



 <p>GIG CYMRU NHS WALES   Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales</p>	<p><b>Name of Meeting</b> Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee</p> <p><b>Date of Meeting</b> 16 September 2024</p> <p><b>Agenda item:</b> 4.1</p>
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<h2>NHS Wales Safeguarding Network Annual Report 2023-2024</h2>	
<b>Executive lead:</b>	Claire Birchall, Executive Director QNAHPs
<b>Author:</b>	Louise Mann, Interim Director of Safeguarding

<b>Approval/Scrutiny route:</b>	<p>Approved by the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network</p> <p>Received by Business Executive Team on 4 September 2024</p>
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<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>This paper presents the <b>NHS Wales Safeguarding Network Annual Report</b>, which demonstrates the system leadership of the National Safeguarding Service, and the valuable work that has been undertaken by the Safeguarding Network across NHS Wales, to keep children and adults safe from abuse, neglect and avoidable harm.</p>
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<b>Recommendation:</b>				
<p>APPROVE</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>CONSIDER</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>RECOMMEND</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>ADOPT</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>ASSURANCE</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take <b>assurance</b> that that system leadership of the National Safeguarding Service is working across the Organisation as detailed in this report.</li> </ul>				



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

Public Health Wales has an agreed strategic plan, which has identified seven strategic priorities and well-being objectives.

This report contributes to the following:

<b>Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective</b>	5 - Supporting a sustainable health and care system
<b>Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective</b>	4 - Delivering excellent public health services
<b>Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective</b>	2 - Promoting mental and social wellbeing

### Summary impact analysis

<b>Equality and Health Impact Assessment</b>	An Equality or Health Impact Assessment is not required as the paper references an Annual Report
<b>Risk and Assurance</b>	N/A
<b>Health and Social Care (Quality and Engagement) (Wales) Act</b>	The report supports improvements in quality and assurance of NHS safeguarding activity and performance in Wales.
<b>Financial implications</b>	No financial implications
<b>People implications</b>	No potential impact on workforce or staff survey plans.



## 1. Purpose / situation

This paper presents the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network Annual Report for 2023/24, which demonstrates the system leadership of the National Safeguarding Service, and the valuable work that has been undertaken by the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network, to keep children and adults safe from abuse, neglect and avoidable harm.

The report details key achievements throughout 2023-24, during a time when people across Wales experienced the impact of the continued cost of living crisis, high energy prices, and the post pandemic strain on public services. This disproportionately effects the most vulnerable citizens, with children, young people and adults-at-risk experiencing the impact of a worsening interplay of multiple challenges, inequities and barriers to health and well-being.

## 2. Background

Professionally led by the National Safeguarding Service (NHS Wales), 'the Network' provides a vital bridge between strategies and arrangements at local level and national policy developments to support NHS Wales Health Boards and Trusts in discharging their responsibilities for safeguarding people. The Network is chaired by Louise Mann, Interim Director of Safeguarding (National Safeguarding Service, Public Health Wales) and co-chaired by Mandy Nichols-Davis, Head of Safeguarding (Hywel Dda University Health Board).

The Network and its subgroups provide a 'community of practice' environment, facilitating collaboration, upskilling, horizon scanning, sharing challenges and best practice, problems solving and innovation. At its heart is evaluation of the efficiency and efficacy of safeguarding arrangements and interventions, as well as reduction in practice variation across the NHS.

## 3. Description/Assessment

Report linked as below:

[NHS Wales Network Safeguarding Report 2023-24 - CYMRAEG](#)  
[NHS Wales Network Safeguarding Report 2023-24 ENGLISH](#)

The Report expands on the challenging deliverables achieved in the last period through collaboration across the Network and the implementation of innovative ways of working. Going forward the Network is committed to improving quality and assurance in safeguarding and will be supporting Welsh Government and the NHS



Wales Executive to strengthen the need to measure the effectiveness of safeguarding activity and practice.

#### 4. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to:

- Take **assurance** that that system leadership of the National Safeguarding Service is working across the Organisation as detailed in this report.