



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

## **National Action Plan - Preventing and Responding to Child Sexual Abuse**

### **Progress Report – Period 2 - 30 June 2021**

The Deputy Minister for Social Services launched the National Action Plan on preventing and responding to child sexual abuse ('the Plan') on 15 July 2019.

The Plan sets out actions for the Welsh Government and for partners of the Safeguarding Children Boards in Wales against 10 objectives. The Plan considers Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) including Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB). The Plan includes actions to strengthen efforts to prevent child sexual abuse, to protect children at risk and to support children to recover from the significant harm that sexual abuse causes.

The Plan is arranged into 3 periods. The actions for Period 1 were completed and reported on 31 January 2020.

When published the reporting dates for Period 2 and Period 3 were 31 January 2021 and 31 January 2022. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted on capacity to deliver actions under the Plan. As a result the Deputy Minister for Social Services has agreed to amend the reporting dates to 30 June 2021 for Period 2 and 30 June 2022 for the Period 3, the final year of the Plan. This report sets out progress on delivery of actions for Period 2, up to 30 June 2021.

### **1.1 Actions for the Welsh Government**

	Action completed	10 actions complete
	Action progressing but delayed	3 actions progressing but delayed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **1.2 Actions for Regional Safeguarding Boards**

	Action completed	4 actions completed by all 6 Safeguarding Boards
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Each of the Safeguarding Boards have put in place arrangements for delivery of actions across their region through a regional plan led by an identified sub-group of the Board.

## 2. Progress on delivery of actions

Actions are arranged under objectives rather than by time period in the Plan, this means that some actions may appear to be missing but are for reporting in Period 3.

<b>A1- Public awareness campaign to promote attitudes to CSA that will contribute to the prevention of abuse had been delivered.</b>	<b>Welsh Government</b>
<b>A2- Safeguarding Children Boards report evidence of campaign promotion</b>	<b>Safeguarding Board partners</b>

**Welsh Government** commissioned Stop it Now/The Lucy Faithfull Foundation to develop a campaign and campaign materials and resources were launched in March 2020. These resources are open access and free to download and are intended to help break the silence around child sexual abuse.

['It's time we talked about it' campaign - Stop It Now](#)

<b>Safeguarding Boards</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>Cardiff and the Vale</b>	Public awareness has been heightened and linked to the work of the Safeguarding Board as a response with a range of advice documents and signposting for public and professionals alike and through use of our website.  The widespread media coverage of an historic case of sexual abuse has prompted a number of work streams in this area. We have also raised the profile of CSA as a result of the reviews undertaken in response to this case.
<b>Cwm Taf Morgannwg</b>	Promoted the campaign and available resources by including information and links to the campaign's resources through the CTMSB's e-bulletin in Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021, the Board's website, twitter and Facebook page and E-mails to partners.

**CYSUR (Mid and West)**

Widely promoted the Stop it Now! Campaign and its resources across Board partner agencies and colleagues, and across networks, including Board members, Regional Safeguarding Leads, Education Leads, and Local Operational Groups for wider dissemination, with instruction to specifically target preventative services.

Key reports and learning have been shared across the Board structure via inclusion on agendas for the Executive Board and sub groups. Strong links have been created and maintained with the Centre for Expertise on CSA, with whom we are in regular communication and receive briefings and research, which we promote widely.

Resources are hosted on the Board's bespoke [CSA/CSE information page](#) and Widely promoted a national 7-Minute Briefing on CSA across our networks and Public Education Sessions made available through Stop it Now! and the Lucy Faithfull Foundation across our various networks.

Health Boards across the region have promoted an array of related information training and resources to staff including hospitals community settings, fully utilising the use of social media, intranet and websites, staff briefings and newsletters. This includes promotion in respect of the Stop It Now Campaign, items and information in relation to CSA and Exploitation, the 'Truth project' and 'People don't talk about'.

