

Public Document Pack



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

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www.ceredigion.gov.uk

Due to COVID-19 and the health and safety of Councillors and staff, members of the public and press cannot attend the meeting in person. The meeting can be viewed on ZOOM.

9 June 2022

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to inform you that a MEETING of OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE will be held at the COUNCIL CHAMBER, PENMORFA AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM on Wednesday, 15 June 2022 at 10.00 am for the transaction of the following business:

1. **Apologies**
2. **Disclosures of personal interest (including whipping declarations)**
Members are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. In addition, Members must declare any prohibited party whip which the Member has been given in relation to the meeting as per the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011
3. **CONTEST - The UK Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy (Pages 3 - 12)**
4. **Performance Management Policy Statement and Introduction to Performance Self-assessment arrangements as required by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (Pages 13 - 72)**
5. **Ceredigion Public Services Board (PSB) meetings held on the 18th November 2021, 7th March 2022 and the Assessment of Local Well-Being (Pages 73 - 88)**
6. **CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group Safeguarding Report Qtr 2 2021/22 and Qtr 3 2021/22 (Pages 89 - 224)**
7. **Report on Covid-19 Gold Command Decisions log (Pages 225 - 234)**
8. **To confirm the Minutes of the previous Meeting and to consider any matters arising from those Minutes (Pages 235 - 240)**
9. **Draft Forward Work Programme of the Overview and Scrutiny**

Committees (Pages 241 - 250)

- 10. Any other matter that the Chairman decides is for the urgent attention of the Committee**

A Translation Service will be provided at this meeting and those present are welcome to speak in Welsh or English at the meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Edwards', written in a cursive style.

**Miss Lowri Edwards
Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services**

To: Chairman and Members of Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Overview & Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

DATE: 15-06-2022

LOCATION: Hybrid meeting

TITLE: CONTEST – The UK Government’s Counter Terrorism Strategy

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To provide Scrutiny with an update on the arrangements in place in Ceredigion, across the region and nationally to deliver CONTEST

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: As the designated Scrutiny Committee for taking an overview of the Community Safety Partnership and it’s sub-groups

BACKGROUND:

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 requires all specified authorities to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. Specified authorities are identified as: Local Authorities; Police; Prisons; Young Offenders Institutions; Probation Services; Schools; Colleges; Universities and Health.

The UK Government’s CONTEST Strategy for Countering Terrorism (June 2018) reinforces the use of the tried and tested strategic framework for delivery known as the ‘four Ps’ work strands:

Prevent - to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism

Protect - to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack

Pursue - to stop terrorist attacks

Prepare - to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack.

Officers from the Partnerships and Performance Service facilitate and Chair the Ceredigion CONTEST Board that meets quarterly and is a sub-group of the Ceredigion Community Safety Partnership (CSP). The Board leads on theme 2 of the Ceredigion CSP Delivery Plan and works together to respond to the national CONTEST agenda, with a particular focus on delivery of the Prevent requirement to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

Appendix 1 provides further information on CONTEST and the arrangements in place locally, regionally and nationally to ensure coordinated planning and response to this agenda.

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS: **Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why** Not completed as the report is not a Policy or Service change.

Summary:
Long term:
Integration:
Collaboration:
Involvement:
Prevention:

RECOMMENDATION (S):

To receive an update on the arrangements in place in Ceredigion, across the region and nationally to deliver CONTEST

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

In order for the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee to be updated on the current arrangements to deliver CONTEST, and to be aware of the contribution of council staff in this important work.

Contact Name: Alun Williams
Designation: Corporate Lead Officer, Policy, Performance and Public Protection
Date of Report: 15-06-2022
Acronyms: CONTEST – UK Government’s Counter Terrorism Strategy

CONTEST – Prevent & Protect Overview

Introduction

CONTEST is the UK Government’s **Counter Terrorism Strategy**. Its aims are to reduce the risk from terrorism so that people can go about their own lives freely and with confidence – it consists of 4 thematic strands commonly known as the 4 Ps :-

Prevent - to stop people becoming terrorists (exploitation of vulnerable people)

Protect - to strengthen our protection against a terrorist attack

Prepare - to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack

Pursue - to stop terrorist attacks

Although Counter Terrorism policy is not a devolved matter to an extent the delivery strategy is. In Wales, through the recently revised **Contest Cymru Framework**, we work in cooperation with our partner agencies to respond to the threat in a manner that seeks to safeguard our community and preserve life.

CONTEST Cymru Framework

In late 2020 the new governance structure for CONTEST Cymru was launched. Welsh Government wanted to ensure consistency and accountability in the delivery of Counter Terrorism in Wales.

The new framework is managed in parallel with the well-established Local Resilience Forums (LRF) to reflect the different roles and responsibilities

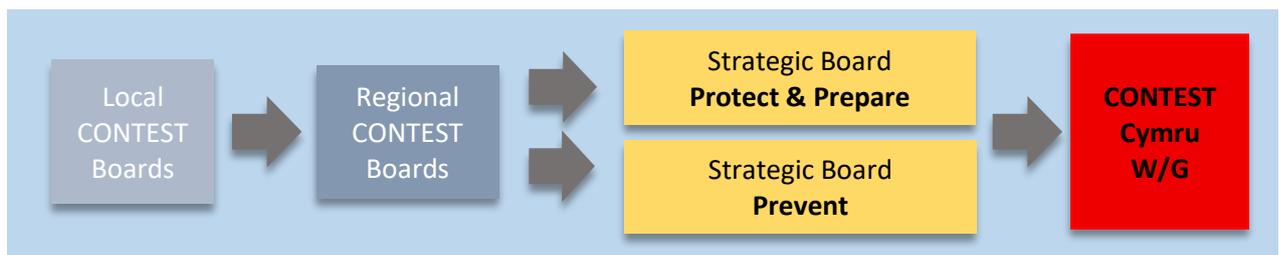


fig1.

Objectives are set by local CONTEST Boards, meeting every three months they work to standard delivery plans with common outcomes. The boards consist of local partners and receive Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) intelligence updates from CT Wales which help shape and inform local activity. The Ceredigion CONTEST Board is facilitated and Chaired by officers within the Partnerships and Performance team.

Progress is fed up to regional CONTEST Boards and ultimately to Welsh Government via National Strategic Boards. (see fig1).

An important element of the CONTEST Cymru review was the alignment of responsibilities for Civil Contingency, Local Resilience Forums and CONTEST delivery under one new National Security portfolio within Welsh Government. This approach capitalises on collaboration and guards against duplication.

CONTEST Delivery Elements – The 4 P’s

Prevent (*duty)**

OUR FOCUS IS TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM BEING DRAWN INTO EXTREMISM

The Prevent strategy has three objectives:-

- Challenging the ideology that supports terrorism and those who promote it
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Supporting sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a **duty on certain bodies (“specified authorities”) in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”).*

The remit of ‘Prevent’ was expanded in 2011 to deal with all forms of terrorism and with non-violent extremism. Terrorists associated with the extreme right also pose a continued threat to our safety and security this is particularly relevant locally.

Section 36 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 sets out the duty on local authorities and partners of local panels to provide support for people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. In England and Wales, this duty is met through Channel panels, please see pages 4 and 5 for more detail.

Protect (*duty*)

WE WILL PROTECT OUR PEOPLE AND PLACES FROM TERRORIST ATTACK

Last Summer, delivering on a manifesto commitment to improve the safety and security of public venues and spaces, the Home Office launched a public consultation on a proposed new ‘**Protect Duty**’ * This was to reflect on lessons following terrorist attacks in 2017 as well as more recent attacks.

Ceredigion’s response to the consultation was coordinated by Civil Contingencies officers following consultations with Leadership Group and Elected Members. Our concerns and observations were also fed into a regional response.

The Consultation provoked one of the largest ever number of responses (2700+)



to a Home Office consultation, the results were released on Monday 10th January 2022. (See [Protect Duty - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/protect-duty))

From the Consultation there appears to be wide support for additional protective responsibilities to be introduced and for a legislative approach, however there are concerns over resourcing and training.

Although there are no specifics yet published, legislation could realistically take another year to emerge, many of the Home Office draft proposals were shared prior to the Consultation reporting.

- The Duty will seek to utilise current legislation more effectively, to achieve its security outcomes in respect of sports grounds, concert stadiums, conference venues and publicly accessible locations etc. This could potentially bring other sectors under the Duty, for example, bus and coach operators, commercial ports and UK flagged ships.
- As part of the Duty there may well be enforced requirements which could include regular security risk assessments and exercised preparedness plans.
- The Duty envisages a light touch inspection regime followed by proportionate enforcement modelling involving civil sanctions.

It is clear that Local Authorities can confidently expect more to be asked of them.

Prepare

WE WILL PREPARE OUR RESPONSE TO ATTACKS AND REDUCE THEIR IMPACT

There are some clear similarities with work already carried out on the resilience side. Hence the close working relationships and collaboration between LRF's and CONTEST Boards to avoid duplication.

Pursue

WE WILL PURSUE TERRORISTS AND WORK TO BRING THEM TO JUSTICE

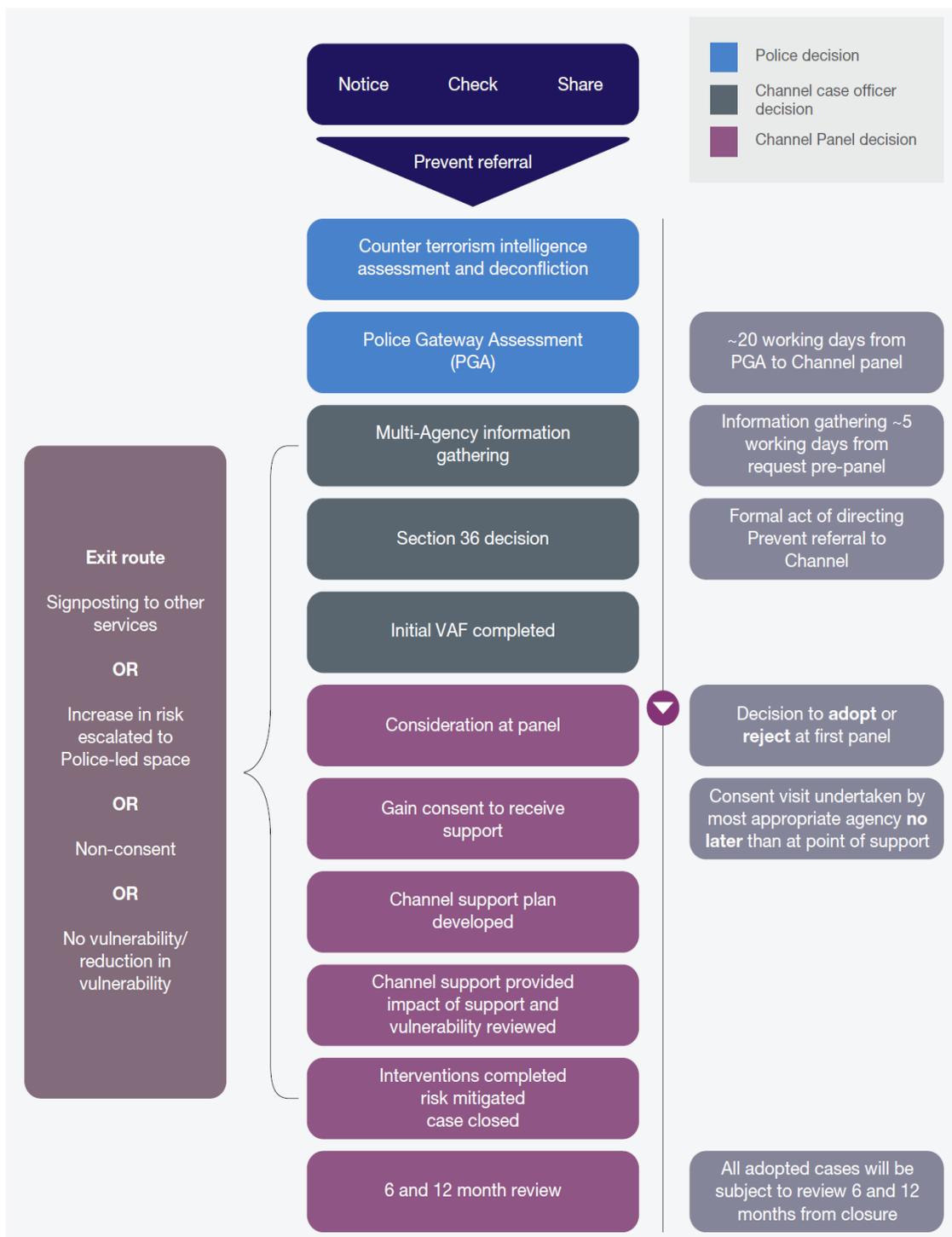
(POLICE Nat-Security)

This strand is predominantly delivered by Police Counter Terrorism network and National Security Organisations. No theme exists in isolation however and there are clear areas of cooperation detailed in the common objectives.

CONTEST – Safeguarding

‘Channel’ is a voluntary, confidential programme which operates throughout England and Wales to safeguard people identified as vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. . The Channel Panel process is held under the Statutory Duty of Section 36 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. It is a Safeguarding process.

Diagram 1.0: Pathway Diagram



New Statutory Home Office Guidance 2020

Channel Duty Guidance - Protecting People Vulnerable to being drawn into Terrorism.

More emphasis on:

- Early Intervention / Prevention
- Involving Family Members in the process
- Quality Assurance Framework

Referral Rates: within last year (May 2020 to November 2021) there have been:

- Increased referrals compared to previous years
- Channel Panel process now managed under the Safeguarding Service

Main Themes of the referrals:

- Uncertain/Mixed ideology
- Islamist extremism

What works well in the Channel Panel process:

- Established County wide Multi-Agency including various Council services
- Channel Panel has a Chair and Deputy Chair who have undertaken the Specialist Home Office Training; Delivering Channel Locally
- Chair is a Local authority Manager with Safeguarding background
- Recent training held for Panel Members, from Dyfed-Powys Police
- Use of Intervention Providers are key in the process
- Access to specialist services who work with people who may be vulnerable to be drawn in to terrorism

Quality Assurance Framework

Channel Panel Annual Assurance Statement - Completed April 2022.

