

Agenda



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Date: Friday, 26 April 2024

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Committee Room 7 / Microsoft Teams Meeting

To: Councillors P Hourahine (Chair), B Davies, G Horton, P Bright, C Baker-Westhead, S Cocks, M Evans and L James

Item	Wards Affected
1 <u>Apologies</u>	
2 <u>Declarations of Interest</u>	
3 <u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u> (Pages 3 - 6)	
4 <u>Corporate Safeguarding Annual Report 2023-24</u> (Pages 7 - 32) a) Officer presentation b) Committee questioning and discussion c) Formation of comments and recommendations	
5 <u>Scrutiny Adviser Reports</u> (Pages 33 - 38) a) Actions Arising (Appendix 1)	

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Date of Issue: Friday, 19 April 2024

All meeting recordings can be found [here](#).

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Minutes



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Date: 8 March 2024

Time: 10.00 am

Present: Councillors P Hourahine (Chair), B Davies, G Horton, C Baker-Westhead, S Cocks, M Evans and L James

In Attendance: Rhys Cornwall (Strategic Director - Transformation and Corporate Centre), Tracy McKim (Head of People, Policy and Transformation), Daniel Cooke (Property Manager), Janice Dent (Policy and Partnership Manager), Donald Mutale (Senior Equalities Officer), Sarah Davies (Head of Asset Management and Valuation – Newport Norse), Cllrs Debbie Harvey (Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing), Stephen Marshall (Cabinet Member for Social Services – Childrens Services) and Jason Hughes (Cabinet Member for Social Services – Adult Services).

Samantha Schanzer (Scrutiny Adviser), Taylor Strange (Governance Officer) and Simon Richards (Governance Officer)

Apologies: Councillors P Bright

1 Declarations of Interest

None.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on **30th January 2024** were **accepted as a true and accurate record.**

3 Strategic Asset Rationalisation Plan 2023-28

Invitees: Rhys Cornwall (Strategic Director Transformation and Corporate)
Tracy McKim (Head of People, Policy and Transformation)
Sarah Davies (Head of Asset Management and Valuation – Newport Norse)
Daniel Cooke (Property Manager)
Councillor Laura Lacey (Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Assets)

The Head of People, Policy and Transformation (PPT) introduced the report. The Head of Asset Management for Newport Norse gave a presentation on the Newport City Council (NCC) estate.

The following was discussed:

- The Committee felt the Plan clearly stated its ambition to achieve net zero in NCC buildings as soon as possible. The Strategic Director informed Committee of the draft decarbonisation policy, which would form part of the overarching Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP).
- The Committee asked whether funding opportunities arose from Climate Change projects. The Strategic Director informed the Committee that the team are effective in obtaining funding and Newport received significant funding from the Welsh Government. The Strategic Director informed the Committee that there was a large amount grant funding available, but that it wasn't the prime source of funding and was driven by the 2030 target date for Newport becoming net zero.
- The Committee felt that the Plan was clear and concise and queried what happened under the previous Plan. The Head of PPT informed the Committee that the previous SAMP was dated and didn't reflect the impact of the pandemic. They informed the Committee that comments could be included regarding the previous SAMP in the Cabinet report. They informed Committee that this item would be considered by Cabinet in May and reported annually thereafter. The Strategic Director agreed that a review of the previous SAMP could be provided to Committee. The Cabinet Member informed Committee that the Asset Rationalisation Programme is discussed in monthly briefings. They agreed that the Plan was clear and concise but appreciated its complexity and reassured Committee of its' continuous review to ensure it is fit for purpose. They agreed that the previous Plan should be considered in the development of the new Plan.
- The Committee felt that comments and recommendations made on the previous Plan should be reflected upon and fed back to the Committee.
- The Committee asked how the Plan would work in practice and were unsure how the target date of 2026 would be reached. The Head of PPT clarified that the Plan would set out the principles on the way of working but there was also an annual schedule of works to achieve this target. They highlighted that delivery would be monitored through Service Plans and could be included in the annual SAMP report but there was work underway to modify the scheme of delegation and Constitution to ensure alignment with the Plan.

Conclusions:

- The Committee thanked Officers for the clear and concise presentation of the report and its policies.
- The Committee requested an information report to summarise the previous actions and outcomes under the 2018 SAMP. They also felt that this information needed to be referenced in the 2024-28 Plan to provide background information and context. The Committee requested information as to what the previous recommendations under the 2018 Plan were and whether they were implemented.
- The Committee recommended that the Plan be presented to Scrutiny on an annual basis and should include an Annual Delivery Plan.

4 Strategic Equalities Plan 2024-28

Invitees: Tracy McKim (Head of People, Policy and Transformation),
 Janice Dent (Policy and Partnership Manager),
 Donald Mutale (Senior Equalities Officer),
 Councillor Dimitri Batrouni (Cabinet Member for Organisational Transformation)

The Head of People, Policy and Transformation introduced the report. The Policy and Partnership Manager and Senior Equalities Officer (SEO) gave an overview.

The following was discussed:

- The Committee agreed that the Consultation Report would not be considered.
- The Committee enquired who the intended audience was for the report as it was quite high-level and were concerned it may not be accessible for residents. The SEO informed Committee that they have considered this and that there would be an easy read version as well as the final plan being translated into Welsh and Community languages.
- The Committee enquired whether something would be produced for younger residents to provide them with an understanding of NCC priorities. The SEO informed the Committee that Newport Youth Council were consulted as a focus group and helped inform the Plan. They highlighted continued work with Newport Youth Council to promote the Plan to other youth groups and communities. The Committee recommended that it should include a graphic or something short to drive engagement.
- The Committee were concerned about elderly residents experiencing digital exclusion. They felt that this had not been addressed within the report as there was a focus on digital improvement. The Policy and Partnership Manager informed Committee that this Plan linked to the Digital Strategy and wider pieces of work to ensure residents were able to engage with the Council but acknowledged the concern.
- The Committee enquired how this Plan would be reviewed. The Policy and Partnership Manager informed Committee that performance would be reported on annually and a new Plan would be presented at the end of the period.
- The Committee queried whether the consultation highlighted any areas of concern which affected the Plan. The SEO informed the Committee that they have amended Equality Objective 2 to include actions to reduce barriers to digital access and changed the objective to include digital inclusion as well as customer services and access. They informed Committee that when developing Equality Objective 5, actions were developed around attainment gaps for vulnerable learners. They felt there should be a stronger focus on disability so included actions in Equality Objective 6 to reflect this and other actions throughout the plan for promotion of disability inclusion.
- The Committee were pleased that Newport Youth Council were consulted but noted that they might not be wholly representative of Newport's young people. They asked whether a direct consultation in schools could take place. The Policy and Partnership Manager informed Committee that a breakdown of who had been involved in the consultation by demographic could be provided and that they had co-ordinated with schools. The SEO informed Committee that they had consulted with a wide range of equality stakeholders but all public bodies were consulting on their equality plans which has resulted in consultation fatigue.
- The Committee noted the importance of service delivery being data driven and felt it would be helpful to include data to support successes or challenges. The Head of PPT informed Committee that the plan committed to show that decisions were driven by data which can be seen in FEIAs. They agreed to look at providing more data to support information.

- The Committee struggled to see progress with more qualitative than quantitative data. They felt that Equality Objective 6 was a broad category and struggled to see how it could be quantified. The Policy and Partnership Manager informed the Committee that there would be deliverables under objectives for performance monitoring. They highlighted these would be included in the annual report. The Head of PPT informed Committee that the annual report for the previous plan would be coming to the Committee in September 2024 and could include reference to the new Plan.
- The Committee enquired about the barriers for residents to access sports and how would success be measured. The Policy and Partnership Manager informed Committee that barriers could change, and new barriers emerge, so it required continuous review. They highlighted ensuring the new leisure centre being built was managed in an accessible way and success would be measured through the delivery plan. They noted that equal opportunities were not about treating everyone the same but giving everyone the ability to access the same services or opportunities. The SEO informed Committee that WG action plans had recently been published and the Plan had been aligned. The Cabinet Member informed the Committee that the aspiration was bold but was keen to be data-driven and evidence-based for accountability.

Conclusions:

- The Committee recommend more promotion of this plan with young people – either as a shortened/more accessible report, or a graphic etc.
- The Committee recommend using data to reinforce successes or challenges where it is meaningful in annual reports.
- The Committee recommend that the final Strategic Equalities Plan Annual Report for 2023/24 includes a summary of work done within the plan period.
- The Committee emphasised the importance of accessibility for residents with low digital skills, elderly residents or those who do not choose to engage with the Council digitally.