There has been a significant amount of work across education settings in the region. This includes for example, Regular in Pembrokeshire information and links are shared via Wythnos Nesaf, a weekly e-Newsletter, the public awareness campaign has been shared this way. There is a specific file for information and resources on Child Sexual Abuse within the safeguarding area on HWB, this file is regularly updated. In Carmarthenshire Family engagement workers in the School safeguarding and attendance team have been trained by Lucy Faithful Foundation to deliver "parents protect" sessions to support parents in protecting children from the risk of child sexual abuse. These can be delivered to small groups of parents either in schools or virtually. In Ceredigion Stop it Now! Resources have been shared with all schools and has also been shared on the Safeguarding page on Teams for Schools to further access at any time and any relevant newsletters, briefing documents regarding CSA/CSE are shared with Schools upon their receipt.

<p><b>Gwent</b></p>	<p>Promoted via email to all members of South East Wales Safeguarding Children’s Board in July 2020.</p> <p>Placed on the Gwent Safeguarding Board website.</p> <p>Stop it Now multiagency training flyers were also circulated to Board partners in January 2021.</p>
<p><b>North Wales</b></p>	<p>Development of a specific CSA webpage on the NWSB website. The webpage includes information on the National Action Plan and a range of materials and links to information around the Stop it now campaign. 7 minute briefing published on CSA by the NWSB</p> <p>Sent key messages via the NWSB twitter around the Stop it now campaign. Stop it Now Leaflets have been sent out across the region specifically focussing on education and including Independent Schools.</p> <p>Lucy Faithfull/ Stop it now! attended all three Local Delivery Groups in December 2020. Presentation, Posters, briefing shared with group and these documents were circulated across the local delivery group area.</p> <p>Centre for Expertise CSA attended the three Local Delivery Groups to share resources and materials regarding the action plan. Discussion was held regarding the research that the Centre has shared across Wales.</p> <p>The Stop it Now information materials has also been sent to the regional advocacy groups and parents networks in the region. National CSE Day post &amp; Practice Guide awareness raising blog.</p>
<p><b>West Glamorgan</b></p>	<p>WGSB have publicised and sent Stop it now leaflets across their network.</p> <p>The poster resources were distributed across education settings in the region.</p> <p>The information has also been publicised on the Safeguarding Board website.</p>

<b>A4. Develop poster campaign on unsafe and unhealthy relationships for children and parent/carers</b>	<b>Welsh Government</b>
<b>A5. Promote information to children and parent/carers on healthy/unhealthy relationships.</b>	<b>Safeguarding Board partners.</b>

Welsh Government commissioned Welsh Women's Aid to develop the posters which were published in July 2020 and are available on the Hwb:

[Posters - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/posters)

<b>Safeguarding Boards</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>Cardiff and the Vale</b>	Worked with 'Stop it Now' to ensure that relevant information was disseminated via schools and other education led settings to inform students and their families about this topic.
<b>Cwm Taf Morgannwg</b>	The poster campaign was circulated via email to all members of South East Wales Safeguarding Children's Board in October 2020.
<b>CYSUR (Mid and West)</b>	<p>Education Safeguarding Leads have widely utilised and further promoted these key resources mentioned above and the information available on HWB, making this information available within schools and sharing with parents and carers. Schools across the region report a significant level of activity, working with specialist organisations and promoting learning and resources with children, young people and parents, on healthy relationships and staying safe online and offline through assemblies, classroom activity and targeted work.</p> <p>Bespoke safeguarding training programme has been developed by the Junior Safeguardians for young people aged 11-25, in Pembrokeshire it is an interactive online training resource with facilitators script and supporting materials. This training covers healthy relationships, consent and child sexual abuse. The training is free to access, and has been promoted to all schools and education staff. A refreshed promotion is planned for September 2021.</p> <p>The Board have participated in several social media campaigns centred on CSA, SV and healthy/unhealthy</p>