5 Key Areas of Control (36 Standards in all)

1. Legal Requirements Under the Counter-Terrorism Act 2015
2. Strategic Governance
3. Chairing/Skills Competencies
4. Panel Function and Form
5. Data Protection

“ The right people across the organisation receive the right level of training required to help them understand the risk of radicalisation and know how to access support locally.
(Prevent Duty for LA’s, Benchmark 7)



Home Office

Introduction

The Prevent Duty Guidance reinforces the importance of offering training to staff in order to be able to recognise the signs of radicalisation, and be confident in referring individuals who can then receive support in the pre criminal space.

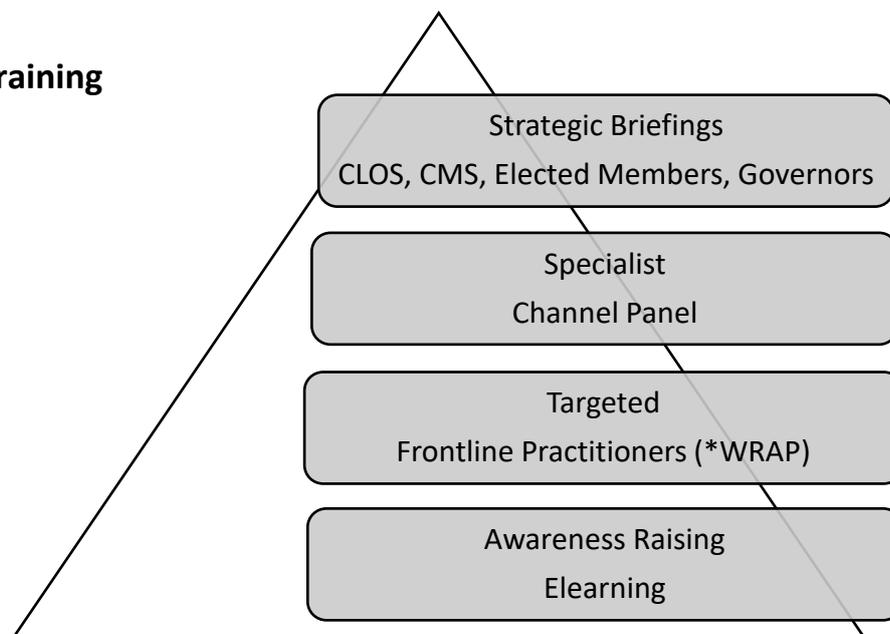
Ceredigion County Council staff members interact with a wide range of people and are well placed to identify individuals, families or communities who may be groomed into extremist or terrorist activity.

To support this objective, Ceredigion County Council Learning and Development team has worked in partnership with the Community Safety and Safeguarding teams to review and prioritise its Prevent training across the organisation.

Due to the diversity of frontline roles, a phased approach was adopted ensuring appropriate staff receive the relevant level of training.

Frontline services were identified and specific frontline roles given priority for training if the role involved direct regular work with vulnerable individuals, for example, all social care practitioners, school counsellors, designated safeguarding leads etc.

Levels of Training



*WRAP = Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent, for more information please see footnote**

Summary of Training Progress to Date

- WRAP training is available for frontline staff and delivery has moved online and continued during the pandemic
- WRAP training has been promoted and is available to Ceredigion County Council commissioned services and our partners
- Corporate Managers based in the Through Age and Wellbeing Service received specialist 'Prevent and Channel Panel Awareness' training, delivered by Dyfed Powys Police (July 2021)
- A Prevent 'Strategic Briefing' was delivered to senior leaders across the Council in November 2021

Future Training Plans

- Development of an in house e-learning package for relevant members of staff and supporting guidance (7 minute briefing document for staff)
- Delivery of tailored training for Elected Members to raise awareness and support them to understand their role in the Duty – (date to be confirmed for 2022)
- Strategic Briefing for School Governors and Head-teachers - refresher/update on Prevent

****What is Wrap Training?**

- Home Office approved and delivered by accredited trainers
- 3hrs 45 minutes duration

Training Aims

- Understand Prevent Strategy
- Recognise the indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation
- Know how to respond to and report concerns

Who is it aimed at?

- All front line staff who have regular direct contact with adults, children and young people
- Senior officers and supervisors to whom other staff may come to for advice
- All staff that have roles that mean they have responsibility for the safety of children and adults
- All staff in roles who will have key responsibilities for the protection of children and adults who may need to support other staff with procedures.

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Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee
Date of meeting:	15th June 2022
Location:	Remotely Via Video Conference
Title:	Performance Management Policy Statement and Introduction to Performance Self-assessment arrangements as required by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021
Purpose of the report:	To present the Draft Performance Management Policy Statement and the new Self-Assessment process
Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member	Councillor Bryan Davies, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Democratic Services

Background

Part 6 of the new **Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021** replaces the old Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009 and introduces a new Self-Assessment based performance regime for Principal Councils. (The Guidance for Part 6 of the Act is attached as Appendix 1).

The new performance regime is intended to build and support a culture in which councils continuously seek to improve and do better in everything they do, regardless of how well they are performing already. It is the expectation of the Act that councils will always be striving to achieve more and seek to ensure best outcomes for local people and communities. One way of doing this is continuously challenge the status quo and ask questions about how they are operating.

There are 5 specific duties for Councils introduced by the Act:

- Duty to keep performance under review
- Duty to consult on performance
- Duty to report on performance
- Duty to arrange a Panel Performance Assessment
- Duty to respond to a Panel Performance Assessment

The focus of self-assessment is on outcomes rather than process, and will require local authorities to take a different approach to assessing their performance than previously. This will require greater self-reflection.

Chapter 2 of the Guidance sets out the integral role that the Governance and Audit Committee are expected play in the Self-Assessment Process. This role involves the Committee:

- Receiving the Council's draft Self-Assessment Report
- Reviewing the draft Self-Assessment Report and making recommendations to the conclusions or actions the Council intends to take
- Receiving the final Self-Assessment report when it is published, including commentary on why it accepted or did not accept the recommendations made by the Governance and Audit Committee.

Current Position

Self-Assessment

A process for conducting Self-Assessment has been developed over the last several months and will be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on 15 June 2022 (the slides are attached at Appendix 2).

The Core Principles of the Self-Assessment Process are:

- Publish a Self-Assessment Report that discharges the requirements of both:
 - The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – to set and review progress against our Corporate Well-being Objectives
 - The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 – the duty to keep performance under review, consult on performance, report on performance, arrange a Panel Performance Assessment and respond to a Panel Performance Assessment.
- Use Key Questions or “Key Lines of Enquiry” approach to ensure the process is focused on outcomes, the organisation-wide view of performance and is evidence based.
- Run annual workshop to undertake the Self-Assessment in order to:
 - Identify strengths, opportunities and areas for improvement
 - Identify evidence for current position
 - Update scores
 - Identify our ambitions and the actions for improvement
- Build Self-Assessment into the Teifi Performance System, and create Self-Assessment ‘Dashboard’
- Publish the Self-Assessment Report annually, i.e. one cycle = approximately one year
- Publish the self-assessment report in November to align with other corporate planning and governance arrangements, e.g. Self-Assessment is a key driver for Business Plans.

Integrating with the Performance Management Framework and Corporate Strategy

Self-Assessment is not a standalone process, rather it is integrated as part of the Council's ongoing **corporate planning** and **performance management** arrangements. It is, for example, integral to driving business planning and risk management, and in turn draws on the outcomes from monitoring Business Plans and the Corporate Risk Register to evaluate our current performance and complete the self-assessment.

Furthermore, it supports the production of the Council's Corporate strategy through providing an organisation-wide view of performance to help in priority setting. The Council's overall Performance Framework, which includes the self-assessment process, is also the mechanism by which we ensure delivery of the Corporate Strategy's aims and objectives through planning, monitoring, reporting and challenging our performance.

Performance Management Policy Statement

Ceredigion County Council has a Performance Management process in place for securing improved performance levels, efficiencies and improved outcomes for local people. However, the introduction of the new Self-Assessment based performance regime for Councils, combined with the need to reflect the latest best practice, means that the process needs updating.

Appendix 3 sets out a draft of the proposed new Performance Management Policy Statement for Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee's consideration. The draft Statement sets out the guiding principles of the Council's approach to performance management going forward, and takes account of the new legislation and best practice.

In particular, it highlights the fundamental role performance management plays in securing improved outcomes for the people and communities in Ceredigion, in supporting policy setting and in evidence-based decision-making. To maximise the benefits of managing performance, the Council will establish an effective Performance Management Framework that will be embedded into the culture of the organisation.

Both the Draft Performance Management Policy Statement and the specific Self-Assessment process will be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on 15 June 2022.

Recommendations (s): To receive and endorse the Draft Performance Management Policy Statement and Performance Self-assessment arrangements (as required by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021) and to

make recommendations as appropriate when the report is presented to Cabinet on the 6 September 2022.

Reason for decision: **To adopt an updated Performance Management Policy Statement which sets the guiding principles for performance management in the Council and meets the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government and Election (Wales) Act 2021.
To keep the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee informed of progress with Part 6 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021**

Appendices: Appendix 1 - Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 Part 6 Guidance
Appendix 2 - Self-Assessment Process Slides
Appendix 3 - Draft Performance Management Policy Statement

Corporate Lead Officer: Alun Williams (Corporate Leader Officer Policy, Performance and Public Protection)

Reporting Officer: Alun Williams (Corporate Leader Officer Policy, Performance and Public Protection)

Date: 24 May 2022



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Performance and governance of principal councils

Statutory guidance on Part 6, Chapter 1, of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

Statutory guidance for principal councils on Part 6, Chapter 1, of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

Overview

This document provides statutory guidance for principal councils about the exercise of their performance and governance functions under Part 6, Chapter 1, of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

This guidance is intended to constitute guidance under section 89(3) of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 once commenced.

Action required

Principal councils must have regard to this guidance when exercising their functions under Part 6, Chapter 1 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

The powers and duties in Chapter 1 of Part 6 apply from 1 April 2021, with the exception of the functions relating to panel performance assessments, which will come into force following the next ordinary local government elections in May 2022. Councils must have regard to the guidance once the relevant powers and duties come into force.

Further information

Enquiries about this document should be directed to:

Local Government Transformation and Partnerships Division

Local Government Directorate

Welsh Government

Cathays Park

Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

Email: LGPartnerships@gov.wales

This document may be accessed from the Welsh Government's [website](#).

Foreword

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 has strengthening and empowering local government at its core.

The new performance and governance regime set out in the Act is a fundamental component of this, firmly defining principal councils as self-improving organisations through a system based on self-assessment and panel performance assessment.

This approach is intended to build on and support a culture in which councils continuously challenge the status quo, ask questions about how they are operating, and consider best practice in Wales and wider. It will be important for the sector as a whole to take the lead in the implementation of the new regime, in supporting improvement and in sharing innovations and best practice.

My expectation is that when considering how well a council is meeting the performance requirements set out in the Act, either as part of self-assessment or panel performance assessment, the focus should always be on aiming to be the best. The extent to which a council is delivering legal duties and functions is a core part of a council's performance requirements. However, councils should always be striving for more - not simply meeting the minimum requirements, but seeking to ensure the best outcomes for the people they serve.

Taking housing as an example, we can all sign up to the ambition of provision of adequate housing for all, with authorities intervening earlier and going beyond achieving only the minimum legislative requirements. My ambition is for a culture where all parts of a council always aim to do better in everything they do, no matter how well they are performing already. Honest and open self-assessment at all levels of a council will form a fundamental part of this.

I also see collaborative working, for example between employers and trade unions, as important to driving up the performance of public services in Wales and contributing to improved worker well-being. The First Minister has set out our intention to legislate to embed the principle of social partnership in the organisation of public services in Wales. As such, I see implementing social partnership practices as a key part of a council exercising its functions and using its resources effectively.

I am grateful to local government colleagues and other stakeholders for working so constructively to co-produce this guidance with Welsh Government, as well as all those who responded to the formal consultation on the draft. The principle of co-development is central to ensuring this guidance is valuable for councils, facilitates the implementation of the provisions and, above all, ensures the new approach is a meaningful opportunity to continually strengthen local government.

Julie James MS
Minister for Housing and Local Government

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Summary

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (“the Act”) provides for a new and reformed legislative framework for local government elections, democracy, governance and performance.

This guidance sets out how principal councils should meet their duties contained in Part 6, Chapter 1, of the Act which relates to the performance and governance of principal councils.

A council must have regard to guidance issued by Welsh Ministers in relation to the exercise of its functions under Part 6, Chapter 1 of the Act.

The guidance is designed to support councils to understand and discharge their duties in relation to performance and governance, whilst recognising that councils will wish to and should be encouraged to develop their own approach in line with their wider statutory obligations, local circumstances, corporate structures, and best practice.

This guidance specifically addresses the following duties:-

Duty to keep performance under review

Section 89 of the Act requires a council to keep under review the extent to which it is fulfilling the ‘performance requirements’ that is, the extent to which:-

- it is exercising its functions effectively;
- it is using its resources economically, efficiently and effectively; and
- its governance is effective for securing the above.

Duty to consult on performance

Section 90 of the Act requires that a council must consult a range of people at least once in each financial year about the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements. The statutory consultees are:-

- a) local people;
- b) other persons carrying on a business in the council’s area;
- c) the staff of the council; and
- d) every trade union which is recognised (within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (c. 52)) by the council.

Duty to report on performance

Section 91 of the Act provides that a council must produce a self-assessment report in respect of each financial year. The report must set out its conclusions on the extent to which it met the performance requirements during that financial year, and any actions it intends to take, or has already taken, to increase the extent to which it is meeting the performance requirements.

Duty to arrange a panel performance assessment

Section 92 of the Act provides that a council must arrange for a panel to undertake an assessment, at least once during the period between two consecutive ordinary elections of councillors to the council, of the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements.

Duty to respond to a panel performance assessment report

Section 93 of the Act provides that a council must prepare a response to each panel performance assessment report, setting out the extent to which it accepts the conclusions in the report, the extent to which it intends to follow any recommendations in the report, and any actions the council intends to take to increase the extent to which it is meeting the performance requirements.

This guidance refers specifically to these duties on a council, and sets out the expectations on how a council will perform these duties. All of the duties apply to councils from 1 April 2021, with the exception of the duties in respect of panel performance assessments, which will come into force following the next ordinary local government elections in May 2022. Councils will be required to have regard to the guidance once the relevant duties come into force.