5 Scrutiny Adviser Reports

a) Forward Work Programme Update

The Scrutiny Adviser noted no changes.

b) Actions Arising

The Scrutiny Adviser noted that there were no new actions.

6 Meeting Recording

[Click here to watch the meeting recording.](#)

The meeting terminated at 11.11 am



Scrutiny Report

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: April 2024

Subject Annual Corporate Safeguarding Report

Author Scrutiny Adviser

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Finn Madell	Head of Corporate Safeguarding
Mary Ryan	Head of Adult Services
Natalie Poyner	Head of Children’s Services
Sally Ann Jenkins	Strategic Director for Social Services
Cllr Stephen Marshall	Cabinet Member for Social Services (Job Share)
Cllr Jason Hughes	Cabinet Member for Social Services (Job Share)

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1. Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to

1. Consider the Annual Corporate Safeguarding Executive Summary report, to scrutinise and review the progress of the key priority work plans for both corporate safeguarding arrangements and the safeguarding self- assessment findings for the whole Council.
2. Determine if it wishes to make any comment / recommendations to Cabinet regarding the report and the how the Council is managing corporate safeguarding.

2. Context

Background

2.1. This is the seventh review of the Annual Corporate Safeguarding Report.

- 2.2. As Elected Members, and Scrutiny Members, the Committee has an important role in considering the arrangements that the Council has in place for Safeguarding, Corporately and for those in direct contact with vulnerable groups.
- 2.3. In order for the authority to comply with the [Social Services and Wellbeing \(Wales\) Act 2014](#), change to culture and practice has been required. This has seen a move toward social care that 'promotes the wellbeing of people and carers who need care and/or support'.
- 2.4. Respecting the wishes of the committee to provide only streamlined and targeted information within the report (February 2021), revisions to the format and data presented have been made to this report. Therefore, the changes are as follows;
- Safeguarding team specific plans are no longer reported, only where key issues are identified will these be shared with members for their scrutiny.
 - The following report structure will be presented:
 - Scrutiny Recommendations (from previous reporting year)
 - Safeguarding Training Data and outcomes
 - Developments this year, including a review of the Corporate Safeguarding Work Plan
 - Key data for Safeguarding
 - Annual Review of Newport City Council Corporate Safeguarding Self -Assessment Audit (New 2021)
 - Future Work, Areas of stress/ risk, and Recommendations
 - Corporate Safeguarding Work Plan (Current/ Future Year)
 - Resource Implications
- 2.5. Scrutiny have previously been advised of the new and increased number of Quality Standards (Key Performance Indicators) associated with 'Safeguarding' required to be reported to Welsh Government from April 2021 (from 3 to 26). As scrutiny of that data remains the responsibility of Scrutiny for the Annual Director's Report for Social Services, there is no expectation on members of this group to formally comment on the data however, where possible, a selection of this data has been shared for context purposes when considering how effective safeguarding performance is being achieved within Council services.

Previous Consideration of Corporate Safeguarding

- 2.6. The Committee previously considered this item at the last Scrutiny Committee review in [June 2023](#). It went to Cabinet in [June 2023](#) and Council in [July 2023](#).

3. Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1. Attached at **Appendix 1** is the Corporate Safeguarding Annual Report 2023-24. It includes appendices for:
- Case studies
 - A glossary of terms
 - A draft policy statement and
 - A final safeguarding policy statement.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

- 4.1. **Role of the Committee**

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- Establish whether associated key priorities and themes are appropriately addressed within the Action Plan (2023/2024) and planned actions are geared to meet the objectives within the timescale concerned.
- Determine whether there are any perceived areas of practice where objectives are not effectively addressed or met (both Corporate or within specific work plans of the Safeguarding Board)
- Consider whether an adequate monitoring and performance management framework and measures are in place to ensure an appropriate level of management on an ongoing basis and to consider possible arrangements for the Committee to implement.
- Work towards a parity of approach with corporate safeguarding colleagues across the region to implement joint Wales Audit Office recommendations and Welsh Government Corporate Safeguarding guidance to enable bench marking.
- Consider the level of planning and future provision of suitable training through a range of opportunities for Members in their roles as Councillors and Members of Scrutiny Committees.

4.2. Suggested Lines of Enquiry

- What are the main challenges that we face as an authority in Safeguarding and what are we doing to combat them?
- Has training data improved since the previous reporting cycle?
- What work has been completed to encourage training to be completed?

4.3. Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

5 Ways of Working	Types of Questions to consider:
<p>Long-term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</p>	<p>Can the Officers provide actions to any of the Amber and Red</p> <p>Are there any long term trends developing that could affect how this plan is implemented to how the actions are prioritised?</p>
<p>Prevention Prevent problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	<p>How are you ensuring that the needs of the service users monitored and are taken into account when developing the long term strategy?</p>
<p>Integration Considering how public bodies' wellbeing objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.</p>	<p>How does the Council's implementation of the plan impact upon the services of other public bodies and their objectives?</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Collaboration</p> <p>Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself).</p>	<p>How are you using the knowledge / information / good practice of others to inform / influence the Council's work?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Involvement</p> <p>The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.</p>	<p>How as a Council are we ensuring we are consistently seeking the views of those who are impacted through the implementation of the plan?</p> <p>While developing a long term strategy, how are you ensuring the diverse communities are involved in your decision making?</p>

Section B – Supporting Information

5. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Well-being Objective	1 – Economy, Education and Skills	2 – Newport's Environment and Infrastructure	3 – Preventative and Equitable Community and Social Care	4 – An Inclusive, Fair and Sustainable Council
Aims:	Newport is a thriving and growing city that offers excellent education and aspires to provide opportunities for all.	A city that seeks to protect and enhance our environment whilst reducing our carbon footprint and preparing for a sustainable and digital future.	Newport is a supportive city where communities and care are at the heart of what we do.	Newport City Council is an inclusive organisation that places social value, fairness and sustainability at its core.

6. Background Papers

Include all additional documents that are referenced in the report, and those that you have used as background reading. Hyperlink to online versions of them if available.

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan 2022-27](#)
- [Social Services and Wellbeing \(Wales\) Act 2014](#)
- [Children \(Wales\) Act 2020](#)

Report Completed: April 2023

Scrutiny Report



Part 1

Date:

Subject Corporate Safeguarding Annual Report

Purpose For Scrutiny and Cabinet Members to scrutinise, critique and comment on the Corporate Safeguarding Annual Report

Proposal To present an updated corporate safeguarding report, which monitors, scrutinises and objectively plans on the theme of “safeguarding” being fundamentally embedded within all aspects of council services, functions and duties.

To provide Scrutiny with essential and key information to allow effective scrutiny of the Councils’ safeguarding practice.

To update Cabinet members on the work undertaken to improve arrangements for safeguarding and protecting children and adults who require specific Council services and to ensure that these arrangements are effective.

To scrutinise and review the progress of “safeguarding” being embedded within Council services, and to scrutinise and review the effectiveness of the proposed work plan for corporate safeguarding arrangements.

Author Head of Corporate Safeguarding
Ward City wide

Summary This is the seventh review of the annual corporate safeguarding report. Further revisions to the format and data presented within this annual report have been made and it is anticipated that due to further work with partner agencies such as the Gwent Safeguarding Board and advice from Welsh Government, a final version of the report model presented for Scrutiny will be agreed within the next two years.

This portfolio now sits with Finn Madell who came into post in January 2022. Respecting the wishes of the committee to provide only streamlined and targeted information within the report (February 2021), revisions to the format and data presented have been made to this report. Therefore the changes are as follows;

- Safeguarding team specific plans are no longer reported, only where key issues are identified will these be shared with members for their scrutiny.
- The following report structure will be presented:
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- Scrutiny have previously been advised of the new and increased number of Quality Standards (Key Performance Indicators) associated with 'Safeguarding' required to be reported to Welsh Government from April 2021 (from 3 to 26). As scrutiny of that data remains the responsibility of Scrutiny for the Annual Director's Report for Social Services, there is no expectation on members of this group to formally comment on the data however, where possible, a selection of this data has been shared for context purposes when considering how effective safeguarding performance is being achieved within Council services.