	<p>relationships, including the national This Is Not Okay campaign. Information and resources were shared on CYSUR's <a href="#">Facebook</a> page as well as <a href="#">Twitter</a> and <a href="#">Instagram</a>, as a more effective means of reaching young people. This included the posters in this <a href="#">link</a> from WG.</p> <p>CYSUR's website now has a Resource Hub with information specifically for <a href="#">children</a> and also a page for <a href="#">parents and carers</a> with specific sections on relationships and on CSA/CSE. A separate page is in development for young people with resources more suited to their particular age group. There is also a bespoke <a href="#">page</a> containing a comprehensive range of resources relating to CSA and CSE, including information relating to relationships.</p> <p>The Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Regional Board have undertaken significant work in this area. Work mapping existing support and provision, awareness raising campaigns including specific messages around health relationships and targeted communications for children and young people. VAWDASV training has been delivered to education staff around appropriate responses to disclosure of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence ensuring children and young people are signposted to appropriate support. Key activities are specifically aimed at achieving a whole school approach and a consistent and high quality approach to healthy relationships within schools.</p> <p>The Health Board have participated in several social media campaigns centred on CSA, SV and healthy/unhealthy relationships, including the national 'This Is Not Okay' campaign. School nursing provide Sexual health in year 9/10 and talks incorporate healthy relationships and how to notice unhealthy signs in your own or friends relationships, we go into the different types of abuse and how to get help if they need it. The Flying Start Domestic Abuse workers and Support Officers offer the 'STAR' (Safety, Trust and respect) programme in a group or 1 to1 basis that covers 'healthy/unhealthy' relationships to parents. There is a bespoke page for Harmful Sexual Behaviours with links to the online Barnardo's Harmful Sexual Behaviour Training also resources for professionals, parents and carers.</p>
<p><b>Gwent</b></p>	<p>The poster campaign was promoted to all members of South East Wales Safeguarding Children's Board in October 2020.</p> <p>The Engagement and Communication Sub Group is also planning to incorporate these materials as part of a CSA awareness raising campaign due in February 2022. This should tie in with the national Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week.</p>

<b>North Wales</b>	<p>Education officers have accessed the materials via the HwB and shared with children and parent/carers</p> <p>Across the region work has taken place as part of the VAWDASV strategy in promoting awareness around healthy/ unhealthyrelationships, this has also been included in a number of the workshops delivered regionally.</p> <p>Both National/ Regional and individual Board partners have undertaken a number of awareness raising campaigns during the pandemic in getting key messages across to the community around healthy/ unhealthy relationships.</p>
<b>West Glamorgan</b>	<p>Seminars on healthy relationships were run during National Safeguarding Week 2020 and the resources were promoted across education settings in the region.</p>

<b>A7. Develop resources to support parents/carers from BAME communities, parent/carers with disabled children and parent/carers with LGBT+ children and practitioners to understand CSA and how they can help to keep children safe.</b>	<b>Welsh Government</b>
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In 2018/2019 the Welsh Government commissioned Stop it Now Cymru/The Lucy Faithfull Foundation to run a campaign to prevent child sexual abuse, identify child sexual abuse and provide information on to parent/carer and to practitioners on how to prevent, identify and respond to child sexual abuse. ['What we all need to know' campaign - Stop It Now](#). This included information for parent/carers and for practitioners.

In 2020/21 we commissioned [EYST](#) , [Stonewall Cymru](#) and [Learning Disability Wales](#) to work with Stop it Now Cymru/The Lucy Faithfull Foundation to adapt and develop these resources to meet the needs of Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority, LGBT+ and

learning disabled children and parent/carers. Information is available in English, Welsh and an additional 12 languages. These resources were published in June 2021. [Stop It Now - Leaflets and resources to keep children safe in Wales](#)

**A10. Develop non-statutory practice guidance to support those working in education settings, in managing cases of peer-on-peer abuse within the education settings. The guidance will provide advice on ensuring that where there are concerns around HSB children can continue to receive an education in way which is safe for them and for other learners.**

**Welsh Government**

*Guidance for education settings on peer sexual abuse, exploitation and harmful sexual behaviour -To be read in conjunction with the All Wales Practice Guide on Safeguarding Children where there are concerns about Harmful Sexual Behaviour and the Wales Safeguarding Procedures, was published in October 2020. This work was commissioned from the NSPCC and Barnardo's Cymru.*

[Peer sexual abuse, exploitation and harmful sexual behaviour | GOV.WALES](#)

**A11. Develop information resources for practitioners and for parent/carers on CSE and HSB.**

**Welsh Government**

The Welsh Government commissioned Barnardo's Cymru to develop an online learning session on HSB, a guide for practitioners and information for parent/carers. These were published in June 2021.

