation, learning from tragic events and the voice of those abused and neglected – also a recognition and **call to arms** that there is more to do to improve the safety of our most vulnerable populations and enable health organisations deliver high quality services to safeguard the people of Wales.
- Speakers included the **CNO, Older persons commissioner, children's commissioner, VAWDASV National Advisor, academics** and **survivor's of abuse**.
- The conference enhanced the profile of the Network and NSS through **showcasing achievements** and progress over 10 years. Contributing to increasing awareness, knowledge and skills in safeguarding people across NHS Wales.
- With a total of 79 attendees the conference had good representation from all Welsh health boards and trusts, despite inclement weather, with colleagues from local authorities and Welsh Government joining. Overall **(70%)** delegates rated the conference as **excellent** or **very good**, describing an '**Excellent conference, extremely informative & at times emotive**' with '**An appropriate range of issues raised by speakers**'.



Key NSS & Network priorities for 23/24

- The NSS has repurposed post pandemic with a refreshed focus on leadership, inspiring others and building quality improvement approaches to safeguarding across the NHS system.
- Recent successes have included the development of a quality assurance tool for NHS commissioned care placements, currently being piloted in HDUHB & working with the DU in relation to incident reporting aligned with DoC.
- Update to the Procedural Response to Unexpected Death in Children (PRUDiC) was launched in March 2023.
- Maximising opportunities to inform safeguarding practice through other functions within PHW, such as the Child Death Review Panel, Wales Violence Prevention Unit (VPU), the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Hub, World Health Organisation and Behavioural Insights Unit. Multi-agency and system collaboration will remain central to the team's focus as they continue to connect key policy areas to the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network.
- Collaboration with NHS Executive and Improvement Cymru, as well as strengthened relationships with WG, professional leadership groups CNO/EDONS and CMO/MDs to improve safeguarding quality and effectiveness.
- Developing a framework for an NHS safeguarding strategy and priorities.
- Development of indicators/measures for quality in safeguarding services, including PROMS & PREMS – ensuring the voice of service users is central.
- Alignment of the Blueprint strategy with the VAWDASV objectives.
- An approach to support psychological safety of staff working to protect of children/vulnerable adults through restorative supervision and support.
- National Audit on FGM clinical pathway.
- Improving the effectiveness of training, working with HEIW and improving dissemination of safeguarding learning from across Wales and evidencing impact on practice behaviours.
- Launch a digital Safeguarding Leadership Hub using the Gwella platform.





Thank you for listening
Any Questions?