Action by Head of Corporate Safeguarding

Timetable Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Service Managers
- Heads of Service

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Legislation and Scrutiny Recommendations (2021/2022)	
Safeguarding Training Data and Outcomes	
Developments this year (review of work plan)	
Key Data for Safeguarding	
Annual Review of Newport City Council Corporate Safeguarding Self -Assessment Audit.....	
Future Work, Areas of Stress/ Risk, and Recommendations	
Resource Implications (Employment and Financial)	
Appendices	

1. Legislation and Scrutiny Recommendations

1.1 Legislation and context

Safeguarding is a statutory duty. We are governed by legislation, statutory guidance and local policies and procedures to ensure that we all do what we can to keep children and adults at risk safe from harm and risk of harm. The Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 is clear in its expectation that the child/young person/adult must be at the centre of any safeguarding response and remain as much in control of decision making as possible. This person-centred approach is a critical element in the drive to ensure more personalised support that can only be offered by staff who fully recognise their roles and responsibilities concerning safeguarding.

As professionals and representatives of Newport City Council, we all have a legal duty to report any safeguarding concerns we may have. We are reminded that Safeguarding is Everyone's business. This report provides examples of how Newport City Council are embedding corporate safeguarding and helps to assure members of the pro-active arrangements which the local authority are undertaking in safeguarding provisions and service planning. The data within the report continues to evidence a rise in referrals to all front door pathways. The rise in part relates to better communication with and reporting from partner agencies, our own social work teams, and citizens of Newport. The rise in referrals is also suggestive of a more robust system which protects our citizens and again is a positive improvement in respect of safeguarding practices within Newport. However, the rise also reflects our improved knowledge and understanding of trauma and safeguarding, and increased complexity particularly for older children.

Newport City Council remains an active member of the "Gwent Safeguarding Board", which is an amalgamation of the two former age specific regional boards. Newport continues to host the regional Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) team and work closely with the regional Partnership Board (VAWDASVB). There has been a lot of work and engagement to look at Domestic Abuse and its clear link to safeguarding.

Newport officers are involved at all levels of the work of the boards. Heads of Children and Adult services are members at both Boards, the Head of Corporate Safeguarding for Newport is deputy chair of the Business Planning meeting for both boards and chairs the local safeguarding network meetings in Newport. The local safeguarding practitioner network meets in Newport bimonthly and is attended by all partner agencies working across Newport for Adults, Children, and specialist services. The local safeguarding network arranges 2 practitioner events per year, which are open to all practitioners in Newport. The events update practitioners on all local and regional developments such as learning/messages from Child/Adult practice reviews, new services and local developments, as well as introducing updated policies and/or procedures. The National Independent Safeguarding Board works alongside the regional boards to secure improvements in safeguarding policy and practice throughout Wales. All regional boards have duties and responsibilities to submit information to the National Independent Safeguarding Board.

1.2 Scrutiny Recommendations from 2023

- The Committee would like the data to be clear as the information in one section was misleading.
- The Committee recommended that Officers and training providers simplify training courses to ensure that they're accessible.
- The Committee felt that it would be beneficial for issues raised in reports to be highlighted in the following year's report to feedback progress and resolutions.
- The Committee were content with the work but would like a focus on outcomes.

2. Safeguarding Training Data and Outcomes

2.1 Compliance rates with mandatory training for all employees is variable. There are 3 specific mandatory courses with associated regulatory requirements for council employees to complete, these are the General Data Protection Regulations Training (GDPR); Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence and "Safeguarding Involves Us All- Awareness Training".

2.2 The mandatory safeguarding training is under development and will be available on a more accessible platform. There are significant changes to Safeguarding training with the launch of the National Safeguarding Training Standards Framework. The Framework was launched in National Safeguarding Week 2023. Its purpose is to address some of the issues regarding clarity of training needs, to be specific in terms of expectations and to provide a framework for training delivery and implementation.

2.3 Social Care Wales has been leading on the development of the national safeguarding training, learning and development standards. The standards have been co-produced by a multi-agency national development group as well as other groups focused on specific aspects of the work.

The standards were developed because there was no multi-agency, national standards for safeguarding training, learning and development in place. There will now be a tiered approach to safeguarding training, learning and development across organisations in Wales. There was confusion around the appropriate levels of safeguarding training, learning and development for the workforce. From this, there will now be a tiered approach to safeguarding.

Group A – this will be for everyone. They need to have a basic level of awareness of safeguarding and know how to report a concern. This will be mandatory and likely to be an improved E learning module.

Group B – this is for people who work directly with people. They should have a higher knowledge of safeguarding, know who to talk to if they notice something is wrong and how to report a concern.

Group C – this is for people who work directly with people and have safeguarding responsibilities. They need to be able to respond to safeguarding concerns.

The other groups are:

Group D – this is mainly for statutory agencies with higher-level decision-making powers.

Group E – this mainly consists of social services personnel in strategic leadership roles, along with their key statutory partners.

Group F – this includes all public sector leaders.

The implementation of this national framework does not have a starting date, but a national package should be rolled out by the end of 2024.

The proposed changes will mean that safeguarding training will be better targeted, notwithstanding the ongoing need for mandatory training. There will need to be some thought given to the best way to evidence the compliance within the groups A-F.

2.4 It is noted that 26 out of 51 Newport City Councillors have attended Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Training in September 2023. The PowerPoint Training slides from presentations are usually circulated to all members for information and for those that were not able to attend.

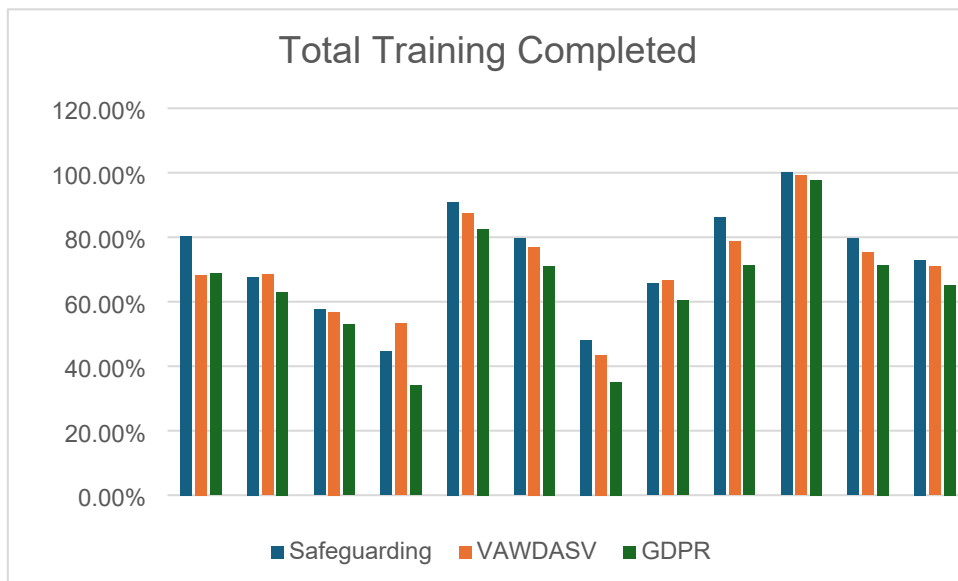
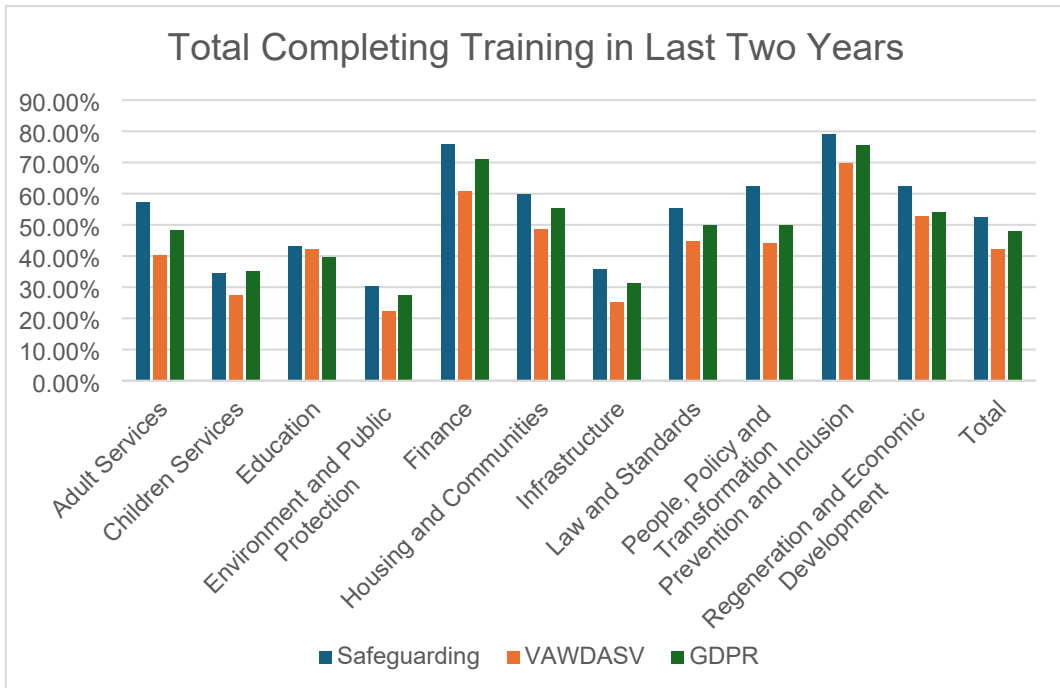
There is sometimes more than one date offered for councillors to attend the same training/presentation to make sure that most councillors attend, but this is also dependant on person providing the training having availability. There will be further developments on this matter in due course to ensure compliance, that the quality of training and delivery is appropriate for members. Group F is generally considered to be able to do Group A along with other bespoke training for this groups such as VAWDASV.