[Resources to help identify and engage young people at risk of sexual abuse, harmful sexual behaviour and exploitation | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)

Dr Sophie Hallett, Cardiff University was commissioned to develop online learning sessions and resources on safeguarding young people from CSE and related safeguarding issues such as CCE, trafficking and going missing. These were published on 1 July.

[Check Your Thinking – Resources to support safeguarding practice with young people, for use by all those working with and caring for young people.](#)

Statutory guidance on safeguarding children from CSE was published in March 2021. Youth Friendly and Easy Read versions of the guidance were published in July, these are useful in practice to support conversations with parent/carers and with young people about CSE.

[Safeguarding children from child sexual exploitation | GOV.WALES](#)

<p><b>A13. Support practitioner learning on CSA, CSE, HSB and Online Abuse including awareness of relevant guidance, procedures and practice guides. This should include promoting an understanding of CSA in the context of equality and diversity issues such as gender, ethnicity, sexuality and disability</b></p>	<p><b>Safeguarding Board partners.</b></p>
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Safeguarding Boards	Summary
<p><b>Cardiff and the Vale</b></p>	<p>The Safeguarding Board was a pilot area for the training provided by the CSA Centre of Excellence training package. This training was very well received and was rolled out over a number of sessions on a multi-agency basis. It has also been followed up by several further training sessions by individual agencies to ensure that the learning from the course is disseminated across all sectors of social care.</p> <p>As a result, in all statutory constituent agencies now have 'practice leads' who after completing this training have the knowledge, skills and experience to promote their expertise amongst colleagues. It is hoped that this approach will encourage practitioners to seek advice and guidance from their practice leads and be able to recognise and deal with cases of CSA with more confidence.</p>

	<p>During 2020 the Board published an exploitation strategy to tackle some of the wider concerns around young people in relation to CSA, HSB, CSE and CCE as it has been recognised that we need to use resources in this area to adequately protect some of our more vulnerable young people.</p>
<p><b>Cwm Taf Morgannwg</b></p>	<p>As part of a pilot programme, in February 2021, The Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse delivered training on 'Intra-familial CSA' to partners of the Safeguarding Board and a further session was commissioned in March.</p> <p>The Marie Collins Foundation delivered online abuse training to practitioners within Cwm Taf Morgannwg, over a course of two sessions in March.</p> <p>Guidance for education settings on <a href="#">peer sexual abuse exploitation and harmful sexual behaviour</a> was promoted through e-mail and the Safeguarding Board website.</p>
<p><b>CYSUR (Mid and West)</b></p>	<p>A multi-agency virtual training day was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 and delivered by the CSA Centre. The theme of this training was intra-familial CSA. The event was attended by 37 regional safeguarding practitioners from Local Authority Social Services, Dyfed Powys Police, and both regional Health Boards. The training was very positively evaluated by participants.</p> <p>During National Safeguarding Week 2020, a CSA 'stop it now' public facing event, was facilitated and delivered by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation. Two additional "stop it now" events have been delivered in 2021.</p> <p>A number of workshops have been held regionally to promote the Wales Safeguarding Procedures and its practice guides, and these sessions continue to be run at a local level to ensure they reach practitioners and frontline staff. This work was a key action on the 2020-21 Annual Plan and was met through this extensive work.</p> <p>A Child Exploitation Multi-agency Community Practice event was delivered by Dr Helen Beckett in June 2020. Further community of practice events were facilitated and delivered by Dr Sophie Hallett from Cardiff University in September 2020, Mark Whelan from PACE on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020, Claire Sinnott from NSPCC in February 2021 and Dr Carlene Firmin MBE in June 2021.</p>

Health partners have delivered 3 sessions by Sarah Walton / Stop it Now! Wales Project Worker on Understanding Harmful Sexual Behaviour on 23/9/2020, Professionals Protect on 14/10/2020, Digital Resilience 12/11/2020. Community and Primary care staff were specifically targeted for this training.