There are other provisions within Part 6 of the Act such as powers for the Auditor General for Wales to carry out special inspections of a council; powers for the Welsh Ministers to provide support and assistance to a council with a view to improving its performance; and powers for the Welsh Ministers to intervene in a council which is not, or may not be, meeting the performance requirements. These aspects of the Act are also described in this guidance, with any duties placed on councils in these provisions explicitly stated.

The guidance is set out as follows:-

Chapter 1 - describes the policy context within which the performance and governance duties are set and the purpose of the duties.

Chapter 2 - explains the duty to keep performance under review; the duty to consult local people and others on performance; and provides guidance on the duty to report on performance, specifically through self-assessment.

Chapter 3 - provides guidance on the duty to arrange, and respond to a panel performance assessment.

Chapter 4 - describes the Auditor General for Wales' power to carry out a special inspection; the duty of a council to respond to any recommendations for actions it should take; and the duty of Welsh Ministers to respond to any recommendations for actions they should take.

Chapter 5 - describes the powers and duties for both Welsh Ministers and councils in relation to supporting and assisting with improving performance; and powers for

intervention by Welsh Ministers where Ministers consider that it is likely that the council is not, or that the council is not, meeting the performance requirements.

Chapter 1 - Policy context and purpose of the performance regime set out in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

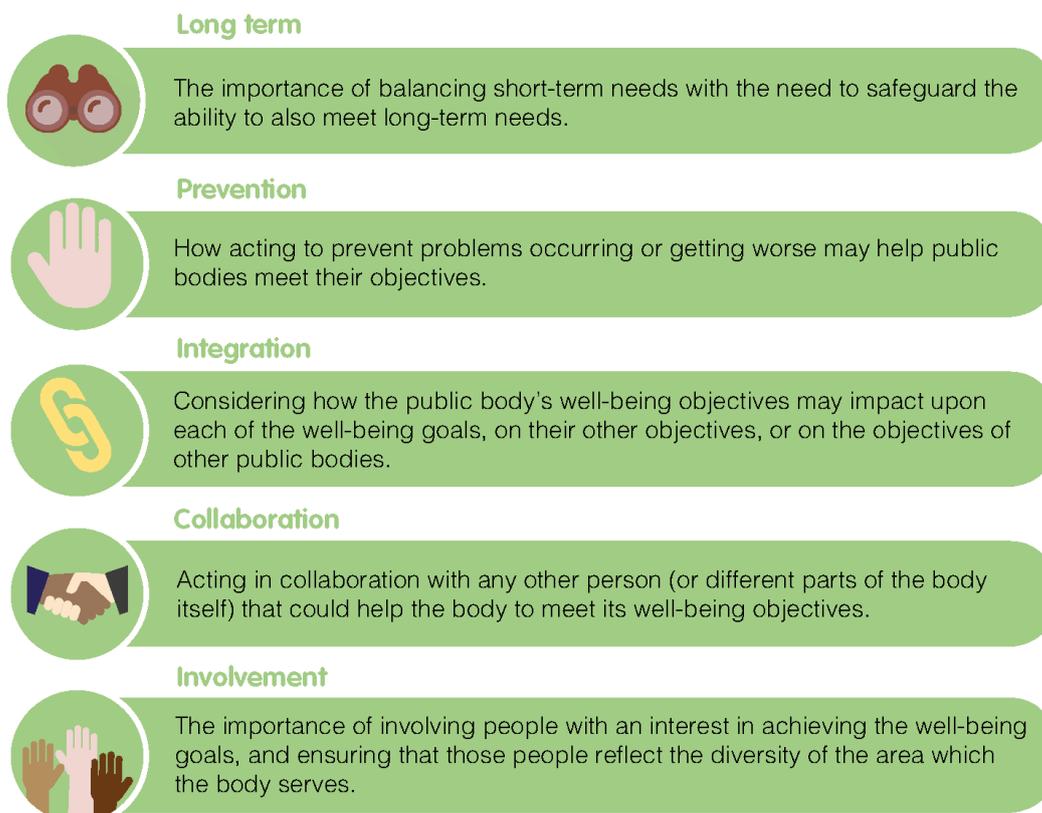
Policy context

- 1.1 Councils are democratically accountable for the performance of their services, including their governance arrangements. They are supported through external audit, inspection and regulatory bodies who have a key role in assuring the quality of our public services in Wales.
- 1.2 The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (“the Act”) replaces the current improvement duty for councils set out in the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. The new approach as set out in the Act is designed to be a more streamlined, flexible, sector-led approach to performance, good governance and improvement. The intention is for councils to be proactive in considering how internal processes and procedures should change to enable more effective planning, delivery and decision-making to drive better outcomes.
- 1.3 The performance and governance provisions in the Act are framed within the context of the well-being duty in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, which sets out a legally binding common purpose for the public bodies subject to that Act to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It sets out seven well-being goals which these public bodies must work towards and five ways of working to guide how public bodies should deliver.
- 1.4 The Well-being of Future Generations Act provides the context within which councils should be exercising their functions, using their resources and ensuring their governance is effective, with the aim of maximising their contribution to the well-being goals.
- 1.5 Additionally, the performance and governance provisions within the Act align with other duties placed on councils, such as the Socio-economic Duty (Equality Act 2010), which comes into force on 31 March 2021. This duty will require councils, when taking strategic decisions such as ‘deciding priorities and setting objectives’, to consider how their decisions might help to reduce the inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage - driving better outcomes on people’s lives and experiences through better decision making and further contributing towards our shared goal of becoming “a more equal Wales”.

Well-being goals as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015



Five ways of working



Purpose of the performance and governance provisions

- 1.6 The purpose of the performance and governance provisions in the Act is to build on and support a developing culture in which councils actively seek and embrace challenge, whether presented from within the council, for example through scrutiny procedures, or externally. The provisions are designed to provide a framework which supports councils, through an ongoing process of review, to think about their performance and effectiveness now and for the future; to encourage more inquisitive organisations willing to challenge themselves to do more; and to be more innovative and more ambitious in what they do.
- 1.7 The provisions reflect the principles that for any organisation to be effective it needs to understand its current position, it must be clear on where it wants to go, have a robust plan as to how it will get there, and identify and manage risks to drive improvement. A truly effective organisation is never satisfied by current standards, even if they are good or excellent, but is driven to do more.
- 1.8 The provisions build reflection on performance and actions to improve into the system. This is not intended to be onerous or burdensome, but to ensure councils are reflecting on and ensuring long term sustainability to deliver effective services for their communities.
- 1.9 Improvement in this context is the council's ability to deliver against immediate priorities and remain capable to respond to the changing environment in which it operates. It is about the council's ability to consider how its internal processes and people operate in order to make effective decisions for the long term - working with the communities they serve in all their diversity - and how it will go about improving these in order to make better decisions and drive better outcomes for all.
- 1.10 The ambition should be to always do better, not just satisfying targets or minimum duties but exceeding expectations, ensuring the council is achieving the right outcomes and delivering what people want. Sharing and learning from best practice and aiming to be better (even if best in class) should be an implicit part of a council's approach.
- 1.11 For example, under the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, a local authority is required to provide support where a person is threatened with homelessness within 56 days. Whilst this is the legal minimum, councils, and partner agencies such as housing associations, should, in the delivery of their existing functions, have due regard to how these functions can be used to support the provision of adequate housing; aiming to intervene much earlier than the legislation requires.
- 1.12 Areas for improvement should be looked at honestly, and actively pursued to ensure problems are prevented or dealt with early before they become systemic. Such an approach should be an integral part of the system of how councils operate. For example, council executives should welcome and encourage scrutiny inquiries to make recommendations for system improvements, and governance and audit committees will play a key role in the performance and

governance regime. The aim is to support councils to build on existing strengths and to support them to achieve a more innovative, open, honest, transparent and ambitious sector, challenging itself and collectively driving up service delivery outcomes and standards across Wales.

- 1.13 Enabling and supporting cultural and organisational change within local government through the performance and governance provisions in the Act will help to ensure strong councils, capable of achieving their well-being objectives and maximising their contribution to the national well-being goals.

The wider environment in which the performance and governance regime operates

- 1.14 The performance and governance provisions contained in the Act align with audit, inspection, regulatory and partnership arrangements.

- 1.15 Some individual responsibilities in relation to the performance and governance regime are broadly outlined below. Some of these are statutory powers and duties, contained in the Act or other pieces of legislation, and some stem from non-statutory arrangements.

Principal councils are responsible for:-

- Conducting robust self-assessments and reporting on the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements in order to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of its local communities.
- Setting out any actions to increase the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements, including, for example, the role of scrutiny in challenging and driving the extent to which the performance requirements are being met.
- Commissioning panel performance assessments at least once during the period between two consecutive ordinary elections of councillors to the council.
- Seeking support / challenge from peers and partners where and when necessary, and consulting staff, local people and trades unions about the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements.

Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) is responsible for:-

- Supporting councils at a local, regional and national level.
- Providing early intelligence and sector-led support to address areas for improvement identified through, for example, self-assessment, panel performance assessment or audit, inspection and regulator reports.

Audit Wales¹ is responsible for:-

- Auditing of accounts.
- Examining how public bodies manage and spend public money, including but not limited to their arrangements for securing value for money in the use of resources and making recommendations to improve the value for money of local government.
- Assessing the extent to which councils are acting in accordance with the sustainable development principle under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- Carrying out 'Special Inspections' as provided for in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.
- Making appropriate recommendations to councils and to the Welsh Ministers.

Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) is responsible for:-

- Encouraging improvement in the delivery of social services, social care and childcare.
- Regulation and inspection of social care services including review of local authority social services functions under the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 and the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.
- Regulation and inspection of childcare and play services under the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.
- Advising Ministers on the possible use of their powers of intervention and monitoring visits to councils as required and agreed by the Minister.
- Providing professional advice to Welsh Ministers.

Estyn is responsible for:-

- Inspecting, evaluating and reporting on councils' performance in relation to their duties as described by sections 38 to 41 of the Education Act 1997, sections 75, 76, 123 and 127 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000 and sections 25, 26 and 51 of The Children Act 2004.

¹ Audit Wales is the trademark of two legal entities: the Auditor General for Wales and the Wales Audit Office. Each has its own particular powers and duties. The Auditor General audits and reports on Welsh public bodies. The Wales Audit Office provides staff and other resources for the Auditor General's work, and monitors and advises the Auditor General.

- Making appropriate recommendations to councils and to the Welsh Ministers to support improvement.
- 1.16 Local government, Welsh Government and auditors, inspectors, regulators and commissioners will continue to work together to share intelligence, raise cases of possible concern and agree approaches to support improvement. Building this shared understanding is key to ensuring a clear focus for consistent and sustained improvement.
- 1.17 Councils should use the findings of scrutiny committees, auditors, inspectors, regulators and commissioners on how a council is delivering its functions and governing itself to inform its self-assessment, and likewise the panels undertaking a performance assessment may also use this evidence to inform their recommendations.
- 1.18 The focus should be on a shared understanding of what all of these sources collectively reveal and, most importantly, the action to be taken as a result. Self-assessments and panel performance assessments do not, in any way, substitute or replace the role of auditors, inspectors or regulators.
- 1.19 Self-assessment and panel performance assessment of how the council is meeting the performance requirements should also be informed by, but not duplicate, other performance arrangements in specific service areas.
- 1.20 For example, the *Code of practice in relation to the performance and improvement of social services*² sets out the vision for social services in Wales and how improvements in services and for individuals will be supported, measured and sustained by councils. The self-assessment process set out in this guidance will not require councils to look again in detail at the social services function, but the evidence arising from the *Code of practice* will inform the broader strategic level understanding of how the council is operating as a whole, is using its resources and delivering for the people in its area.
- 1.21 Similarly, reforms to evaluation, improvement and accountability arrangements for schools have highlighted the importance of robust and continuous self-evaluation for all tiers of the education system. For councils, this means evaluating the effectiveness and impact of their services to support schools, which can also be used to inform its wider self-assessment.

Support for improvement

- 1.22 Keeping under review the extent to which it is meeting the performance requirements is just one part of a council's improvement journey.
- 1.23 The self-assessment and panel performance assessment a council undertakes can inform when and how to engage with any and all improvement support available to increase the extent to which it is meeting its performance

² [Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014: Code of practice in relation to the performance and improvement of social services in Wales \(Welsh Government, 2020\)](#)

requirements.

- 1.24 Ultimately the ambition is to enable councils to identify and resolve issues before any formal, statutory support or intervention is required. However, the Act does make provision for the Welsh Ministers to provide support and, where necessary, intervene in councils facing significant problems.

Chapter 2 - Duty to keep performance under review, consult, and report on performance through self-assessment

Introduction

- 2.1 This chapter of guidance should be read by a council to support the discharge of its duties in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (“the Act”) to keep its performance under review; consult local people and others on the extent to which it is meeting the performance requirements; and report on its performance through a self-assessment report. The guidance here reflects the minimum requirements for self-assessment, recognising that councils are best placed to build on this to develop the detail of their own approach.
- 2.2 The findings of the self-assessment should be used to inform and identify areas where improvement or change might be needed and where sector-led support might be valuable.

Duty of principal council to keep its performance under review

- 2.3 The Act requires each council in Wales to keep under review the extent to which it is meeting the ‘performance requirements’, that is the extent to which:-
- **it is exercising its functions effectively;**
 - **it is using its resources economically, efficiently and effectively;**
 - **its governance is effective for securing the above.**
- 2.4 The duty to keep performance under review is intended to reflect existing substantive duties to which councils are already subject (i.e. their “functions”). Councils operate within a statutory framework of legal duties and powers, and it is not the intention to reproduce these at length here. The performance requirements are about looking at how effectively a council is operating, not only in terms of meeting individual objectives, but how it is delivering its functions, using its resources and governing itself.

Duty to report on performance through self-assessment

- 2.5 The mechanism for a council to keep its performance under review is self-assessment, with a duty to publish a report setting out the conclusions of the self-assessment once in respect of every financial year. Self-assessment will be complemented by a panel performance assessment once in an electoral cycle, providing an opportunity to seek external insights (other than from auditors, regulators or inspectors) on how the council is meeting the performance requirements.