WLGA has recommended the Group A e-learning module as part of the induction for all new elected members. More details will be circulated when we have them.

2.5 It is respectfully acknowledged that Scrutiny Committee members requested half yearly updates in the training figures and that these were requested in percentage format. The reporting cycle for this report was brought forward at the request of the Strategic Director to better align with the Director's Report. This report therefore follows some 12 months from the last meeting with the Scrutiny Committee and the data is updated within. The graph shows the percentage of staff that have completed the mandatory training in the last 12-month period. The mandatory training for staff being Safeguarding training, Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Training (VAWDASV) and GDPR training.

2.6 Consideration to be given as to whether whistleblowing as mandatory training should also be recorded and shown within the annual safeguarding report as this relates closely to Safeguarding.

2.7 Mandatory safeguarding training needs to be refreshed every two years. The chart below shows good compliance but also that a high number of staff will need refresher training soon.



2.8 VAWDASV Training Data

NTF Group		Year Total	Year Staff %	Live / Roll out Total	Total Staff as of 07/03/24	Total Staff %	
eLearning	Group 1	855	14.87%	3263	5750	56.75%	This number is the total number of staff who have received Group 1 training. This is what WG have as a 100% Staff requirement under the NTF Statutory Guidance.
Ask and Act Awareness	Group 2	48	0.83%	558	5750	9.70%	This training is recommended for anyone who has a public facing role. The rolling total here is a total of staff trained from September 2016 - March 2024.
Ask and Act Champions	Group 3	4	0.07%	85	5750	1.48%	The NTF guidance states that Group 3 trained staff should be 10% of the number of Group 2 trained staff to function as a support service. We are currently just under target at 8.33%. However, another group 3 training is due to run 29th March which may improve the percentage further.
Senior/Strategic Leaders	Group 6	0	0.00%	70	5750	1.22%	This is solely aimed at the those in senior and strategic leadership positions. There have been no sessions run this year due to 30 attending last year and the vacant regional trainer post. There are additional resources for this Group via online YouTube videos, but these cannot be tracked. Group 6 will be delivered again in 2024/2025 as it run every 2 years.

Child and Adolescent Abusive Behaviours	2
Male Victims of Domestic Abuse Awareness	12
Understanding Child and Adolescent Abusive Behaviours	3
Understanding Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control	2
Understanding Effect of DA on Children	2
Understanding HBA, FM and FGM	1
Understanding MARAC and Risk	1
Understanding Perpetrators	2
Understanding Sexual Violence	1
Understanding the Effects of DA on Children	1
Working with Multiple or Co-Occurring Needs	3

The VAWDASV team have stated that their specialist additional training has had a low uptake across 2023/24 period however there was attendance by Newport employees to all courses offered. The VAWDASV team have has some staff shortages during 2023 but are now fully staffed and the training will be given a priority focus for 2024/25.

3. Developments this year

3.1 Children's Services Hub

The Children's Services Hub has seen further increased demand. This has been a focus and there is now additional resource being allocated to the team. This will create two teams that will work on a rota basis to be able to suitably manage the demand and give staff time to finish the referral checks and assessments that are time sensitive before looking at new referrals coming into the Hub. This is very welcomed by Children's Services and the impact of this will be monitored. The Hub will also have a representative from Prevention and Inclusion attending to look at referrals that could have needs met by this part of the service.

3.2 Adults IAA (Information, Advice and Assistance)

The recent restructure within adult services included developing 4 social work teams who manage all the assessment and services for those individuals with eligible needs for care and support. The 4 teams are generic ensuring that a widespread of expertise and experience is available throughout the city.

IAA is the first contact team. Cases are then moved into Managed Care when ongoing support needs are identified.

The Information Advice and Assistance / First Contact (IAA/FC) A robust service for all individuals, families and carers who require information advice or assistance. The service has strong links with adult safeguarding, community reablement and community connectors as well as Carers support.

To strengthen Newport City Council's safeguarding arrangements a single pathway for all adults at risk will be developed with the IAA service. This will bring greater consistency and best practice in meeting statutory duties under the Social Services Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014, and Part 7.

The single pathway for all adults at risk (duty to report) will be managed through one point of access to determine the initial action, assess the risk, and make s126 enquires. Dependent on the outcome will determine if the formal coordination of the Wales Safeguarding Procedures is required. This single pathway will also provide much needed resilience to a very small team.

The reliability of data will be stronger and more accurate for annual reports, and we will also be able to focus on emerging trends and areas that we may need to focus on as a council, for example if there is more financial abuse reported how we may consider tackling that

Due to recruitment and workforce pressures, it has taken longer than usual to recruit. The team will be fully staffed by June 2024 and work will continue to be developed on a single point of access for all adult safeguarding referrals.

The quality measures (performance indicators) for the Newport Safeguarding Hub are now the reporting responsibility of the Annual Director's Report for Social Services. However, as discussed there are safeguarding performance measures captured at The Safeguarding Hub which will be presented for Member's awareness to assure them of the authority's performance in terms of statutory responsibilities; Children's safeguarding processes (contacts/strategy discussions/ initial conferences); Adults at Risk (duty to

enquire); and the data around professional strategy meetings which will be presented here for overview.

3.3 Safeguarding Champions

Until recently, the Safeguarding Champions met biannually. This has now increased to quarterly and has been well received by the Champions. More regular meetings enables a more frequent flow of information and helps to keep Safeguarding in people's radar. This has proved to be invaluable to the Champions. It has also led to an improvement in the Self Assessment audit ratings. (Role profile for Safeguarding Champions and Designated Safeguarding lead in Appendix.)

Channel Panel (Prevent)

The Head of Corporate Safeguarding is now the Chair of the Channel Panel, previously vice Chair. This is a Prevent led process and looks at cases of radicalisation and extremism within Newport and relates to children and adults. This has strengthened awareness of vulnerability and safeguarding within Community Safety and Communities. We have seen that most referrals come from schools and relate to adolescent males in the main. Channel Panel meets monthly and key themes and trends tend to reflect national news stories.

3.4 Transitional safeguarding

This describes an approach to safeguarding adolescents and young adults fluidly across developmental stages which builds on the best available evidence, learning from both children's and adult safeguarding practice and which prepares young people for their adult lives. It is a model of safeguarding that does not stop because a child has become an adult as they have turned 18. We know that children who are exploited do not stop being exploited at 18. Exploiters know this too. Transitional safeguarding means that services and support continue without the confines of 'Children' or 'Adult' services safeguarding thresholds and that professionals remain involved with young people beyond the arbitrary cut off 18 years old. This approach is evidence based and is gathering momentum throughout the UK. The Gwent Safeguarding Board has recognised this and made it a key strategic priority in its 3-year development plan. Newport is leading the way with this work and piloting some of the implementation of this approach. Newport Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MASE) Meetings take place bi-monthly. In these meetings we use a VOLT (Victim, Offender, Location, Themes) to understand and assess risk of children who are known as victims of exploitation, or who are at risk of exploitation. The meetings are co-chaired between police and Children's Services. The meetings have been reviewed and improved and have assisted considerably with sharing the approach around Contextual Safeguarding. This is when the harm is not familial, but extra familial and taking place amongst adults and peers outside of the family home. The MASE meetings consider children in this cohort up to the age of 18. When a young person becomes 18, much of the statutory safeguarding stops. The risk to the young person does not. Soon, we intend to increase the age of young people being discussed at MASE up to the age of 25. This will prevent the 'cliff face' of support ceasing when someone becomes 18 years old. We know that the cohort of often vulnerable young people need more, not less support at this important life stage.