An IICSA research day held in March 2021 was widely promoted across the region.

Safeguarding eLearning modules are available to staff. In Pembrokeshire, these modules are mandatory for school DSP's and include; CSE, Female Genital Mutilation, Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, Radicalisation, Suicide Prevention & Awareness, County Lines, Self-Harm. The Safeguarding in Education team deliver fortnightly workshops covering a wide variety of topics, these are advertised weekly in Wythnos Nesaf. A training session on CSE and CSA was delivered in the summer term 2021.

In Carmarthenshire LA school safeguarding officers have accessed specialist training from the Lucy Faithfull Foundation on CSE, CSA, digital resilience and HSB - whole school and DSP training has been reviewed in light of this to include a wider discussion about sexual abuse. Whole school and DSP training includes information on listening to children and how to respond to disclosures. A specialist sexual abuse support agency (New Pathways) has provided specialised training to DSPs on CSA.

In Ceredigion Nominated Child Protection Officer for Education attends the MACSE every quarter and sharing all relevant learning with DSP's. CSE/CSA and e-safety folders on the Safeguarding Teams Page for Schools, and is updated regularly with resources which are accessible at any time. Awareness raising for CSA/CSE is carried out as part of the Child Protection Level 2 training. Lucy Faithful foundation training is in the process of being arranged for the autumn term. Many of the Secondary DSP's have attended Police INTACT training in relation to County Lines / child criminal exploitation. 7-Minute Briefing on HSB has been shared with Schools.

The Board has undertaken a comprehensive review of the regional MACE terms of reference, and updated these to align and correspond with the latest research. MACE meetings now adopt a more strategic approach and oversight of exploitation, and have been widened to include other forms of exploitation, e.g. child criminal exploitation. The Board is actively working on a new Exploitation Strategy for the region.

Resources developed through the National Action Plan and online safety resources been promoted across partner agencies in the region. A 7-Minute Briefing on HSB has been developed and widely promoted regionally and placed on our website. Safeguarding Children from Child Sexual Exploitation (Welsh Government, 2021), Volume 7, has been promoted and a 7-minute briefing on it has been produced. Information from Children's Society and National Police Chief's Council online grooming has been widely promoted and shared across

	Health Boards.
<b>Gwent</b>	<p>The Centre of Expertise CSA facilitated two workshops on their latest research, as part of our National Safeguarding Week in November 2020. The Centre also facilitated two, 1-day courses for 50 practitioners in January and March 2021. The feedback from these was extremely positive both on the day and from formal evaluations that followed. Another date for 50 practitioners has been booked for July 2021 and the Board intend to commission further days throughout the next year.</p> <p>Webinar workshops on the subject of contextual safeguarding were commissioned from a researcher at Cardiff University. These took place mostly in March 2021. Contextual safeguarding is one of the Board's strategic priorities for 2020-2023. The Board also held a webinar on the subject of Girls and Gangs, which linked to the use of the NRM in May 2021 and this is due to be repeated in July 2021.</p> <p>The information, resources and web links detailed in the CSA National Action Plan have been collated into a regional CSA resource pack published on the website and circulated to all members of South East Wales Safeguarding Children's Board in March 2021. There is now a dedicated CSA section with information for professionals on the Gwent Safeguarding website. A 7 minute briefing on CSA was completed and circulated to all Board partners. A CSA process aide memoire has been developed to assist frontline practitioners if they have suspicions about CSA or a disclosure about CSA is made. This was circulated to targeted frontline practitioners in January 2021.</p> <p>On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 the Gwent Exploitation toolkit was launched (after being successfully piloted in one Local Authority) and is now being used regionally. We plan to evaluate the impact of this new tool on practice once it has been embedded. Exploitation is one of the Board's strategic priorities for 2020-2023.</p> <p>Our Engagement and Communication Group are planning to incorporate an eye catching generic CSA Comms campaign which collates all Gwent Safeguarding Board produced CSA resources into one place and can also link to useful external resources previously sent to us by Welsh Government, the CSA Centre of Expertise, Barnardo's, NSPCC and Lucy Faithful. This should tie in with the national Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week in February 2022.</p> <p>Resources developed through the National Action Plan and Online safety have been promoted across the region. IICSA evidence including reports from the Truth Project have been promoted with Board partners across the region</p>

