



 GIG CYMRU NHS WALES	Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales	Name of Meeting Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee Date of Meeting 10/09/2026 Agenda item: 5.3
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NHS Wales Safeguarding Network Annual Report 2025-2026	
Executive lead:	Claire Birchall, Executive Director NQIG
Author:	Shamala Govindasamy, Planning & Performance Manager Louise Mann, Director of Safeguarding
Approval/Scrutiny route:	Approved by the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network Business Executive Team (BET) (01/07/2026)

Purpose
This paper presents the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network Annual Report 2025-2026 , which highlights the commitment and collective leadership of safeguarding professionals across NHS Wales in strengthening the protection, wellbeing, and rights of the people we serve.

Recommendation:				
APPROVE ☐	CONSIDER ☐	RECOMMEND ☐	ADOPT ☐	ASSURANCE ☒
The Committee is asked to: Take assurance that system leadership of the National Safeguarding Service was working across the Organisations as detailed in this report.				



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:

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

Summary impact analysis

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

1. Purpose / situation

This paper presents the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network Annual Report for 2025-2026, 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 2025-26, another impactful year of safeguarding activity across NHS Wales. This report highlights the collective effort, innovation, and dedication of our safeguarding community in promoting the health, safety, and rights of the people we serve.

2. Background

The Network is professionally led by the National Safeguarding Service (NHS Wales) and chaired by Louise Mann, Director of Safeguarding. The group provide 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 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: -

[ENGLISH REPORT](#)

[WELSH REPORT](#)

It expands on the challenging deliverables achieved in the last period through collaboration across the Network and the implementation of innovative ways of working.

Throughout the year, the Network has continued to invest in collaboration, peer support, restorative approaches, and professional development, recognising that safeguarding is strengthened through collective leadership and continuous learning.

4. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to:

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