Purpose of self-assessment

- 2.6 Self-assessment is a way of critically, and honestly, reviewing the current position in order to make decisions on how to secure improvement for the future. Self-assessment is more than stating what arrangements are in place;

it is about considering how effective these arrangements are and how they can be improved. Self-assessment of how the council is meeting the performance requirements places ownership of performance and improvement firmly with councils.

- 2.7 Considering the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements is a corporate, organisational assessment rather than an assessment of individual services. For example, it should consider the role of leadership, and the effectiveness of the relationship between the political leadership and senior officers in the council, in ensuring the council is able to respond to the changing environment in which it operates. It is about a council being self-aware, understanding whether it is delivering the right outcomes, and challenging itself to continuously improve how it manages delivery of services and performs as the custodian of the area.
- 2.8 Self-assessment can be achieved by using intelligence already held corporately in an insightful way, reflecting at a strategic level on how the council is operating, and what action is needed to ensure it can continue to provide effective services now and for the long term.

Approach to self-assessment

- 2.9 As indicated above, self-assessment ensures a council has ownership of its own performance and improvement. As such each individual council will wish to, and should be free to, determine its own approach to self-assessment, designed to fit local circumstances and corporate structures, and informed by best practice.
- 2.10 For some councils self-assessment will already form an integral part of ongoing strategic and corporate governance arrangements, and many (if not all) will have used self-assessment as part of operational management of individual services and at a corporate level.
- 2.11 At its simplest level, self-assessment of how the council is meeting the performance requirements is about asking the questions of:-
- How well are we doing?
 - How do we know?
 - What and how can we do better?

These questions should be asked in the context of the performance requirements.

- 2.12 Some key principles which a council should take into account when formulating its approach to self-assessment are:-
- Self-assessment is not a fixed judgement. To be truly effective, embedding self-assessment throughout an organisation should be an ongoing process, addressing issues as they are identified, responding in real time and effectively to challenges and opportunities.

- It is an opportunity for a meaningful process to contribute to strengthening local government and not an exercise in compliance.
- The self-assessment process should encourage honesty, objectivity and transparency about the council's performance and governance, including its key relationships between political leaders and officers and how these are managed.
- An effective approach would be owned and led at a strategic level, whilst involving members and officers at all levels of the organisation and a range of people across communities and partners.
- Self-assessment should be an evidence-based analysis, understanding what a range of quantitative and qualitative information at the council's disposal reveals about how it is exercising its functions, using its resources and governing itself.
- The self-assessment should be focused on outcomes, what has been achieved rather than the process, and asking honest questions about the impact of the council's actions on people's lives and experiences.
- Self-assessment should not be a standalone process, but integrated as part of the council's corporate planning, performance and governance processes.

2.13 The self-assessment will necessarily draw on a range of internal and external sources, ensuring a broad evidence base to inform the actions the council will take to increase the extent to which it is meeting the performance requirements in future.

2.14 Some sources which could inform the self-assessment, and which will already be available to the council, may include:-

- reports already produced by the council in response to statutory requirements, such as the annual report on progress on meeting the organisation's well-being objectives as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; statement of internal control required by the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014; annual equality reports; local authority social services annual reports etc;
- evidence from a range of inspection and regulatory sources, including reports from Estyn, Audit Wales, and Care Inspectorate Wales;
- reports published by the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales, such as public interest reports, thematic reports, and own initiative reports, as well as Complaints Standards Authority Reports;

- self-evaluations the council may already have undertaken in relation to specific service areas, or been involved with in relation to partnership working;
- findings of any assessment about the extent to which the council is meeting its well-being objectives, reviews undertaken, or advice published by the Future Generations Commissioner, and the Auditor General for Wales on how the council has acted in accordance with the sustainable development principle in setting and taking steps to achieve their well-being objectives;
- any inquiry, investigation, assessment undertaken, advice provided or recommendation by the Equality and Human Rights Commission in relation to strengthening action to tackle key inequalities;
- any reports of self-evaluation of the scrutiny function against the outcomes and characteristics for effective local government overview and scrutiny;
- performance management indicators (although the self-assessment will need to be broader than an assessment of quantitative performance indicators alone);
- staff surveys, and the outputs from any other engagement processes with staff such as trade union forums;
- compliments, complaints and other feedback from both internal and external sources.

2.15 This list is not exhaustive, and councils will wish to determine for themselves what information will best inform the self-assessment and lead to evidence-based conclusions about how the council is meeting the performance requirements. It will be important for councils to consider carefully how to maximise the value of the evidence sources before them, asking questions about and interpreting the evidence to understand what it reveals and how to act upon it.

2.16 In considering the effectiveness of its governance arrangements, the council may also wish to have regard to *'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government'* produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and SOLACE, as well as the accompanying guidance notes.

2.17 In reaching the conclusions of its self-assessment, the council must also take into account the views of the following about the extent to which the council met the performance requirements in the financial year to which the self-assessment report relates:-

- local people;
- other persons carrying on a business in the council's area;
- the staff of the council; and

- every trade union which is recognised (within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (c.52)) by the council.
- 2.18 The council should identify an appropriate and representative cross section of staff, local people and businesses, and determine how they are consulted in the process. For example, the council may be satisfied it could be achieved through incorporating as part of a wider approach to engagement rather than as a standalone consultation, they may also wish to consider this as they take forward implementation of the requirements to produce a public participation strategy contained elsewhere in the Act. The key priority should be to ensure that the council involves the views of the above in reaching its conclusions of the extent to which it is meeting the performance requirements.
- 2.19 The council should gather and use intelligence to reflect the experience of, and impact on, children and young people, people from different protected groups and those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage. The council may already hold relevant information as part of its Public Sector Equality Duty obligations, or the information it will use to demonstrate due regard under the Socio-economic Duty.³
- 2.20 Whilst this is the minimum consultation in relation to how the council is performing required by the Act, the council may consult others as it determines will best support its own self-assessment. The council may also wish to consult partners, for example, community and town councils or other public bodies in the area to ensure a rounded view to inform its self-assessment. In considering how it is meeting the performance requirements, it would be expected an assessment of partnership working and collaboration would be undertaken as a key indicator of how a council is exercising its functions, using its resources and governing itself.
- 2.21 Councils should be exercising the duties under the performance and governance regime within this guidance in accordance with the Welsh Language Standards and any relevant compliance notice issued by the Welsh Language Commissioner.

Applying the Well-being of Future Generations Act

- 2.22 The Well-being of Future Generations Act sets out a legally binding common purpose for the public bodies subject to that Act to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act sets out seven well-being goals⁴ which public bodies subject to the Act must work towards collectively.

³ Councils should gather and use intelligence to reflect the experience of and impact on [people from different protected groups](#) and those experiencing [socio-economic disadvantage](#)

⁴ See [Chapter 1](#) for full definitions of the goals.

- 2.23 Public bodies must meet their duty under the Well-being of Future Generations Act acting in accordance with the sustainable development principle, which means that they must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 2.24 In order to show that they have acted in accordance with the sustainable development principle, a public body must take account of five ways of working.⁵
- 2.25 The Well-being of Future Generations Act provides the context within which a council should be exercising its functions, using its resources and ensuring its governance is effective, with the aim of maximising its contribution to the well-being goals. The Act sets the framework within which a council must consider its performance, in terms of service delivery, corporate capability and capacity to meet the needs of current users, without compromising the needs of future generations.
- 2.26 The statutory guidance⁶ on the Well-being of Future Generations Act contains a core set of activities common to the corporate governance of public bodies. These are:-
- Corporate planning
 - Financial planning
 - Workforce planning (people)
 - Procurement
 - Assets
 - Risk management
 - Performance Management
- 2.27 Considering the seven corporate areas as a framework for the self-assessment, and applying the five ways of working to those areas, will support the council to ensure it is governing itself to maximise its contribution to the well-being goals and meet its well-being objectives.

Self-assessment report

- 2.28 The council is required to make and publish a self-assessment report once in respect of every financial year, and the report should be made as soon as reasonably practicable after the financial year to which it relates. However, it is for the council to determine when exactly to do this to best align with its own corporate arrangements.
- 2.29 The self-assessment report must set out conclusions as to the extent to which the council met the performance requirements during that financial year, and any actions it will take, or has already taken, to increase the extent to which it

⁵ See [Chapter 1](#) for full details of the ways of working

⁶ [Well-being of Future Generations Act Guidance](#)

will meet the performance requirements. The emphasis should be on understanding how the council is operating now, the likely demands it will face in the future, and how it can build sustainability. Beyond that, it is for the council to consider the most appropriate format for the report based on what would best fit local circumstances.

- 2.30 The intention is for the self-assessment report to be a learning document. As such it needs to be accessible and succinct, where possible. A self-assessment report might look to focus on the learning which has emerged from the self-assessment, the sources that have informed the conclusions, and summary information to answer the key questions about how the council is meeting the performance requirements: how well are we doing?; how do we know?; and what and how can we do better?.
- 2.31 Except in the case of the first self-assessment report, the report must also include a review of actions emerging from the previous year's report, with consideration on the progress made on those, and how they increased the extent to which the council met the performance requirements.
- 2.32 The council may wish to consider opportunities to integrate its self-assessment report with reports on other duties, for example it may publish its report on progress in meeting its well-being objectives as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 in the same document as the self-assessment. In considering opportunities to integrate self-assessment with other duties, the council will need to be satisfied however that all their statutory duties have been fully met.

Taking action on a self-assessment

- 2.33 Through self-assessment the council will identify areas for action to increase the extent to which it is meeting the performance requirements, and put in place a plan to ensure this is undertaken. The self-assessment should be considered the start of the process, not an end in itself. The conclusions may, for example, inform the corporate, well-being objectives or delivery plans, or scrutiny work plans as appropriate.
- 2.34 The council should be proactive in addressing the findings of the self-assessment. The self-assessment should inform considerations of how internal processes and procedures should change to support more effective planning, delivery and decision-making to drive better outcomes, and innovative ways to better deliver its functions.
- 2.35 Ensuring sustainability of services for the long term should be at the heart of the actions. This may involve looking to the long-term on future trends, risks and opportunities, considering alternative ways of delivering services such as use of digital technologies, or collaborating with other public and third sector bodies.
- 2.36 Where there are specific concerns arising from the self-assessment, the council can lead in identifying opportunities for self, and sector-led support or

involving others as appropriate. Seeking such discussions early to actively respond is the mark of a forward thinking, open organisation intent on delivering for its communities.

Who should be involved in the self-assessment

- 2.37 The requirement to produce a self-assessment report is one for the full council or its executive (as a council may determine). As has already been covered in this guidance, councils will be required to involve a wide range of stakeholders and local people in its self-assessment. In addition, involving members from controlling and opposition groups, heads of service, the corporate performance function and employees at all levels in the self-assessment will help to embed the approach in the organisation's culture and build a rich picture to inform the assessment.
- 2.38 Scrutiny committees are a key part of offering constructive challenge to how a council is performing and how it organises itself in the delivery of sustainable services. Scrutiny committees, as well as internal audit, will be a key part of a council's self-assessment, and the council should determine and agree how best to involve their scrutiny committees in the self-assessment process itself, not just in considering the outcomes of any self-assessment.
- 2.39 The council may also consider how to involve partners such as the public services board, regional partnership board etc. for their area.

Involving the council's governance and audit committee

- 2.40 The council must make a draft of its self-assessment report available to its governance and audit committee. The committee must review the draft report and may make recommendations for changes to the conclusions or action the council intends to take.
- 2.41 If the council does not make a change recommended by the governance and audit committee, it must set out in the final self-assessment report the recommendation and the reasons why the council did not make the change.

Publication of self-assessment report

- 2.42 The self-assessment report must be published⁷ within four weeks of it being finalised and approved in accordance with the council's agreed processes, and a copy should be made available to the council's governance and audit committee. The report should also be sent to:-

- The Auditor General for Wales
- Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales
- The Welsh Ministers⁸

⁷ Electronically on the council's website see s171(2) of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

⁸ This includes Care Inspectorate Wales

2.43 The council can, of course, share the report with any other person or organisation which the council so wishes.

Chapter 3 - Duty to arrange, and respond to, a panel performance assessment

Introduction

- 3.1 This chapter of guidance is about the requirements relating to panel performance assessment within the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (“the Act”). The guidance here reflects the minimum requirements for panel performance assessment as set out in the Act, recognising that councils will wish to develop the detail of their own approach.
- 3.2 The duties in relation to panel performance assessment will come into force from the start of the next local government electoral cycle, in May 2022.
- 3.3 The intention is that the performance and governance provisions in the Act will be underpinned by a sector-led, co-ordinated approach to improvement and support. The findings and recommendations of the panel performance assessment provide an external perspective and should be used to inform and identify areas where sector-led support might be valuable. This will apply in the case of individual councils and should also inform the development and provision of any proposed improvement support nationally.
- 3.4 This chapter of guidance should be read by a council to support the discharge of its duties to arrange a panel performance assessment and to publish and respond to a panel performance assessment report. This chapter may also be read by panel members to guide them in carrying out a panel performance assessment. Panel members may also refer to the guidance on self-assessment to understand how councils are required to discharge their duties on self-assessment as this may usefully inform their approach to the panel assessment.

Duty of principal council to arrange panel performance assessment

- 3.5 The Act requires a council to make arrangements for an independent panel, appointed by the council, to assess the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements – a panel performance assessment. The performance requirements are defined as the extent to which a council:-
- is exercising its functions effectively;
 - is using its resources economically, efficiently and effectively; and
 - has effective governance in place for securing the above.
- 3.6 This guidance sets out the purpose of the panel assessment; proposes the stages involved in an assessment; covers matters relating to the timing of a panel assessment; describes minimum requirements and considerations when appointing a panel; and outlines the arrangements for responding to a panel performance assessment report.
- 3.7 In considering how a council exercises its panel performance assessment duties a council should take into account the Welsh Language Standards and

any relevant compliance notice issued by the Welsh Language Commissioner.

- 3.8 Councils may of course commission support similar to a panel performance assessment for a number of other purposes, such as peer reviews on specific services or on particular themes or issues. These are all part of the council's improvement journey, and can complement but not replace the corporate, organisational level, statutory panel performance assessment required by the Act.