	<p>as well as reports from the Centre of Expertise on CSA. VAWDASV and Home Office resources have also been promoted and as well as contextual safeguarding resources.</p>
<b>North Wales</b>	<p>The implementation of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures and the accompanying All Wales Practice Guides is a priority area for the Board.</p> <p>Significant Board investment in relation to the number of workshops held on the Wales Safeguarding Procedures within the region. The workshops also highlighted the practice guides.</p> <p>The Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse has been working with a local authority in the region to pilot multi-agency practice leads training, learning from the pilot will be shared at Welsh Government CASE Conference as part of National Safeguarding Week in November 2021.</p>
<b>West Glamorgan</b>	<p>The Board commissioned training from Stop it Now/Lucy Faithfull foundation which was run in March 2021. The training sessions covered understanding child sexual abusers, promoting positive pathways for young people who have exhibited harmful sexual abuse.</p> <p>The Board also hosted a launch event to promote the Wales Safeguarding Procedures and All Wales Practice Guides.</p> <p>Training has also been provided on dealing with disclosures of sexual violence</p>

<b>A14. Develop an exemplar corporate safeguarding policy in partnership with the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) for consideration by Safeguarding Board Partners.</b>	<b>Welsh Government</b>
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The Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) represents the interests of local government and promotes local democracy in Wales. Its primary purposes are to promote better local government, to promote its reputation and to support authorities in the development of policies and priorities which will improve public services and democracy. The WLGA has played a crucial role throughout the Covid-19 pandemic in supporting local authorities through the unprecedented challenges of responding to the pandemic. This has had an obvious impact on capacity.

While this work is now overdue a plan to progress the work has been agreed between the Welsh Government and the WLGA and will be complete by the end of the 2021-2022 financial year at the latest.

<b>A18.Promote resources with information for children on safe ways to speak out about abuse.</b>	<b>Safeguarding Board partners.</b>
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<b>Safeguarding Boards</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>Cardiff and the Vale</b>	Information for children in schools was launched as part of National Safeguarding Week 2019 and via Safeguarding Education Group (all 22 LAs).  Welsh Government commissioned resources from Childline/NSPCC have been promoted across the region.
<b>Cwm Taf Morgannwg</b>	The Stop it Now Partner Pack which includes information for children on safe ways to speak out about abuse has been circulated to the Board and its partners, with the information and materials being uploaded to the Boards website, Facebook and Twitter account and included in the e-bulletin.