A workshop was held in mid-March with key stakeholders, this included the Head of Adult Services, children and adult social care managers and senior practitioners, senior representatives from Prevention and Inclusion, Housing, Police, Health and the Safeguarding Board. The aim of the workshop was to explore Transitional Safeguarding and what this could look like in Newport. The workshop evidenced that there was a will amongst stakeholders to support and explore this model to keep our most vulnerable young people safer as they approach adulthood. Good transitional support can prevent further harm, as well as identifying other types of harm such as Cuckooing/Home Takeovers. This is a cost effective way to keep citizens safe and a model that is gathering traction in the UK. A further Pan Wales workshop took place on the 17th April where Newport presented on the work thus far. This was well received and generated a lot of positive feedback on our approach to implementing this model.

3.5 Housing

Rough sleeper Taskforce

In the last year the Rough Sleeper Taskforce has been established. This was as a result of some tragic deaths in the rough sleeper community. The Taskforce meet fortnightly and worked on a Terms of Reference and a work plan. Separate Multi Disciplinary Meetings were also established to look jointly at the cohort of rough sleepers and their often acute, multi needs. This work has led to a greater shared understanding of the issues as well as better multi-disciplinary oversight of the gaps in provision and an action plan of short medium- and long-term solutions to better meet the often-complex needs of this of this vulnerable group where Safeguarding is often an issue.

3.6 Relationship with police and health

There are bi-monthly meetings with senior safeguarding leads in Police (Public Protection Unit) and Health. Here honest conversations are held and any issues that need to be escalated are discussed and resolved. It has been acknowledged that this working relationship is very positive, effective and constructive.

3.7 Safer Newport Community Safety Partnership

The Head of Corporate Safeguarding attends and contributes fully to these meetings. There have been separate meetings with the Chair to look at governance in relation to Contextual Safeguarding and the wider strategic oversight. This is now a part of the Safe Newport meeting structure.

Serious Violence Duty 2022

The Serious Violence Duty has now been implemented. Serious violence has a devastating impact on the lives of victims and families, instils fear within communities and is extremely costly to society. Incidents of serious violence have increased in England and Wales since 2014. The Duty is a key part of the Government's programme of work to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence: taking a multi-agency approach to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focusing on prevention and early intervention, and informed by evidence. The Duty aims to ensure that agencies are focussed on their activity to prevent and reduce serious violence whilst also providing sufficient flexibility so that the relevant organisations will engage and work together in the most effective local partnership for any given area.

In Newport we have worked collectively to coordinate a Strategic Needs Assessment, looking at Crime data and local data to help us to understand the needs and the vulnerabilities of citizens with three key considerations, all of which are linked to safeguarding.

- 1) Anti-Social Behaviour
- 2) Serious Violence
- 3) Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.

3.8 Human Resources

There has been a further revised “Use and Management of Volunteers Policy” has recently been published and includes:

- Guidance for managers on ensuring that all volunteers are onboarded to the organisation to ensure we have a central record in iTrent. This is the Human Resources recording system.
- Improved recruitment processes to attract and induct volunteers into the organisation.

The policy includes guidance on determining whether the volunteer requires a DBS check:

- One-off volunteering opportunities i.e. parent supporting a school trip – requires a DBS risk assessment.
- Regular volunteering i.e. books readers – requires DBS check

DBS statement will be included in any volunteer job description (where relevant)

All volunteers, as part of onboarding, will complete safeguarding training, in written format (to overcome the practicalities of non-staff accessing NHS portal)

The database of volunteers (in iTrent) will be kept under review in collaboration with appointing managers.

Further promotion of the revised policy has been sent to managers in April to ensure greater awareness within the organisation and compliance with recruitment processes to support safeguarding.

All staff

“Safeguarding Involves Us All” must now be refreshed every 2 years (approved by CMT as part of suite of mandatory training for staff and managers)

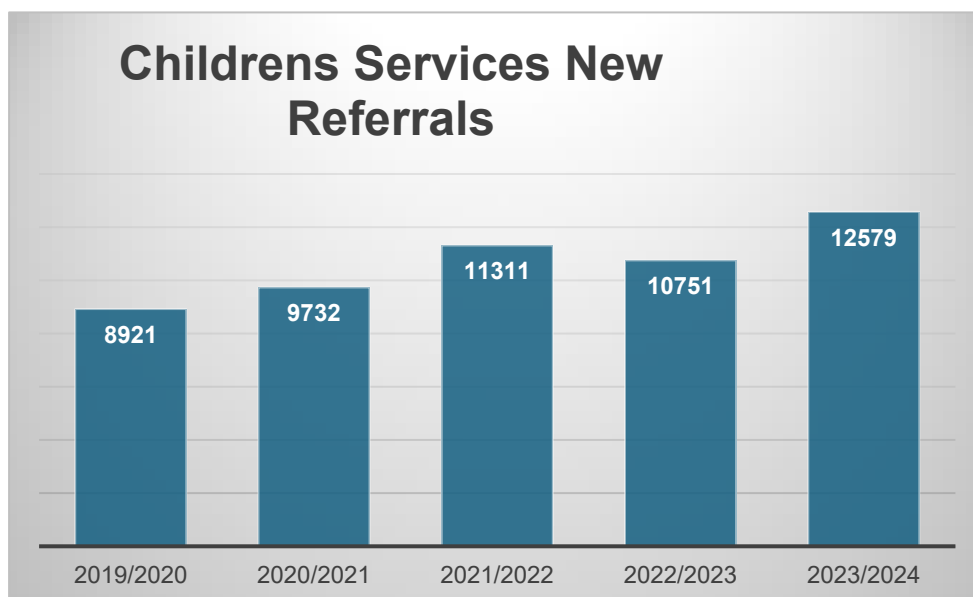
All other business as usual safeguarding work i.e. DBS processing, supporting Council with safeguarding issues (PSM etc.) continues.

3.9 Coroner Court lunch learn briefings.

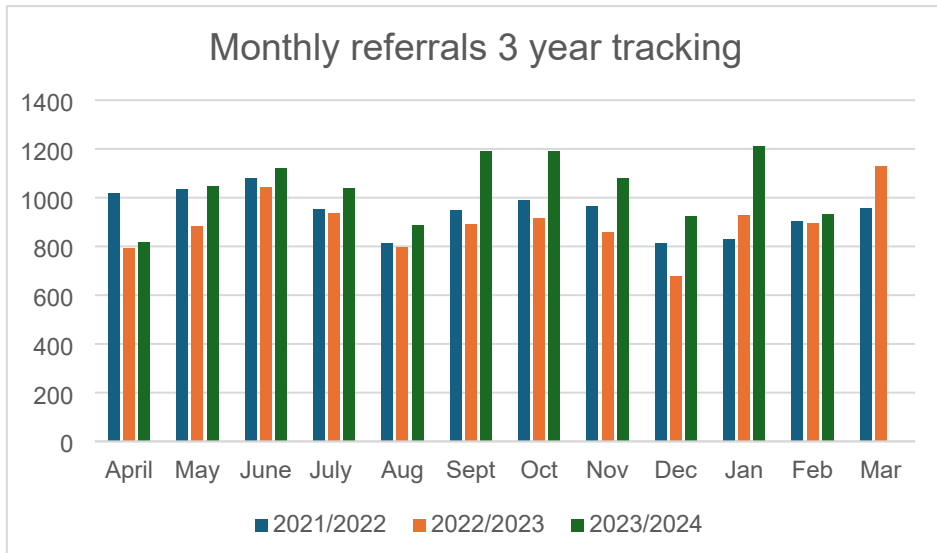
There are planned lunch and learn sessions in April for all social care staff to better understand the work of the Coroner’s Court. Staff are sometimes asked to write a statement for the Coroner’s Court and to attend an inquest. These sessions will be delivered by the Senior Coroner for Gwent and the Head of Corporate Safeguarding. They will help understand the work of the coroner’s court and the interface from social care.