Purpose of panel performance assessment

- 3.9 A panel performance assessment is just one component of a sector-led approach to performance, governance and improvement. An effective panel performance assessment can inform the council's improvement journey, building on the annual self-assessment, supporting it to look to the future through a different lens. The panel assessment should provide different perspectives; some independent, objective external challenge; and an opportunity to test thinking with impartial expert peers.
- 3.10 The panel performance assessment will assess, as the council does through self-assessment, the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements. It is not about checklists, it is not a form of inspection, and it is not an audit. It is about supporting the council to achieve its aspirations through developing and deepening its understanding about how it is operating, and how it can ensure it is able to offer effective services for the long term.
- 3.11 The panel are not responsible for holding the council to account, but should offer an external view of how the council is operating. This does not replace auditors, inspectors, or regulators' assurance role. This is about supporting councils to understand how they can improve the extent to which they are meeting the performance requirements.
- 3.12 It is for the council to determine how to make the most effective use of the panel performance assessment, and ensure its findings are used alongside other sources in determining its approach to corporate performance, governance and improvement.
- 3.13 Panel performance assessment is part of a culture where councils are open to and embrace challenge, whether presented from within the authority or, in this case, externally. The assessment should be seen as challenging, but constructive, an effective and proportionate approach to continuously learning how to make the council stronger.
- 3.14 Research has shown the potential value to a council in seeking a peer perspective, such as that which a panel performance assessment will provide,

at a corporate, organisational level.⁹ For example, it has been found that such a peer perspective can confirm the council's own understanding of what is needed and add strength to the case for change, as well as supporting or encouraging both organisational and behaviour change.

Approach to panel performance assessment

- 3.15 Each individual council will wish to, and should be free to, determine its own approach to engaging with panel performance assessments (within the broad parameters set out by the Act).
- 3.16 Although it will ultimately be for the council and the panel to determine, we would expect a panel performance assessment to encompass three broad stages; Preparation, Assessment and Follow Up.

Stage 1 - Preparation

This stage is council-led and is likely to include:-

- **Scoping the requirements** of the panel performance assessment. The council may wish to work with partners to do this, and consider any particular challenges that have been highlighted in their self-assessment or in recent audit, inspection or regulator reports. This will help to identify the skills and expertise required from the panel to maximise the impact of the assessment.
- **Identifying and commissioning a panel** to undertake the assessment.
- **Establishing the terms of reference** for the panel performance assessment and, once in place, agreeing the terms of reference with the chair of the panel. This will also provide an opportunity to discuss expectations and approach to the assessment.
- **Sharing relevant information** with the panel to set the context for the assessment.
- **Making practical arrangements** as required by the panel to enable them to effectively conduct the assessment.

Stage 2 – Assessment

This stage is largely led by the panel and is likely to include:-

- **Desk-based review by the panel** to inform their initial thinking and decisions on the areas they wish to focus on during the assessment.

⁹ see Downe, J., Bottrill, I. and Martin, S. (February 2017) *'Rising to the challenge: an independent evaluation of the LGA's corporate peer challenge programme'*. Cardiff Business School: Centre for Local & Regional Government Research.

- **Discussions between the panel** and elected members, officers and other stakeholders about areas within the scope of the assessment.¹⁰
- **Verbal presentation of main findings by the panel.**

Stage 3 - Follow up

This stage should include:-

- The panel sending their **final report** to the council.
- The council **considering its response** to the panel assessment, including the **actions it intends to take following the learning** from the assessment.
- The council **involving** its **governance and audit committee** and considering any recommendations the committee makes on its response to the panel performance assessment.

Timing

- 3.17 The duty to arrange a panel performance assessment at least once during an electoral cycle means an assessment should take place in the period between ordinary elections of councillors to the council. A council may choose to commission more than one panel assessment in an electoral cycle, but it is not a requirement of the legislation.
- 3.18 It is for the council to choose the time during the electoral cycle when panel performance assessment is likely to be of most value to the council. The council should consider how the panel performance assessment can be best timed to align with other aspects of its corporate governance approach and other service specific inspections or assessments. The council may also wish to reflect on the timing of any reviews by the Future Generations Commissioner and examinations by the Auditor General for Wales, so that maximum value is achieved from the panel performance assessment. The council may wish to seek advice from inspectorates, regulators or Audit Wales on this point.
- 3.19 The only requirement on timing is that arrangements must enable the council to publish a panel performance assessment report at least six months before the date of the next ordinary election. Councils will wish to consider timing in relation to the code of recommended practice on local authority publicity, and not leave it too late in the cycle to enable a panel assessment to be commissioned and concluded.
- 3.20 Councils could, in theory, commission a panel performance assessment near the start of an electoral cycle and the next assessment near the end of the next electoral cycle. This could mean a gap of nine years between panel

¹⁰ Panels should gather and use intelligence to reflect the experience of and impact on [people from different protected groups](#) and those experiencing [socio-economic disadvantage](#)

performance assessments. However, this approach would be discouraged as it could well call into question how a council is effectively exercising its functions in relation to its performance and governance.

Preparation in advance of assessment

- 3.21 A council should not feel it has to 'prove' anything to the panel and as such preparation in advance of a panel assessment should not be overly onerous. However, it is recognised a panel performance assessment will require some administrative resource to support the panel with practical arrangements, such as arranging meetings and focus groups, and facilities for the panel to use if appropriate.
- 3.22 The panel will also wish to see key documents as part of their assessment which will require officer time to collate, but it is not envisaged this will involve the preparation of any new reports, as there should already be a range of information (including the self-assessment report) available.

Appointing a panel

- 3.23 The council is responsible for identifying panel assessors, commissioning the panel to undertake the assessment, and meeting any associated costs.
- 3.24 Selection of panel members will be key to ensuring an effective and meaningful, assessment. The council should ensure the panel has a range of practical experience, knowledge and perspectives, has integrity, objectivity and assurance that its findings will be trusted by the council. The council should also consider the importance of diversity when appointing the panel.
- 3.25 To ensure independence panel members must have sufficient detachment from the council to reach impartial, objective conclusions about how the council is meeting the performance requirements. For example no one who is, or has recently been (within the last two years), a member or officer of the council being assessed should be considered for appointment to the panel. A panel member should not be conflicted (in so far as a reasonable third party would regard a panel member as conflicted) in offering an assessment of how the council is meeting the performance requirements.
- 3.26 To be most effective the panel should be peer-led. It should have a mix of experienced senior officers, councillors and others who work with local government including from the wider public and other sectors, who can command the confidence of the council and ensure councils get the most appropriate challenge, support and constructive recommendations. Panel members can also have experience of Wales or further afield.
- 3.27 Whilst it is important that a proportion of the panel have a good understanding of the complexity of working in a political environment and the impact that this can have on organisational culture and priorities, it is equally important that those with experience of other sectors and working with local government are able to bring these valuable insights to the work of a panel.

- 3.28 It would be expected that any assessment panel commissioned under the council's duties contained in the Act should include as a minimum:-
- An independent panel chair – not currently serving in an official or political capacity within local government
 - A peer from the wider public, private or voluntary sectors
 - A serving local government senior officer, likely to be equivalent to chief executive or director, from outside the council to be assessed
 - A senior elected member, from outside the council to be assessed
- 3.29 The council may choose to appoint other additional members of the panel as they see fit, for example officers at other levels, more partner representatives or other external experts. The council may also wish to assign an officer to work with the panel for the duration of the assessment, to provide administrative support and co-ordinate activity across the authority.

The panel's role in carrying out a panel performance assessment

- 3.30 The panel, acting jointly, is required to assess the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements, that is, the extent to which:-
- it is exercising its functions effectively;
 - it is using its resources economically, efficiently and effectively;
 - its governance is effective for securing the above.
- 3.31 In this way the panel is building on, and complementing, the self-assessments already undertaken by the council. The panel may find it helpful to refer to the guidance on self-assessment to guide their approach to undertaking the panel assessment. The panel's focus should be on looking at the current situation, and over a sufficient previous period to get a meaningful picture of the position in the council and any trends. The panel will be considering how capable the council is to respond to the changing environment in which it operates, and should be guided in its work by using the ways of working set out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act.¹¹
- 3.32 The panel may also find it helpful to consider the activities common to the corporate governance of public bodies as set out in the statutory guidance on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015¹²:-
- Corporate planning
 - Financial planning
 - Workforce planning (people)
 - Procurement

¹¹ See [Chapter 1](#) for full details of the ways of working

¹² [Well-being of Future Generations Act Guidance](#)

- Assets
- Risk management
- Performance Management

- 3.33 Using this as a framework should guide the panel in understanding whether the council is governing itself effectively in order to maximise its contribution to the well-being goals.¹³
- 3.34 This is a corporate, organisational assessment, designed to consider the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements and its capability to deliver effective outcomes. The panel should not be seeking to undertake deep dives or in-depth service reviews, although a panel may draw on the findings of other peer reviews or in-depth service reviews in reaching their conclusions. The panel should not be looking to audit / check the councils own self-assessments, although the approach a council takes to self-assessment may inform a panel's view on the effectiveness of its governance arrangements.
- 3.35 In carrying out a panel performance assessment in respect of a council, a panel must consult the following about the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements:
- local people;
 - other persons carrying on a business in the council's area;
 - the staff of the council;
 - and every trade union which is recognised (within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (c.52) by the council.
- 3.36 While this is the minimum required by the legislation, the panel may choose to consult or involve others as it determines relevant to its assessment of how the council is meeting the performance requirements.¹⁴ The panel may, for example, seek to consult other partners involved in collaborative working with the council, as well as audit, inspection or regulatory bodies.
- 3.37 It is for the panel to consider how it might wish to consult in order to effectively contribute to the panel assessment process, for example utilising existing engagement mechanisms, web-based surveys, questionnaires etc. These should be designed to be representative of the relevant population (e.g. local people, or staff). It is for the council to make the necessary arrangements to facilitate the consultation.
- 3.38 The panel will also utilise a range of other internal and external sources, ensuring a broad evidence base to inform conclusions on the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements and recommendations on how to improve. Suggestions of sources which could inform the

¹³ See [Chapter 1](#) for full definitions of the goals.

¹⁴ Panels should gather and use intelligence to reflect the experience of and impact on [people from different protected groups](#) and those experiencing [socio-economic disadvantage](#)

assessment are included in the guidance to councils on conducting self-assessments.

3.39 Councils will need to consider how long they will need to engage a panel for, and agree this with the panel, to ensure there is sufficient time for the three broad stages set out in paragraph 3.16.

3.40 The assessment is likely to include the following key steps for the panel, although it will be for the panel to determine and agree its approach:-

- A scoping meeting.
- Desk based research.
- Meetings with political leaders, senior officers; and discussion groups, including with staff and partners, local people, unions and representatives of local businesses.
- Analysis of findings and agreement to conclusions.
- Presentation of key findings.
- Preparation of the panel's report to the council setting out their conclusions.

Panel assessment report

3.41 Following the conclusion of a panel assessment, a panel must make a report setting out:-

- its conclusions as to the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements;
- any actions the panel recommends that the council could take in order to increase the extent to which it meets the performance requirements.

3.42 It is for the panel to determine the form and content of this report, although it would be expected that it would reflect the key principles of openness and transparency, and accessibility for the public and all councillors. The report must be the judgements and recommendations of the panel acting jointly.

3.43 The panel chair should discuss their conclusions and recommendations with the council leader and chief executive, and any others the council wish to involve (for example leaders of the opposition and political groups, and chairs of scrutiny committees), to ensure that the richness of the learning from the assessment is properly conveyed.

3.44 The panel must send the report as soon as is reasonably practicable after it has been prepared to:-

- The council
- The Auditor General for Wales
- Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales
- The Welsh Ministers¹⁵

¹⁵ This includes Care Inspectorate Wales

Publication of panel assessment report

3.45 It is the responsibility of the council, not the panel, to publish the panel report. As soon as reasonably practicable after receiving the report from the panel, the council must:-

- make the report available to the council's governance and audit committee; and
- publish the report.¹⁶

Responding to the panel assessment report

3.46 The council must prepare a response to the panel performance assessment report. In its response, the council is required to state:-

- the extent to which it accepts the conclusions in the report;
- the extent to which the council intends to follow any recommendations contained in the report; and
- any actions it proposes to take to increase the extent to which it meets the performance requirements.

3.47 The conclusions and recommendations from the assessment should be used to guide the council in identifying actions it will take to increase the extent to which it is meeting the performance requirements. The report should highlight areas where self and sector-led support might be valuable. It may also reiterate something that the council is already aware of and add weight to the case for change, and / or indicate where it would be beneficial to involve others as appropriate.

3.48 In responding, a council should apply the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and formulate its response according to the five ways of working. This should apply to both *what* the council intends to do and *how* it intends to do it. Involving others in formulating its response would be the mark of a forward thinking council.

3.49 A council should also reflect on a panel performance assessment when undertaking its next self-assessment, to see whether the learning from the panel assessment has been put into action.

Involving the governance and audit committee

3.50 The council must make a draft of its response to the panel performance assessment available to its governance and audit committee, which must then review the draft response and may make recommendations for changes to the response to the panel assessment.

¹⁶ Electronically on the council's website see s171(2) of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

3.51 If the council does not make a change recommended by the governance and audit committee, it must set out in the final response the recommendation and the reasons why it did not make the change.

Publication of the response to the panel assessment report

3.52 As soon as reasonably practicable after finalising the response, the council must publish¹⁷ the response and send the response to:

- The members of the panel
- The Auditor General for Wales
- Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales
- The Welsh Ministers¹⁸

3.53 The response to a panel assessment report must be published at least four months before the next ordinary election of councillors to the council is due to take place.

¹⁷ Electronically on the council's website see s171(2) of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

¹⁸ This includes Care Inspectorate Wales

Chapter 4 - Special inspections by the Auditor General for Wales

Introduction

4.1 Over and above the system of self-assessment, panel performance assessment and reporting, the performance and governance provisions in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (“the Act”) provide for a special inspection of a council to be carried out by the Auditor General for Wales. This chapter describes powers for special inspections of councils, sets out how a decision to undertake a special inspection is taken, and describes the duties of councils and the Welsh Ministers to respond to special inspection reports. Councils may put reports through their own democratic processes, in addition to meeting these statutory requirements

Power to carry out a special inspection

4.2 The purpose of a special inspection is to support a council in meeting, or increasing the extent to which it is meeting, the performance requirements.