	<p>The NSPCC/Childline leaflet – ‘You have the right to be safe’ leaflet and safeguarding posters on supporting children and young people to ‘speak out’ have also been promoted.</p>
<p><b>CYSUR (Mid and West)</b></p>	<p>The Safeguarding Boards website now has a Resource Hub with information specifically for <a href="#">children</a> and also a page for <a href="#">parents and carers</a> with specific sections on relationships and on CSA/CSE. A separate page is in development for young people with resources more suited to their particular age group.</p> <p>Education Safeguarding Leads have widely utilised and further promoted key resources and the information available on HWB, making this information available within schools and sharing with parents and carers.</p> <p>We have made strong links with Cwm Taf Morgannwg, who have developed their own curriculum, which will be piloted in September and we plan to move forward with the development of the new curriculum.</p> <p>We have submitted a regional bid, in partnership with Inspiring Minds, to deliver regional provision of the ‘Healing Together’ programme. This programme is specifically aimed at working with CYP who have experiences/ witnessed VAWDASV, and their families. It is a trauma informed approach and works on emotional awareness.a</p> <p>Education Safeguarding Leads from the four local authorities are working with our VAWDASV Regional Adviser to inform recommendations based on current good practice. This has included specific training delivered to education staff around appropriate responses to disclosure of DV and SV- ensuring CYP were signposted to appropriate support.</p> <p>We have participated in several social media campaigns centred on CSA, including the national This Is Not Okay campaign. Information and resources were shared on CYSUR’s <a href="#">Facebook</a> page as well as <a href="#">Twitter</a> and <a href="#">Instagram</a>, as a more effective means of reaching young people. This included the posters in this <a href="#">link</a> from WG.</p>
<p><b>Gwent</b></p>	<p>School resources for children were launched as part of National Safeguarding Week 2019 and via Safeguarding Education Group (all 22 LAs).</p>

	<p>Resources have also been promoted to all members of South East Wales Safeguarding Children’s Board at the time of this launch. They have also been passed onto our Engagement and Communication Sub Group for their CSA awareness raising Campaign due to take place in February 2022</p> <p>These have been sent to our education safeguarding leads and it has been confirmed that these were forwarded on to schools in each of the 5 Local Authorities.</p> <p>Previously the Engagement &amp; Communication Sub Group developed leaflets and posters, relating to abuse. These are published on our Gwent Safeguarding website. These leaflets / posters were also shared at our Young Peoples Conference in October 2019.</p>
<b>North Wales</b>	<p>As part of National Safeguarding Week in 2019 – a number of events highlighted the development of the resources that are available to schools. The NWSB business unit has sent a reminder to schools in the area around the Stop it Now! Posters.</p> <p>We are particularly focusing in on specific areas such as Independent Schools and Home Educated Children. Further information is being sent to these target groups. Presentations at the recent NWSCB included Safeguarding in Independent Schools and review of data in respect of Home Educated Children.</p>
<b>West Glamorgan</b>	<p>All partner agencies are aware of the National Action Plan. All have been encouraged to raise awareness of CSA through the already available resources i.e. NSPCC PANTS campaign etc.</p> <p>The NSPCC and Children’s Society are working with the Safeguarding Board to support the promotion of information and the delivery of the Action Plan. The Action plan is now a standard agenda item of the Quality Practice Group and will be driven forward across the region – for example, the resources were promoted at a launch event for the Wales Safeguarding Procedures with 350.</p> <p>The Junior Safeguarding Board is supporting delivery of the Action Plan i.e. cascading information across schools, clubs, groups etc.</p>

**A19. Develop resources for children on what will happen if they tell an adult they are being abused.**

Welsh Government

The Welsh Government commissioned the NSPCC/Childline to develop information for children and young people to support disclosure and let them know what will happen if they tell an adult they have been/are being abused. These were published on the Childline site on 7 September 2020.

[Getting Help To Keep Safe \(under12\) | Childline](#)

[Getting help to keep safe \(over12\)| Childline](#)

They are also available on the Hwb [Confidential support - Keeping safe online - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](#)

Dr Sophie Hallett, Cardiff University was commissioned to develop a short animation is designed for young people [Keeping Safe? short film for young people - YouTube](#).

The animation is based on the research messages from young people, and from carers and practitioners too. It was developed in partnership with young people from Voices from Care. The words you see and hear are theirs.

We have also published Easy Read and Youth Friendly versions of new CSE guidance: [Safeguarding children from child sexual exploitation | GOV.WALES](#)

**A27. Support the development of a national Service Specification for Sexual Assault Referral Centre services in Wales with the NHS Wales Health Collaborative taking into consideration a range of child-centred practice models.**

Welsh Government

NHS has played a central role in the national response to the Covid-19 pandemic, and the prioritisation of work and redeployment of staff were a necessary part of the response to the public health emergency. This has had a significant impact on capacity.