4. Key Data for Safeguarding

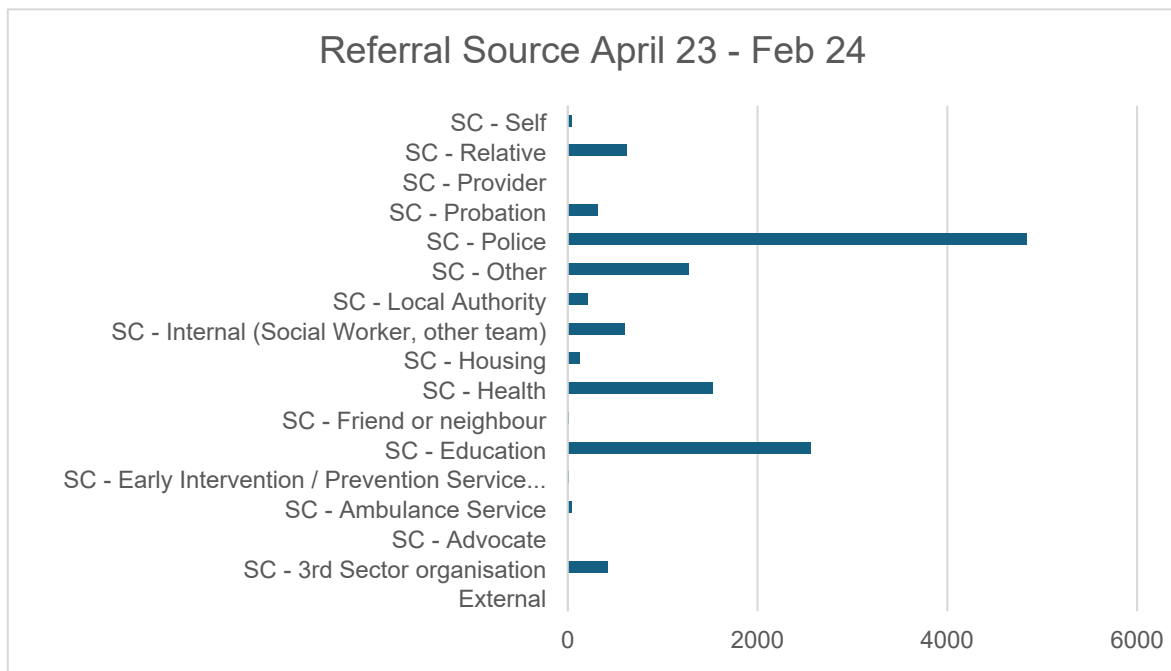
4.1 Referral Data



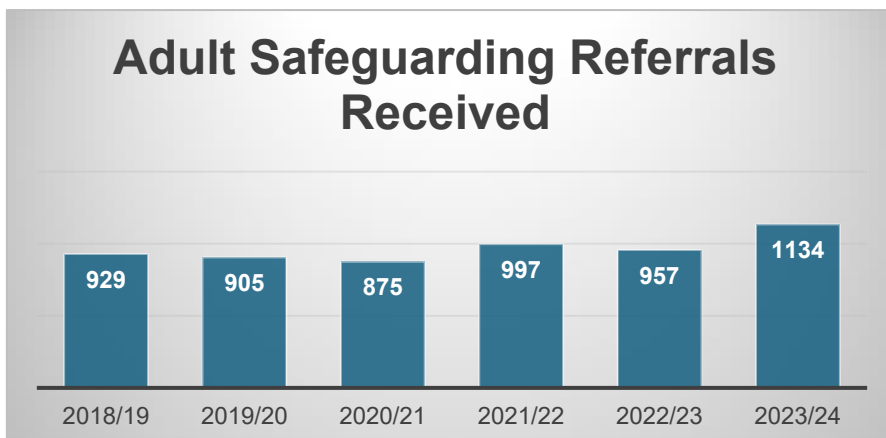
Children's services Referrals (note 2023/24 figures up to 29/2/24 i.e. exclude March)

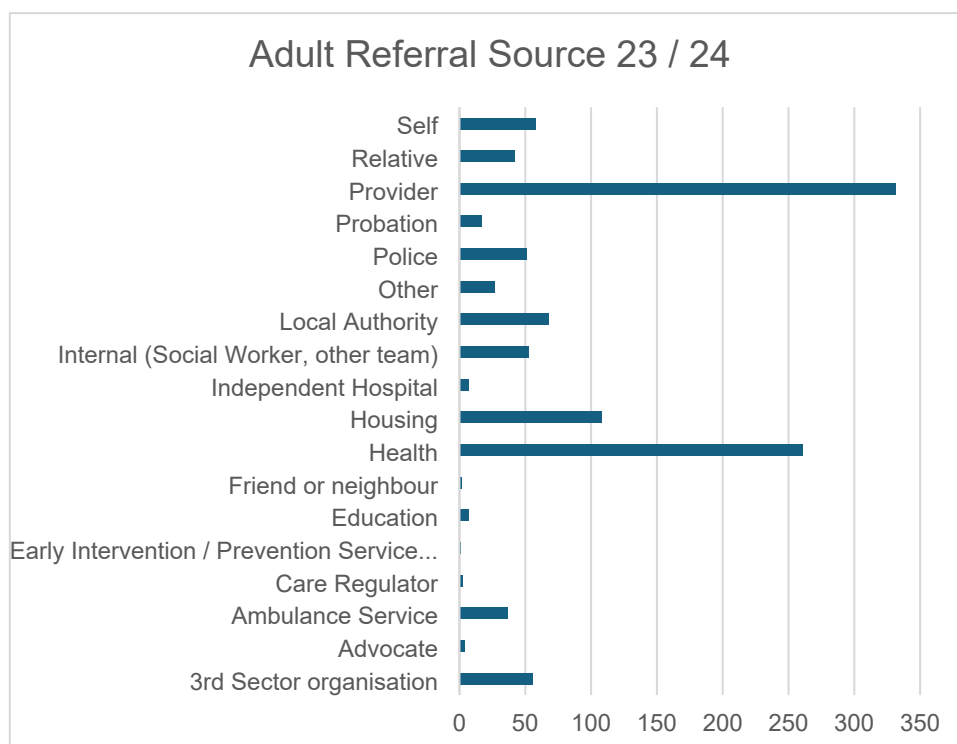


Childrens services referrals by month (no data for March 2024)



Children's services referral source (up to 29/2/2024)





4.2 Professional Strategy Meetings

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 s.128, specifies the duty placed on 'relevant partners' under section 162 of the Act to report both adults and children, including unborn children, they have reasonable cause to suspect are at risk of abuse.

It is important that practitioners do not ignore or dismiss suspicions about another practitioner or colleague who may be abusing, neglecting, or causing harm to a child or adult at risk. Every practitioner has a responsibility to safeguard adults at risk and that includes protection from abuse by a professional, paid carer or volunteer. Therefore, the duty to report any concerns about suspected abuse and neglect applies in these situations. This duty also covers situations when abuse is only suspected.

Professional Concerns (Section 5 Wales Safeguarding Procedures) Managing cases under Section 5 applies to a wider range of allegations than those in which there is reasonable cause to believe a child or adult at risk is suffering, or is likely to suffer, harm. It also applies to concerns that might indicate that a person is unsuitable to continue to work with children or adults at risk in their present position or in any capacity. It should be used in all cases in which it is alleged that a person who works with children or adults at risk has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed or may have harmed a child or adult at risk.
- May have committed a criminal offence against a child or adult at risk or that has a direct impact on the child or adult at risk.
- Behaved towards a child, children, or adults at risk in a way that indicates they are unsuitable to work with either/ or children and adult.

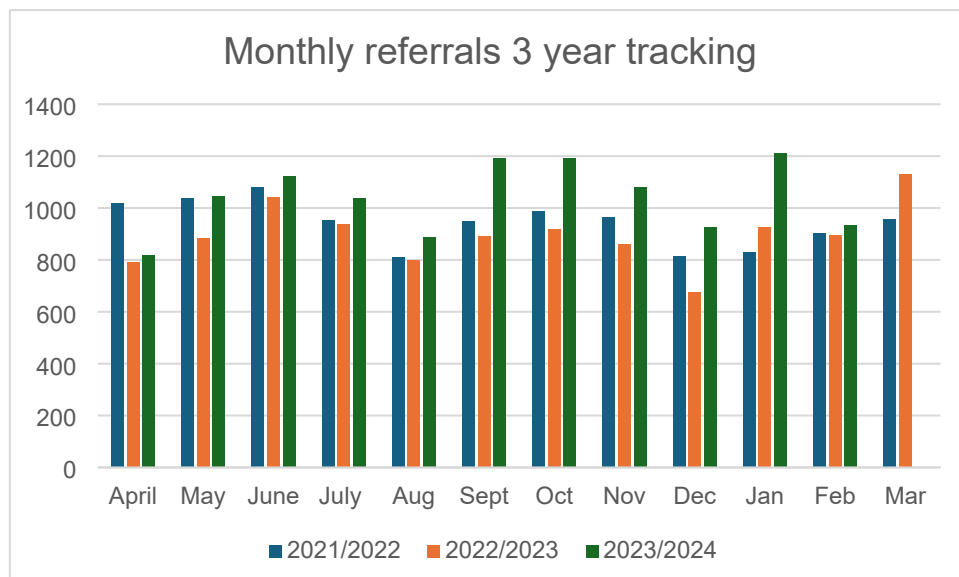
In Newport there are robust processes in place to manage Professional Concerns. Please see data below.