4.3 If the Auditor General for Wales considers that a council is not, or may not be meeting, the performance requirements, the Auditor General may carry out a special inspection. This inspection is to assess the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements, that is, the extent to which:-

- it is exercising its functions effectively;
- it is using its resources economically, efficiently and effectively;
- its governance is effective for securing the above.

4.4 Welsh Ministers can also request the Auditor General to consider whether a council is not, or may not be, meeting the performance requirements; and determine whether to carry out a special inspection.

4.5 The Auditor General must consult the Welsh Ministers before determining whether to carry out a special inspection of a council, unless the Welsh Ministers made the request as outlined above.

4.6 The Auditor General must also give notice in writing to the council of the intention to carry out a special inspection specifying:-

- the reasons for considering the council is not or may not be meeting the performance requirements; and
- the matters the Auditor General intends to inspect (although the Auditor General is not restricted to inspecting only the matters specified in the notice).

4.7 Following a special inspection, the Auditor General must make a report setting out:-

- conclusions as to the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements; and

- any actions it is recommended the council or Welsh Ministers take to increase the extent to which the council meets the performance requirements and/or improve the effectiveness of local government for the area.
- 4.8 The Auditor General must, as soon as reasonably practicable, publish the report and send the report to:-
- the principal council to which it relates;
 - Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales;
 - The Welsh Ministers¹⁹
- 4.9 A council in receipt of a special inspection report must make the report available to its governance and audit committee as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 4.10 If the report deals with the administration of housing benefit by the council, the Auditor General may send the report to the Secretary of State.

Duty to respond to Auditor General's recommendations – principal council

- 4.11 A council in receipt of a special inspection report by the Auditor General for Wales has a duty to respond to the recommendations.
- 4.12 The response must state what action, if any, the council intends to take in response to the recommendations. The council must make a draft of the response available to its governance and audit committee, which must review the draft response and may make recommendations for changes to the draft. If the council does not make a change recommended by the governance and audit committee, the council must set out in the response both the recommendation and the reasons why it did not make the change.
- 4.13 The response must be sent to the Auditor General within 30 days of the council receiving the report, unless the Auditor General specifies a longer period in writing.
- 4.14 The council must, as soon as reasonably practicable after sending the response to the Auditor General, publish the response and send it to:-
- Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales;
 - The Welsh Ministers²⁰

Duty to respond to Auditor General's recommendations – Welsh Ministers

- 4.15 If a special inspection report made by the Auditor General for Wales contains recommendations for action to be taken by the Welsh Ministers, the Welsh Ministers must prepare a response to the recommendations.

¹⁹ This includes Care Inspectorate Wales

²⁰ This includes Care Inspectorate Wales

4.16 The Welsh Ministers' must publish their response as soon as reasonably practicable and send it to:-

- The Auditor General;
- The principal council to which the Auditor General's report relates; and
- Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales.

Chapter 5 – Support and assistance with improving performance, and intervention by Welsh Ministers

Introduction

- 5.1 The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (“the Act”) makes provision for Welsh Ministers to provide support and assistance to councils, and where necessary to intervene where a council is facing significant problems.
- 5.2 This chapter describes powers for Welsh Ministers to provide statutory support and assistance, and is distinct from any informal sector-led support available to councils. Self-assessment and panel performance assessment should assist councils in identifying issues early, access sector-led support to address issues, and avoid the need for more formal statutory support.
- 5.3 This chapter also describes powers for statutory intervention by Welsh Ministers to increase the extent to which a council is meeting the performance requirements. Statutory intervention in a council is an action of last resort. Welsh Ministers will endeavour to work with a council and other partners to offer support to allow councils to deal with issues in an appropriate and timely manner to ensure they do not become critical or crisis issues.
- 5.4 The purpose of the support and intervention powers is to secure good governance and the delivery of effective local government, not to effect substantive change to the underlying functions of a council.

Support and assistance by the Welsh Ministers

- 5.5 Welsh Ministers are able to provide support to a council to address difficulties they are facing in meeting the performance requirements. This support will be bespoke and designed for the specific issues or circumstances causing concern. In this way the support and assistance would be tailored to best meet the specific needs of the council.
- 5.6 A council may ask Welsh Ministers to consider providing support and assistance and such a request would be the mark of a forward thinking, open organisation intent on delivering for its communities.
- 5.7 Welsh Ministers can also provide support and assistance in the absence of a request from a council, in order to increase the extent to which a council meets the performance requirements.
- 5.8 The Welsh Ministers must consult the council about the support and assistance they intend to provide.
- 5.9 Welsh Ministers can direct a council to provide support and assistance to another council if considered appropriate to increase the extent to which the council receiving support meets the performance requirements.

- 5.10 Before making a direction both councils would be consulted and all circumstances, including the impacts of providing this support, would be taken into consideration.

Powers of the Welsh Ministers to intervene

- 5.11 If Welsh Ministers consider it is likely a council is not meeting the performance requirements, or that the council is not meeting the performance requirements, they may direct a council to take specific actions and may also direct that a function of a council be performed by the Welsh Ministers or their nominee.
- 5.12 The Act includes conditions on when and how Welsh Ministers can give an intervention direction. These state that Welsh Ministers must:-
- have provided or attempted to provide support and assistance to the council;
 - have consulted such persons as they consider appropriate; and
 - have notified the relevant council that they intend to give the direction.
- 5.13 However, if Welsh Ministers consider there is an urgent need to give a direction these conditions would not apply.
- 5.14 Welsh Ministers would approach each situation on its own merits when determining whether statutory support or statutory intervention is necessary, taking account of a full range of evidence.
- 5.15 The Welsh Ministers may direct a council to co-operate with the Welsh Ministers, or with another council it directs to give support and assistance. The supported council must give access to its premises, documents, other information, and facilities and assistance for the purposes of providing support and assistance (unless prohibited from doing so by any enactment or rule of law).

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Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

Datganiad Polisi Rheoli Perfformiad a Hunanasesia / Performance Management Policy Statement and Self-Assessment

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Pwyllgor Cydlynu Trosolwg a Chraffu /
Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

15 Mehefin 2022 /
15 June 2022



Rhan 6 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) 2021 / Part 6 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

- Introduces **new performance regime** for Principal Councils
 - Councils need to be **self-aware**, understanding whether its delivering the **right outcomes**, and challenging itself to **continuously improve**
 - Focus is on **outcomes**, not on process
 - **Organisation-wide** view of performance
- Introduces **new performance regime** for Principal Councils
 - Councils need to be **self-aware**, understanding whether its delivering the **right outcomes**, and challenging itself to **continuously improve**
 - Focus is on **outcomes**, not on process
 - **Organisation-wide** view of performance

Rhan 6 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) 2021 / Part 6 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

- Not just about **meeting objectives**, but also how its delivering its functions, using its resources and governing itself.
 - Requirement to **publish Self-Assessment Report** (with action plan)
 - The Self-Assessment **Action Plan** is the key output from the process. The evaluation of achievement of the plan is the core of the Act's aim...i.e. the “so what” question
- Not just about **meeting objectives**, but also how its delivering its functions, using its resources and governing itself.
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Rhan 6 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholiadau (Cymru) 2021 / Part 6 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

- All Members have a role to play but the **Governance and Audit Committee** have a critical role in “reviewing” the Self-Assessment Report
 - Self-Assessment should **inform** and **influence** strategic planning, financial management/budget processes, improvement planning and reporting.
 - **Ongoing engagement** with the public, businesses, staff and unions.
 - Once in each election cycle, each LA must have a '**Panel Performance Assessment**'
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Pwyntiau allweddol y broses Hunanasesu / Key points of the Self-Assessment process

- Cease publication of the existing **Annual Report**
 - Publish **Self-Assessment Report** that discharges the requirements of both:
 - Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
 - Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021
 - Use Key Questions or “**Key Lines of Enquiry**” approach to ensure the process is focused on 1) outcomes, 2) corporate view of performance, 3) requirements of the Act and is 4) evidence based
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Pwyntiau allweddol y broses Hunanasesu / Key points of the Self-Assessment process

- **LG workshop** to identify evidence and scores
 - Build Self-Assessment into the **Teifi Performance System**, and create Self-Assessment 'Dashboard'
 - Publish the Self-Assessment Report **annually** (One cycle = one year)
 - Timescales aligned – e.g. Self Assessment is a **key driver for Business Plans**
 - Year 1 would be a “**year of learning**”
 - **Provides balance** between requirements of the Act and capacity
- **LG workshop** to identify evidence and scores
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 - Year 1 would be a “**year of learning**”
 - **Provides balance** between requirements of the Act and capacity

Proses Amlinellol Hunanasesiad / Self-Assessment Outline Process



Llinellau Ymholi Allweddol / Key Lines of Enquiry

Performance Requirements of the Act	Theme	Key Line of Enquiry	Current Assessment				Future Planning and Delivery		
			How well are we doing and how do we know?				What and how can we do better?		
			Evidence	What's working Well?	What are you worried about?	Score	Where do we need to be?	What do we need to do to get there?	What will tell us we have got there? i.e. the "so what"
Exercising its functions effectively	How well is the Council delivering improved outcomes for people in the local area?	1) Does the Council have a set of corporate and service strategies in place which set out the Council's vision and priorities?							
		2) Are these strategies delivering their aims and objectives?							
		3) Are these strategies sustainable in adapting to the future needs of the organisation?							
		4) Does the Council have an effective performance management framework and democratic scrutiny in place to support delivery of the Council's vision and priorities?							
		5) Are Service Business Plans delivering their objectives and performance targets?							

Ymarfer Myfyriol / Reflective Practice

Reflection or **reflective practice** is an integral part of Self-Assessment:

- Establish a culture of reflective practice both corporately and in services
- Constantly asking 'how can we improve?'
- Solutions focus on working practices and 'how we do things'
- Encourage and capture creativity and innovation