However, a Sexual Assault Referral Services Programme of work has recently been taken back into the NHS Collaborative for oversight and leadership from Cardiff and Vale UHB. The new model will be staged in three phases: phase 1 focuses on the implementation of the SARC hubs for children and adults, establishment of the Operational Delivery Network and commissioning roles, and has been approved (including funding). Further work will be required on phase 2 (spokes) and phase 3 (forensic medical examiner provision).

Since decisions on the new model were agreed in 2019, new standards for forensic medical examination have been published and, whilst these require staged implementation between October 2020 and 2023, there is a major milestone to be met by January 2022 at the very latest for all SARC buildings to meet the requirements.

ISO accreditation standards are currently being worked towards and have to be met by October 2023 with next major milestone being a requirement for all SARC buildings to meet standards by January 2022. An interim solution is planned for the Cardiff and Aberystwyth SARCS as the new builds will not be completed within timescales.

Connections have been made Trauma Stress Wales (TSW) which aims is to use evidence based treatments to help reduce impact of traumatic events. Consideration will be given to the evaluation of the Child House Model and how this could inform our approach in Wales

<b>A30. Promote evidence and learning from the Welsh Government funded Gwella project</b>	<b>Welsh Government</b>
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A successful Gwella Digital Conference 2020 was held on 15 October with over 600 delegates registering for the online event. The presentations and workshops from the day are available on demand once you register at the site. Resources are also available.

[On-Demand Presentations | Barnardos \(barnardoscymruhub.org.uk\)](#)

[Resources | Barnardos \(barnardoscymruhub.org.uk\)](#)

**A32. Develop age appropriate resources for children coming up to the age of 18 years on accessing support as adult survivors of abuse.**

**Welsh Government**

This work has been unavoidably delayed as a result of staffing changes. However Welsh Women's Aid have been commissioned to develop the resource as part of their wider VAWDASV and Live Fear Free work for the Welsh Government. We will aim to launch the resource as part of work during National Safeguarding Week, November 2021 at the latest.

### **3. Conclusion**

The Covid-19 pandemic has had an obvious and significant impact on those challenged with delivering actions under this Plan. Safeguarding Boards and their partners have been at the centre of the national response to the pandemic. The regional Safeguarding Boards have undertaken crucial additional work to retain a focus on safeguarding as a priority for services throughout the pandemic and to raise awareness with the public about seeking help during periods of lockdown. The third sector have also played an important role in supporting people through the pandemic and in contributing to national work to monitor and understand the impact of Covid-19 arrangements on children, young people and their families.

The pandemic has resulted in a delayed reporting period for Period 2 of the Plan. However, as this progress report sets out much has been achieved. The Safeguarding Boards have delivered against the actions set for them and developed additional work in response to the call to action on preventing and responding to child sexual abuse. The third sector has also played an important role in the delivery of the Plan, bringing expertise to the development of resources commissioned by the Welsh Government.

The Welsh Government has delivered 10 of the 13 actions set for this period. The delayed delivery of three Welsh Government actions is disappointing but has been unavoidable for reasons set out above. However, work is progressing on these actions and on the actions for Period 3 of the Plan which ends on 30 June 2022. A national conference is planned for National Safeguarding Week in November 2021 and this will provide an opportunity to highlight the important work on child sexual abuse and exploitation that has been developed to date and share learning.

As set out in the Plan, following the end of Period 3 the Welsh Government will publish a review of progress on the delivery of the Plan and engage with the Safeguarding Boards and other stakeholders on any next steps. The Welsh Government has been

engaged with and has provided formal evidence to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse [IICSA Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse](#) prior to and throughout the development and delivery of the Plan. IICSA will formally report the inquiry findings in 2022 and this too will be a central consideration in planning future work on preventing and responding to child sexual abuse.