Professional Strategy Meetings in children's services since 2019

	Total Referrals	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Deliberately invented or Malicious	Threshold not met / awaiting outcome
2019	93	33	22	5	0	33
2020	90	22	17	10	0	41
2021	81	31	11	5	1	33
2022	95	33	30	6	0	26
2023	120	35	43	7	1	34

Professional Strategy Meetings in 2024 in Social Services

	Total	Childrens	Adults
Substantiated	44	35	9
Unsubstantiated	50	43	7
Unfounded	8	7	1
Deliberately invented or malicious	1	1	0
Did not meet threshold for professional concern	8	8	0
Null	37	26	11
Total	148	120	28



The number of children named on Newport's Child Protection Register is 120 as at 2.4.24, compared to the as at total for 18.4.23 at 137.

The number of children "looked after" as at 2.4.24 was 352, a decrease from 379 previously (on 18/4/23).

The figures are reducing due to an intense rapid intervention at the front door complimented by a culture shift to design and review care plans that enable children to remain with wider family if birth parents are unable to care. There is a strong emphasis on maintaining lifelong links with family and friends in order to support reunification where appropriate. This is what is best for children.

5. Annual Review of Newport City Council Corporate Safeguarding Self -Assessment Audit

5.1 Review Period

Each year all Directorates are required to undertake a self-assessment of the arrangements they have in place to support corporate safeguarding. The self-assessments identify areas and actions for improvement for each Directorate, to be reported through to the Head of Corporate Safeguarding. In addition to the self-assessment audit, this year we have completed a regional Safeguarding Maturity Matrix self-assessment. This was a request from the Gwent Safeguarding Board for all Board members to complete. This will be completed every three years (copy of SMM in appendix) and helps us all to understand how embedded Safeguarding is within our respective organisations.

5.2 Quality of Returns

Service areas returned their self-assessments in March 2024. It has been useful to capture positive practices that are already fully embedded across the council. The process has highlighted to managers areas of improvement to refine safeguarding practices for their staff and the citizens who use their services. The method of completion was varied and resulted in different quality returns. Corporate Safeguarding will need to provide tailored support and guidance for the next completion of returns, to ensure there is a better level of scrutiny across all teams, to gain accurate insight and to help improve practices. Individual feedback with specific goals for each service area has been provided to colleagues leading on this. Corporate Safeguarding have plans to work in partnership with the Gwent Safeguarding Board and neighbouring local authorities to create a South East Wales regional self-assessment tool for safeguarding. This will enable common themes and gaps to be identified and tackled across the region as well as sharing good practice. This work is ongoing and has been delayed due to other safeguarding developments such as Single Unified Safeguarding Review (SUSR), and the Safeguarding Training Standard Framework this year.

5.3 Themes Per Standard

Standard 1 Policy & Practice (Robust) How robust are your safeguarding practices in your service area?

Directorates and service areas reported that all knew where to find corporate Safeguarding policies and who their Safeguarding Champion was. This standard was ragged far more as green, with 78% than amber, 18% or red 4%. This is an improvement on last year's responses. There were some actions that were identified and there will be follow up on these. Some reflections on this standard from directorates

'The Safeguarding Hub daily work is around safeguarding and having knowledge of legislation and policy and procedures is fundamental to the running of the team' The Children's Safeguarding Hub

'Generally, officers are aware of safeguarding responsibilities and requirements, however matters need to be put on a formalised basis to ensure consistency.' Trading Standards

'Safeguarding officer nominated – please can safeguarding get in touch so we can determine training and responsibilities on the basis they will continue in that role. /Comms around safeguarding displayed in communal areas on site.' Waste and Cleansing Services

'Having a safeguarding champion disseminating the information regularly and making safeguarding a standing item in team meetings means safeguarding is kept at the forefront in the service. Actioned points from last self-assessment.' Prevention and Inclusion

Actions

Continue to refresh and cascade the relevant policies and procedures in relation to safe employment via the Designated Safeguarding Person.

Support Designated Safeguarding Person's in conducting management audits to provide assurance that the safe recruitment practice is being followed.

Professional Concern referrals

No area holds data on how many referrals are made from that service area, in relation to concerns about professionals who work with children or adults at risk. This is not currently available on WCCIS.

Actions

Corporate Safeguarding to raise with WCCIS team, the new recording mechanism (from 2026) must have this as a function. This will evidence that the policies in place are effective, and employees are following the duty to report process.

Standard 2 Environment (Safe)- How safe does your service area feel to citizens that access your services, and to your staff working in your service area?

Service areas are confident that citizens and staff feel safe and informed when at sites and accessing services. It was reported that 81% felt that this was working well and that there was confidence in this. 14% of the returns raised this as Amber in their scoring and 5% considered this to be a red risk. Whilst this has improved from last year, there is still work to do and assurances to be provided. Security measures are complied with in terms of those on premises as well as risk assessments. Staff who work directly with the public have additional and specific safeguarding training suitable to their role. Services areas were able to provide examples of how they have managed any concerns received by other citizens or professionals. Service areas were reflective of procedures in relation to contractors attending properties and identified areas of improvement. Two directorates

have asked for assistance from Corporate Safeguarding in relation to their service area and this has been prioritised. Some reflections from Directorates

'All sites should clearly display safeguarding information and an audit on the availability of public and staff information needs to be undertaken. Complaints and compliments for safeguarding related issues are not automatically referred to the Safeguarding Champion for collation and monitoring. Having this process in place would enable patterns and commonalities to be identified and addressed infrastructure.

'The service area provides high levels of assurance, that there are safe systems and processes in place, for citizens accessing our service and for staff working in the area.' Central Education Service

'We have recently begun to undertake far more citizen engagement around climate change. Most of these interactions have been without incident, but we did have a situation recently where an individual (who unbeknownst to the officer involved was already known to the authority as someone who had harassed our Cabinet Member at a number of her events) approached a member of our team at a library engagement event and spoke to them at length about their conviction that climate change is a hoax. This individual was not aggressive but was very forthright and did make the officer feel uncomfortable. We will ensure that this officer is accompanied by someone else from the team for future events but any other advice in this area would be gratefully received.' Climate Change

'Feedback obtained from our residents and their relatives in quality assurance questionnaires and in meetings suggest that they feel safe. Staff who have raised issues have been engaged and review undertaken. As a result, improvements were made, and reassurances provided.' Internal/Provider Services

Actions

Corporate Safeguarding to work specifically with the 5% red responses to ensure that this risk is supported, understood, and minimised.

More Safeguarding information posters and information to be made available to services to display in all work locations, even those that are temporary.

Ensure that the DSOs/Safeguarding Champions are appraised of some of the current themes that they may come into contact within their interaction with citizens. This needs to be proportionate and relevant.

Standard 3 Culture (Effective) - How Effective is your service area approach to safeguarding?

All areas stated that their strategic planning takes into account the need to safeguard citizens and to promote their welfare. Some were able to reflect on what has gone well and areas for improvement. 82% of responses said that they were competent in this, 18% rated themselves as amber and 0% as red. Most areas were able to demonstrate that new learning is embedded into practice and planning in relation to consent to share and safeguarding children and adults at risk. Gaps in service area approach to safeguarding were mainly identified, showing willingness to accept change will be required to improve and uphold safeguarding standards. Some reflections on this standard from Directorates

'The Licensing Team work closely with a number of internal and external to ensure safeguarding within the Licensing trade, clear procedures are in place to make referrals and matters of Safeguarding are future in all Licensing policy(s)'. Licencing

'Waste and cleansing would welcome a review of the services with a focus on Safeguarding – is this included in H&S audits?' Waste and Cleansing Services

'Feedback from managers (see below) suggests that we are operationally effective. However, there is a need to become more structured and systematic and to ensure that messages are well communicated. //Housing Needs: //GDPR and safeguarding is a primary concern within the HNU//Community Regeneration: //Good procedures in place for management of information and adhering to GDPR. Safeguarding is treated appropriately for the nature of our work. Progress made during 2023-24 on monitoring the need for refresher training. Work needs to be completed on training for volunteers and embedding safeguarding in staff check-ins and team meetings. //Housing Strategy: //Community Cohesion://Housing Support://More rigorous monitoring re safeguarding has been introduced. Still require development of Safeguarding Champions and Designated Safeguarding Person roles for some.' Housing and Communities

Actions

Prioritise work with service areas that have asked for assistance with a review of their approach. Work alongside services areas to ensure they are clear and confident in their safeguarding responsibilities.