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Llinell Amser / Timeline

Mehefin – Gorffennaf /

Ebrill /
April

Ebrill – Mai/
April - May

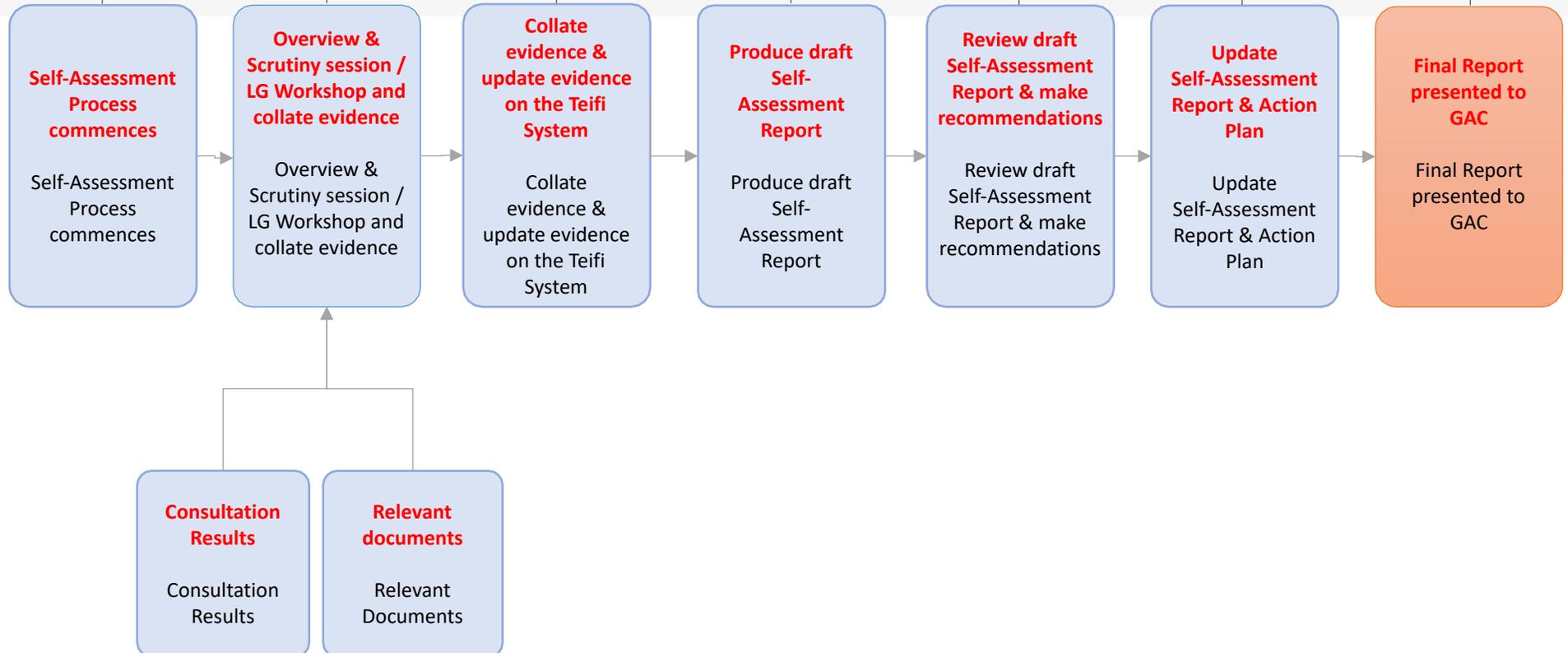
June - July

Gorffennaf – Awst /
July - August

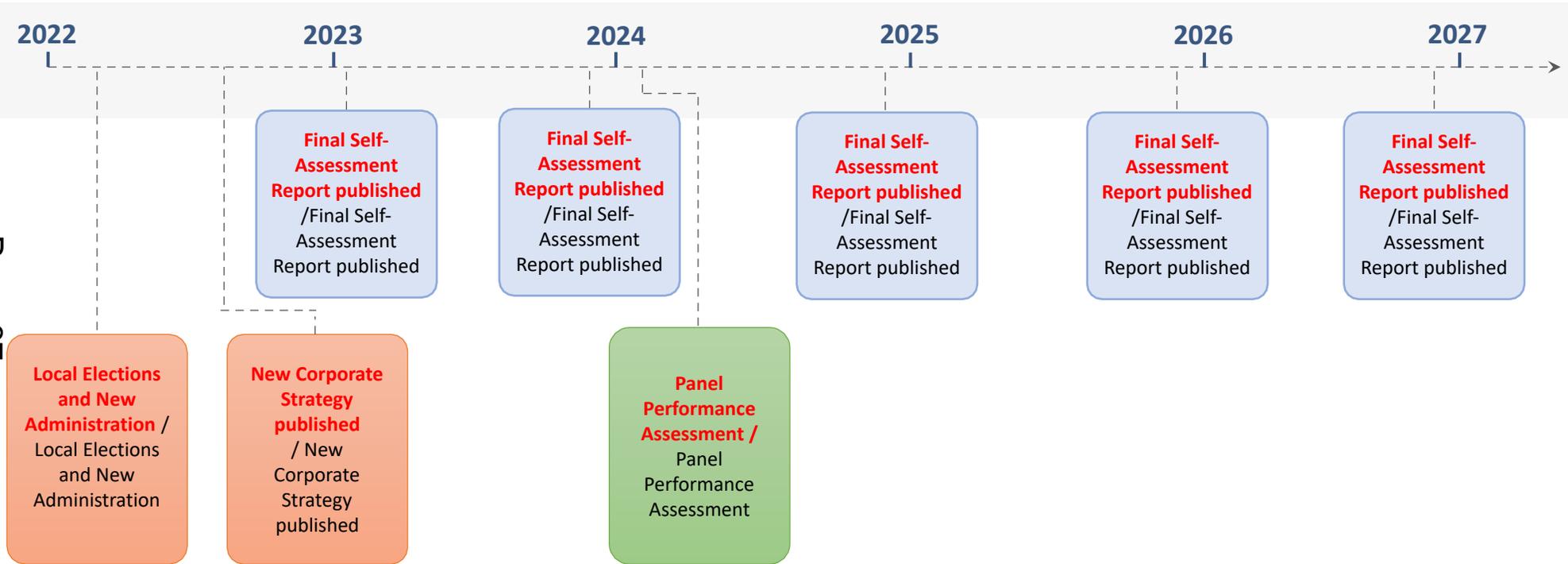
Medi /
September

Hydref /
October

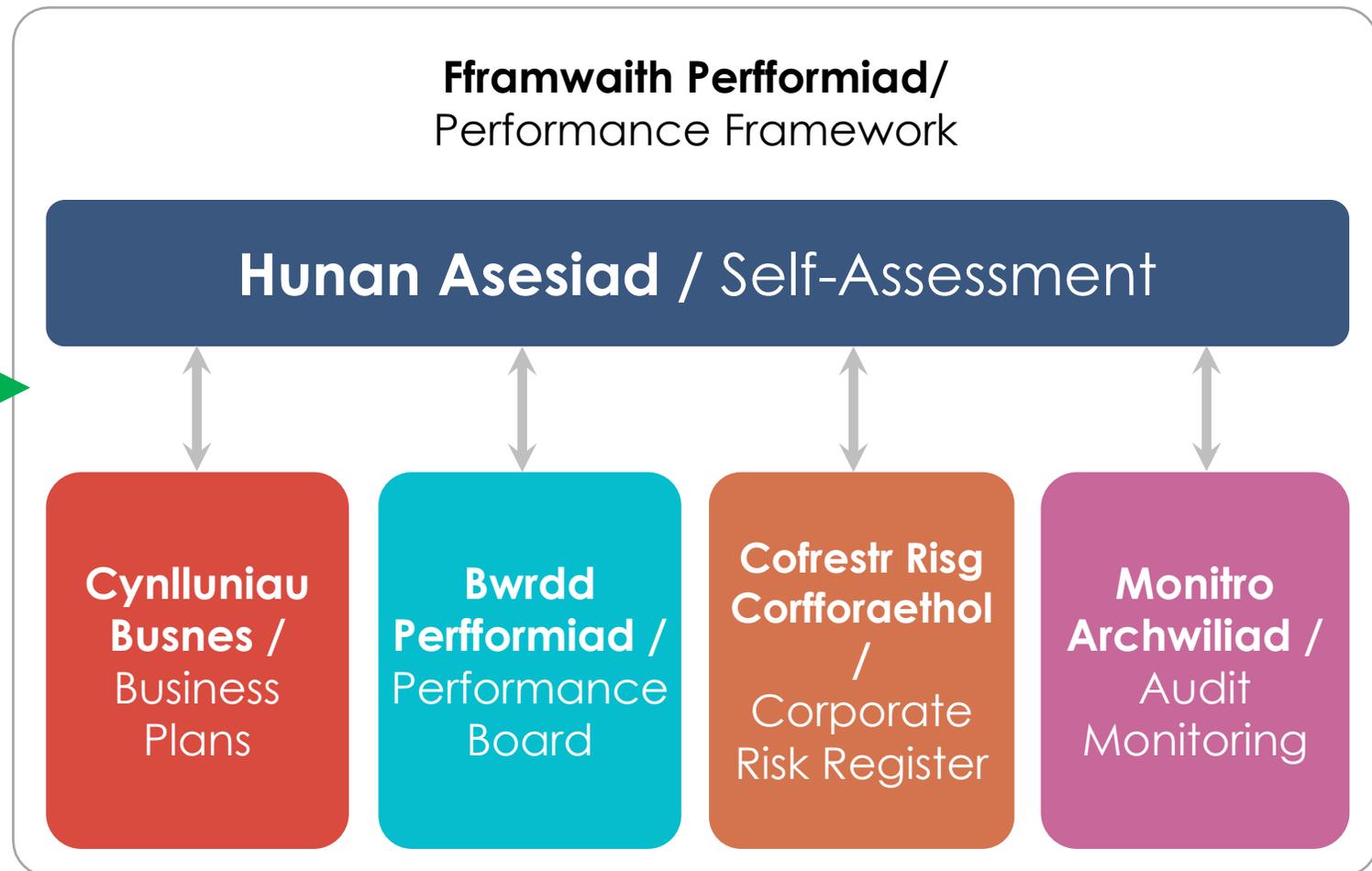
Tachwedd /
November



Cylch Etholiad 2022-27 / Election Cycle 2022-27



Integreiddio gyda'r Fframwaith Perfformiad / Integrating with the Performance Framework



Datganiad Polisi Rheoli Perfformiad/ Performance Management Policy Statement

- Legislative changes and best practice requires new **Performance Framework**
 - Performance management integral to achieving **vision** and **Corporate Well-being Objectives**
 - Tells us how well we are doing, where we are performing well and can learn from, and where we need to improve
 - Ongoing process to **continuously** challenge ourselves to improve
 - **Everyone** has a role to play in managing performance
- Legislative changes and best practice requires new **Performance Framework**
 - Performance management integral to achieving **vision** and **Corporate Well-being Objectives**
 - Tells us how well we are doing, where we are performing well and can learn from, and where we need to improve
 - Ongoing process to **continuously** challenge ourselves to improve
 - **Everyone** has a role to play in managing performance

Adolygwch / Recap:

Beth mae'n ei olygu i'r Pwyllgor Cydlynu Trosolwg a Chraffu? /

What does it mean for Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee?

- **All Members** have a key role to play
 - **Champion the principles** of self-assessment and reflective practice
 - The **Overview Scrutiny Coordinating Committee** have a critical role in:
 - Providing Member view of performance
 - Suggestions for improvement
- **All Members** have a key role to play
 - **Champion the principles** of self-assessment and reflective practice
 - The **Overview Scrutiny Coordinating Committee** have a critical role in:
 - Providing Member view of performance
 - Suggestions for improvement



Ceredigion County Council

Performance Management Policy Statement

Ceredigion County Council recognises that robust performance management is integral to achieving its vision of delivering value for money sustainable bilingual public services that support a strong economy and healthy environment while promoting well-being in our people and our communities.

Performance management is about taking action to improve council performance and outcomes for local people and communities. It involves *measuring* the services we provide, assessing the *quality* of those services, and how we *manage our resources* to provide *value for money* for the people of Ceredigion. It tells us how well we are doing, where we are performing well and can learn from, and where we need to improve.

The Council will establish an effective Performance Management Framework that will be embedded into the culture of the organisation. The Framework will provide a standardised approach to managing performance so that performance levels are maintained across the Council, and which demonstrates the 'golden thread' so everyone is clear how their role contributes to achieving the Council's vision and Corporate Well-being Objectives.

The key principles of effective performance management in Ceredigion County Council are that:

- Everyone has a role to play in managing performance
- Cabinet and Leadership Group receive timely and high quality performance information to make well-informed decisions
- Self-Assessment and Reflective Practice form an integral part of continuous improvement
- Performance information is responded to promptly
- Managing performance supports good governance and accountability
- Progress is reviewed regularly through the democratic process, Performance Board and Leadership Group.
- Business plans and performance measures reflect the Council's Corporate Well-being Objectives to ensure our objectives are being met and we know we're delivering the right services in the right way

The Council will manage its corporate and operational performance in order to:

- Ensure that statutory obligations and policy objectives are met, in particular:
 - Part 6 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 - the duty to keep performance under review, consult on performance, report on performance, arrange a Panel Performance Assessment and respond

to a Panel Performance Assessment.

- Part 2 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – the requirement to set and review progress against our Corporate Well-being Objectives
 - Ensure the Council achieves its vision and Corporate Well-being Objectives through improved performance and/or efficiency.
 - Ensure the successful delivery of major and innovative projects.
 - Support effective partnership working.
 - Preserve and promote the reputation of the Council;
 - Improve planning, prioritization and evidence-based decision making.
 - Capture innovation and creativity in order to identify opportunities to improve performance and/or efficiency.
 - Be self-aware and understand whether we are delivering the right outcomes.
 - Learn from benchmarking and best practice, either internally or externally.

The Performance Framework will be applied to all of Ceredigion County Council services and functions, and in particular will form part of its approach to:

1. Corporate Strategy development
2. Policy setting
3. Setting and review of Corporate Well-being Objectives
4. Undertaking organisation-wide Self-Assessment and Panel Performance Assessment
5. Business planning and monitoring
6. Evidence-based decision-making
7. The Risk Management process
8. Engagement and consultation to seek resident's and other stakeholder's views on Council performance

Performance management is an ongoing process through which the Council will continuously challenge itself to improve. The Framework will describe this ongoing cycle.

The Chief Executive has overall responsibility for securing adherence to the Council's policy on Performance Management.

The Performance Management Framework will be reviewed periodically to ensure that the processes contained therein remain fit for purpose and continue to support the Council in delivering its vision and Corporate Well-being Objectives. With the introduction of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 this will be particularly important for the process of conducting Self-Assessment which will be reviewed annually at the end of each cycle.

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Overview & Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

DATE: 15-06-2022

LOCATION: Virtual meeting

TITLE: Ceredigion Public Services Board (PSB) meetings held on the 18th November 2021, 7th March 2022 and the Assessment of Local Well-Being

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To provide an opportunity for the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee to scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the Ceredigion PSB.

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: As the designated Scrutiny Committee for taking an overview of the overall effectiveness of the PSB.

BACKGROUND:

Under Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Local Authorities are required to ensure their Overview and Scrutiny Committees have the power to scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Public Services Board for the Local Authority area in the exercise of its functions.

MINUTES OF THE CEREDIGION PSB MEETINGS HELD ON THE 18th NOVEMBER 2021 & 7th March 2022.

The minutes of the Ceredigion PSB meeting held on the 18th November 2021 and draft minutes of the Ceredigion PSB meeting held on the 7th March 2022 are presented to the Committee and can be seen in **Appendix 1 and 2**.

ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL WELL-BEING

Following presentation of the draft Assessment of Local Well-being to this committee on the 1st of December 2021 and extensive engagement and consultation, the Ceredigion PSB has now published the Assessment of Local Wellbeing. The assessment will now be used in order to inform the preparation of next Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan 2023-28. The Plan will set out how we will improve the well-being of Ceredigion and its communities over the next 5 years.

The Assessment is now presented to this committee for information and can be seen in **Appendix 3a & 3b**.

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:	Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why	Not completed as the report is not a Policy or Service change.
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Summary:
Long term:
Integration:
Collaboration:
Involvement:
Prevention:

RECOMMENDATION (S):

- i. To receive the draft minutes of the Ceredigion PSB meetings held on 18th November 2021 and 7th March 2022
- ii. To receive the Assessment of Local Well-being for Ceredigion

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

In order for the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee to carry out their role of taking an overview of the overall effectiveness of the PSB.

Contact Name: Alun Williams
Designation: Corporate Lead Officer, Policy, Performance and Public Protection
Date of Report: 15-06-2022
Acronyms: Public Services Board (PSB)



Meeting 28

7th of March 2022, 13:30pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MINUTES

Present:

Cllr Ellen ap Gwynn (EaG)	Chair, Ceredigion County Council
Eifion Evans (EE)	Ceredigion County Council
Alun Williams (AW)	Ceredigion County Council
Barry Rees (BR)	Ceredigion County Council
Hazel Lloyd-Lubran (HLL)	CAVO
Iwan Cray (IC)	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Gwilym Dyfri Jones (GDJ)	University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Anna Bird (AB)	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Cllr Elwyn Williams (EW)	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Gillian Wells (GW)	Natural Resources Wales
Jan Batty (JB)	Public Health Wales
Dr Phil Kloer (PK)	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Duncan Hamer (DH)	Welsh Government
Jo McCarthy (JM)	Public Health Wales
Gavin Bown (GB)	Natural Resources Wales
Pedr ap Llwyd (PaLI)	National Library of Wales

Also in attendance:

Rob Starr (RS)	Ceredigion County Council
Mari Hopkins (MH)	Ceredigion County Council
Caitlin Theodorou (CT)	Ceredigion County Council
Pat Smith (PS)	Department of Work and Pensions
Dewi Day (DD)	Aberystwyth University
Helen Griffith (HG)	Coleg Ceredigion/ Sir Gar
Amy Richmond-Jones (ARJ)	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Carys Huntly (CH)	Ceredigion County Council
David Burch (DB)	CLES

PSB Support team:

Diana Davies (DD)	Corporate Manager, Partnership and Performance (CCC)
Manon Horscroft (MH)	Support Officer (CCC)
Cathryn Morgan (CM)	Partnerships Manager (Temp.) (CCC)
Lynne Walters (LW)	Partnerships Officer (CCC)

Sally Bullingham-Taylor (SBT) Partnerships Officer (CCC)	
29.1	Apologies, introductions & disclosures of interest
<p>The Chair began the meeting by welcoming all. There were no disclosures of interest.</p> <p>Apologies: Carwyn Young, Ceredigion County Council Elen James, Ceredigion County Council Maria Battle, Hywel Dda University Health Board Vanessa Cashmore, Coleg Ceredigion/Coleg Sir Gar Dr Andrew Cornish, Coleg Ceredigion/ Coleg Sir Gar Rhodri Llwyd Morgan, Aberystwyth University Christine Harley, HM Prisons and Probation Service Carys Morgan, Police and Crime Commissioner's Office Ben Davies, One Voice Wales</p>	
29.2	Minutes of previous Ceredigion PSB meeting – 18.11.21
<p>The minutes from the meeting held on 18.11.21 were agreed as a true record.</p>	
29.3	Matters arising from previous meeting
<p>No matters arose from the previous meeting.</p>	
29.4	Correspondence from NRW: Nature and Us – What future do we want for our Natural Environment?
<p>CM provided a brief details on behalf of NRW on their “Nature and Us” engagement. They wish to commence a national debate through a series of events and activities. With the National campaign having been launched on the 17th of February NRW are proposing to host a number of consultation sessions in order to talk to both partners and the public. These will have the specific aim of building a vision for the future of the environment of Wales for 2030-2050. NRW Will be working in partnership and will be running several focused workshops on how to undertake these discussions effectively to drive this work forward. The five key these will be considered :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do people need to identify as the key to the future? 2. If things went well, be optimistic but realistic on a desirable outcome. 3. If things go wrong what factors, will people be concerned about? 4. People need to think of different scenarios of the future. 5. What is everyone willing to change? <p>NRW have asked all PSB’s across Wales to be part of this national conversation and links to these discussions have been distributed through Social Media platforms. Partners will shortly be receiving additional details, invitations and links for themselves and colleagues to engage.</p>	

ACTION: PSB Support Team to circulate the three NRW workshop dates to members.