Consider a more robust governance framework for Corporate Safeguarding to ensure that Heads of Service/Designated Safeguarding Officers are more involved in the work programme and have better oversight of this in relation to their service area strategic planning.

6. Future Work, Areas of Stress/ Risk, and Recommendations

6.1 Consideration to be given to further strengthening the Corporate Safeguarding Governance.

Biannual meetings with Heads of Service/Designated Safeguarding Officers

Each Directorate has a nominated Safeguarding Champion and Designated Safeguarding Person whose roles and responsibilities include:

- Ensuring all staff are aware of the 'Duty to Report' function of their role.

Acting as a source of advice and support and signposting for staff in their Service on all safeguarding issues, including:

- Safeguarding Adults and Children
- Violence against Women
- Prevent
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Modern Slavery
- Supporting staff or taking the lead in referring safeguarding concerns
- Ensuring all staff are aware of who the Directorate Safeguarding Lead is within their department.
- Co-ordinating the annual Safeguarding Self-Assessment and ensuring that appropriate actions are contained within Directorate Delivery Plans.

- Ensuring safeguarding is regularly considered at Directorate Management Team meetings and that appropriate performance detail is provided to support the discussion.
- Attending and contributing to the quarterly Corporate Safeguarding Delivery Group. Sending a deputy if unable to attend.
- Publicising and promoting national campaigns, including through organisations websites, social media, or other mediums.

6.2 Mandatory Training.

The National Safeguarding Training Standards Framework will change the way that Safeguarding Training is delivered, monitored, and collated. The Councils internal Learning Management System has been updated and refreshed to better deliver user experience. Single sign on into the system is currently being considered to avoid the password reset issue. Any national review may include a national learning management system which will support delivery and compliance further. This will need to be considered alongside an already underway review of NCC's Learning Management system.

6.3 WCCIS, the Social Care recording system is ceasing its operation in Wales in 2026.

The Authorities that use WCCIS are currently looking at replacement systems. this. the migration of sensitive data from WCCIS to whichever model is chosen will have to be managed very carefully. This is a potential risk, and it has been escalated to Heads of Service, corporately and to Welsh Government. This has been added to the Newport City Council Risk Register.

6.4 Single Unified Safeguarding Review (SUSR)

Members have previously discussed changes to the Practice Review process and the incoming Single Unified Safeguarding Review (SUSR), This was led by Newport and is now almost ready for rollout in Wales. This will simplify the Practice Review/Domestic Homicide/Mental Health/Offensive Weapons review process and mean that the stands of work within these processes are standardised and importantly connected. This will mean that families will not be subject to more than one review at a time when there has been a tragedy and that the anonymised learning from this will be held centrally for access by professionals across Wales. Ther dates for the SUSR Chair and Reviewers training for Gwent are in May 2024.

6.5 Build the Council's White Ribbon Action Plan into the Corporate Safeguarding.

Work with colleagues in Community Safety to embed this and create a Calander of events to disseminate to Safeguarding Champions.

7. Resource Implications (Employment and Financial)

There are no resource implications currently other than corporate Safeguarding being a part of everyone's role. This is being managed without a budget.

Appendices

1. [Case study Safeguarding .docx](#)
2. [Glossary of Terms.docx](#)
3. [Draft policy statement Adult Safeguarding 2024.docx](#)
4. [Updated 2020 Final NCC Safeguarding Policy Statement Jan 2024FM.docx](#)
5. [Safeguarding Champions doc.docx](#)
6. [DSP 2022.pdf](#)



Scrutiny Report

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: April 2024

Subject Scrutiny Adviser Report

Author Scrutiny Adviser

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Role
Samantha Schanzer (Scrutiny Adviser)	Present the Committee with the Scrutiny Adviser Report for discussion and update the Committee on any changes.

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to:

1. Action Plan

Consider the Actions from previous meetings (**Appendix 1**):

- *Note the responses for the actions;*
- *Determine if any further information / action is required;*
- *Agree to receive an update on outstanding issues at the next meeting.*

2 Context

Background

Action Sheet

- 2.1 Attached at **Appendix 1** is the Action Sheet from the Committee meetings. The updated completed actions are included in the table.
- 2.2 Any actions that do not have a response will be included on the Action Sheet at the next meeting to ensure that the Committee can keep track of outstanding actions.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 The following information is attached:

Appendix 1: Action Sheet from Previous Meetings;

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- **Action Sheet from Previous Meetings - Appendix 1**
 - Consider the responses to the actions from the meeting;
 - Are you satisfied that you have received the necessary information?
 - Are there any further issues arising from the responses that you would like to raise?
 - For the actions that do not have responses – these actions will be rolled over to the next meeting and reported back to the Committee.

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 The Corporate Assessment, and the subsequent [follow up assessment](#) provide background information on the importance of good work programming. Specific reference is made to the need to align the Cabinet and Scrutiny work programmes to ensure the value of the Scrutiny Function is maximised.
- 5.2 The latest Cabinet work programme was approved by the Cabinet on a monthly basis for the next 12 months and includes the list of reports scheduled for consideration. Effective forward planning by both Cabinet and Scrutiny needs to be coordinated and integrated in relation to certain reports to ensure proper consultation takes place before a decision is taken. A link to the Cabinet work programme is provided [here](#) to the Committee as part of this report, to enable the Committee to ensure that the work programmes continue to reflect key decisions being made by the Cabinet.

6. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- 6.1 Having proper work programming procedures in place ensures that the work of Overview and Scrutiny makes a positive impact upon the Council's delivery of services, contributes to the delivery of corporate objectives, and ensures that work can be undertaken in a timely and well-planned manner.

6.2 This report relates to the Actions from Committee's which support the achievement of the Scrutiny Committee, in accordance with the Law and Regulation Service Plan, Objectives, Actions and Measures and the Wellbeing objectives:

Well-being Objective	1 – Economy, Education and Skills	2 – Newport's Environment and Infrastructure	3 – Preventative and Equitable Community and Social Care	4 – An Inclusive, Fair and Sustainable Council
Aims:	Newport is a thriving and	A city that seeks to protect and	Newport is a supportive city	Newport City Council is an

	growing city that offers excellent education and aspires to provide opportunities for all.	enhance our environment whilst reducing our carbon footprint and preparing for a sustainable and digital future.	where communities and care are at the heart of what we do.	inclusive organisation that places social value, fairness and sustainability at its core.
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7 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

7.1 The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015 which came into force in April 2016 sets the context for the move towards long term planning of services.

7.2 General questions

- How is this area / policy affected by the new legislation?
- How will this decision / policy / proposal impact upon future generations? What is the long term impact?
- What evidence is provided to demonstrate WFGA has been / is being considered?
- Evidence from Community Profiles / other data?
- Evidence of links to Wellbeing Assessment / Objectives / Plan?

7.3 Wellbeing Goals

- How are the Wellbeing goals reflected in the policy / proposal / action?
 - *A prosperous Wales*
 - *A resilient Wales*
 - *A healthier Wales*
 - *A more equal Wales*
 - *A Wales of cohesive communities*
 - *A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language*
 - *A globally responsible Wales*

7.4 Sustainable Development Principles

- Does the report / proposal demonstrate how as an authority we are working in accordance with the sustainable development principles from the act when planning services?
 - **Long Term**
The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs
 - **Prevention**
How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives
 - **Integration**
Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies
 - **Collaboration**
Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives
 - **Involvement**
The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

8 Background Papers

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan 2022-2027](#)
- The Corporate Assessment and [follow up assessment](#).

Report Completed: April 2024

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
ACTION SHEET**

	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome
1	Conclusion of Committee reports	Send comments and recommendations to officers	Samantha Schanzer	COMPLETE

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