29.5 Report and action plan – “Creating Wealth in the Foundational Economy” – CLES

DB attended the PSB meeting on behalf of John Heneghan to provide a presentation based on the report and action plan for the Creating Wealth in the Foundation Economy project. The report had been circulated to members in advance of today's meeting thus enabling DB to focus on a summary of the main findings and conclusions of this initial stage which came to an end in December 2021.

DB highlighted that this project adopted a people based approach to delivering an inclusive economy with its aim to increase the flow of wealth back into local economies. He also highlighted that this approach recognises the limitations of a “growth first” economic strategy.

DB outlined that a series of workshops were initially arranged for April 2020 but these were cancelled due to the Covid pandemic and the subsequent lockdowns which were imposed on all areas. The programme was subsequently re-profiled, based on remote delivery and, as anchor capacity was directed towards responding to the pandemic, the initial work for this project focused on data analysis.

A brief description of the objectives for the project was provided and it was outlined that 5 focus groups were held for the Mid Wales region (Ceredigion & Powys) :

1. Construction and retrofit.
2. Enhancing opportunities for SME's.
3. Support for generative suppliers.
4. Food Procurement.
5. Business start-ups.

Overall reflections were provided to members on the importance of sharing data and knowledge for the benefit of local development. It was noted that this programme has brought anchor institutions of different sizes and sectors together and this has led to the development of new relationships and connections. CLES would be happy to discuss further details with individual partners or on a collectively basis should this be of interest to PSB partners.

The Chair invited members to ask questions or comment on the content of the report and presentation.

AB thanked DB and noted that this work will fit in very well with future agenda items and would be an important resource that partners can work on.

DH commented that Community Wealth building within the region needs to be actioned and should reflect best practice. There are opportunities for further work which will then be accompanied by practical implementation steps and it was suggested that this may include the establishment of a project bank.

Dr PK made reference to the availability and suitability of the local workforce, in particular within the construction industry and stated that any examples of good practice need to be shared, particularly if development has been directly aided by an investment in apprenticeships in the local area.

IC asked a specific question as to whether CLES have had direct thoughts on the potential conflicts between scope 3 emissions targets (from a sustainability point of view) and the direct support of local SMEs.

DB responded by noting that there are many examples available across the UK where local companies have been prioritised however practical changes within the business support mechanism is crucial to support this. DB agreed to provide this feedback to John Heneghan and seek further clarification, as appropriate on the issues raised.

The Chair thanked DB for his attendance at the meeting and for the work which had been undertaken by CLES on this project.

29.6 Assessment of Local Well-being

RS provided the latest update on the development stages of the Assessment of Local Well-being. He noted that during the last PSB meeting held in November, the Draft Assessment was approved by members to go out to public consultation. The public consultation took place between, December '21- End of January '22. The team received a total of 25 responses from the public and the nature of these consultation responses were very detailed. The Assessment has been viewed nationally and has been very well received by the Future Generations for Wales Office and colleagues at WG. Overall, both are very pleased with the draft and many positive points have been received.

The team have now reviewed and addressed the comments made by the Future Generations for Wales Office and WG officers and members can view this feedback in the papers provided for today's meeting.

Locally, RS noted that the team have received a mixed response to the document with many comments being made about the Environment and Health. In response to this RS noted that he had to extend the writing period for another month in order to go through the detailed feedback. This work has now been undertaken and RS thanked everyone for their comment support and feedback.

RS noted that a full debrief of the consultation is planned and this will be led by the PSB/RPB Network Group who have been co-ordinating this work. Members were also reminded that they may view the latest draft of the assessment with today's meeting papers. The publication date for the Assessment continues to be by May 2022.

The Chair thanked RS and the team for their detailed work.

DECISION: Members agreed to the sign off of the Assessment of Local Well-being.

29.7	Local Well-being Plan – draft objectives
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Following the workshop held for PSB members on the 11th of February, CM presented the four draft objectives for consideration and feedback from members. The four draft objectives which have been prepared following the Workshop are:

1. We will work together to achieve a sustainable economy that benefits local people and builds on the strengths of Ceredigion.
2. We will work together to reduce inequalities in our communities and use social and green solutions to improve physical and mental health.
3. We will work together to deliver decarbonisation initiatives within Ceredigion to protect and enhance our natural resources.
4. We will work together to enable communities to feel safe and connected and will promote cultural diversity and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language.

Dr PK emphasised the importance of the first objective around the outward migration of young people as it is staggering to see how much of an issue this is in Ceredigion. Secondly, Dr PK noted that in addition to green solutions blue solutions also need to be considered within the draft objectives. Finally he noted that in terms of equalities, there is a major question centred on how to tackle inequalities and indeed when you start to ask how you are going to do this the answer will lie within the support and initiatives which sit underneath it.

ACTION: Cathryn Morgan to consider the explanatory detail to go with the first objective to ensure that the impact of inequality on the most disadvantaged within our communities is taken into account when developing the actions taken to address this objective.

DECISION: Members endorsed the draft objectives and agreed to the commencement of the work on the Local Well-being Plan.

29.8	PSB Place Based Pilot Project Updates
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i. Carbon Neutral Aberystwyth and Decarbonisation Strategy:

Dewi Day (DD) provided a brief update on the work of this pilot group. The project has had funding from BAIS to cover the full feasibility cost of the Techno Economic Feasibility Study for the District Heat Network. This work has now started in the northern area of Aberystwyth town. They are now arranging a site visit to obtain a greater understanding of the local heat network and future requirements. This initial phase of this work will take 3-4 months. Within the last meeting, the group agreed to widen their remit to also focus on decarbonisation actions undertaken by partners on an individual and collective basis in Aberystwyth town. The group is now bringing WG Energy Services representation into the meetings in order to consider the Mid-Wales energy plan and to explore how partners can interface and influence a local strategy.

ii. Community Health and Social Solutions for Tackling Poverty and Promoting Well Being in Cardigan:

HLL updated members on the progress made with this pilot project. RS and the team have pulled together a paper providing the baseline statistics for the Teifi, Rhydyfowch and Mwdan wards in Cardigan. These include two of most deprived areas in Ceredigion. As a group, they have decided to share the paper with members of the PSB as it includes very significant and interesting indicators for partners. Sub-groups have been established within the group and these are focusing their work on:

- Mapping assets
- Investment
- Targeting provision

iii. Well-being in Lampeter:

CM gave a brief overview of this pilot project on behalf of the pilot Chair, Elen James who was unable to be present today. The first meeting was held at the end of January. Many partners attended and the shared details of their priorities and strategies which were specific to Lampeter and surrounding area. The second meeting was held on the 4th of March and during this meeting members were split into three subgroups which focused on:

- Anti-social Behaviour
- Food, Physical and Environmental Wellbeing
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health

An initial plan of short term and long term actions has been formulated to address matters within these three action areas with the overall objective of a multi-agency approach to improving levels of well-being in the Lampeter area.

28.9 Tackling Hardship Strategy Update

The update report from CM had been circulated in advance with the meeting papers. The Poverty sub-group met on 21st of January 2022. A progress report on the Tackling Hardship action plan (April-Sept 2021) was presented and this focused on specific issues that could be more effectively addressed by a multi-agency approach. The main concerns are low incomes, debt, recruitment difficulties (particularly in the childcare sector), public transport and an increase in mental health and well-being issues.

The current Tackling Hardship Strategy is due to end in 2022 and the Poverty sub-group agreed to extend it for a further 12 months in order to bring it into line with the new Well-being plan, which will commence in April 2023.

ACTION: A link to the Data Dashboard for the Tackling Hardship Strategy is to be shared with PSB members following the meeting.

29.10 Feedback from Ceredigion County Council Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 1st December, 2021

CM reported that the Committee was happy to approve the minutes of the last PSB meeting held on the 18th November, 2021. Also, following a presentation by RS and CT at their meeting members provided feedback and accepted the Assessment of Local Well-being.

29.11 Any Other Business

The Chair noted that Ceredigion County Council is ready to help with any Refugees arriving from Ukraine.

To conclude the meeting the Chair confirmed that this would be her last meeting as Chair of the PSB and confirmed her retirement from Ceredigion County Council following the elections. The Chair thanked members for their support and contributions throughout the meetings.

Members extended their sincere thanks to the Chair for all her work with the PSB and the Local Authority and they extended their best wishes on her in retirement.

No further business was raised.

29.12

Date of next meeting:

13th of June 2022, 9.30-11.30

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Meeting 28

18th of November 2021, 09:30am
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MINUTES

Present:

Cllr Ellen ap Gwynn (EaG)	Chair, Ceredigion County Council
Eifion Evans (EE)	Ceredigion County Council
Alun Williams (AW)	Ceredigion County Council
Hazel Lloyd-Lubran (HLL)	CAVO
Iwan Cray (IC)	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Gwilym Dyfri Jones (GDJ)	University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Anna Bird (AB)	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Cllr Elwyn Williams (EW)	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Thomas Vetter (TV)	National Resources Wales
Rhodri Llwyd Morgan (RLM)	Aberystwyth University
Ch. Insp Christina Fraser (CF)	Dyfed-Powys Police

Also in attendance:

Rob Starr (RS)	Ceredigion County Council
Mari Hopkins (MH)	Ceredigion County Council
Caitlin Theodorou (CT)	Ceredigion County Council
James Gibb (JG)	Department of Work and Pensions
Cllr Rowland Rees-Evans (RRE)	Ceredigion County Council
Dewi Day (DD)	Aberystwyth University
Elen James (EJ)	Ceredigion County Council
Carwyn Young (CY)	Ceredigion County Council
Helen Griffith (HG)	Coleg Ceredigion/ Sir Gar
Amy Richmond-Jones (ARJ)	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Carys Huntly (CH)	Ceredigion County Council
Yvette Elev (YE)	National Resources Wales

PSB Support team:

Diana Davies (DD)	Corporate Manager, Partnership and Performance (CCC)
Nia Wyn Jones (NWJ)	Partnerships Officer (CCC)
Manon Horscroft (MH)	Support Officer (CCC)
Cathryn Morgan (CM)	Partnership Manager (Temp.) (CCC)
Lynne Walters (LW)	Partnerships Officer (CCC)

28.1	Apologies, introductions & disclosures of interest
<p>The Chair began the meeting by welcoming all. There were no disclosures of interest.</p> <p>Apologies: Barry Rees, Ceredigion County Council Russell Hughes-Pickering, Ceredigion County Council Steve Moore, Hywel Dda University Health Board Maria Battle, Hywel Dda University Health Board Ros Jervis, Public Health Wales Gillian Wells, Natural Resources Wales Vanessa Cashmore, Coleg Ceredigion/Coleg Sir Gar Supt. Robyn Mason, Dyfed-Powys Police Pat Smith, Department of Work and Pension Carys Morgan, Police and Crime Commissioners Office Duncan Hamer, Welsh Government</p>	
28.2	Minutes of previous Ceredigion PSB meeting – 17.09.21
<p>The minutes from the meeting held on 17.09.21 were agreed as a true record.</p>	
28.3	Matters arising from previous meeting
<p>CM updated members on the new Afghan Relocation Scheme. Two properties were identified as suitable. One property is currently ready for a family, the other was withdrawn due to delays in the family arriving. A suitable family had been matched to the property, but they refused to relocate to a rural area. Another family was matched but could not arrive until January and the landlord subsequently withdrew from the scheme. Similar issues are happening across Wales. Concerns have been raised with the Home Office that the scheme is not running as smoothly as anticipated.</p> <p>In relation to the progress report on the Tackling Hardship Strategy, members raised concerns about the £20 a week deduction to Universal Credit. Welsh Government have announced that those on lower incomes will receive an additional 'Winter payment' of £100. This is welcomed but it creates additional work and the CCC Benefits team did not have much warning to prepare prior to the public announcement.</p>	
28.4	Assessment of Local Well-being
<p>RS presented the main findings of the draft Assessment. The report and appendices were distributed prior to the meeting. This is an important milestone in the process; the next stage is public consultation before the final Assessment is presented for approval to the</p>	

PSB in March 2022. RS thanked PSB members and the team for their input and support in the work so far.

RRE noted that high levels of phosphates in the county has halted planning development in Ceredigion. He asked if this is highlighted enough in the Assessment and requested a progress update from NRW on the issue. TV agreed that this should be included as a critical priority and that NRW will respond to this point as part of their feedback on the draft Assessment.

IC was surprised at the response of individuals to 'Feeling Safe' and asked for more detail about how 'feeling safe' is defined. There is more detail within the evidence collected to support the Assessment but it's likely that we will need to address this issue as we move through the process of developing the Well-being Plan.

HLL noted that the slide showing the impact of population change is striking and suggested that, if the slides are used for future presentations, this one is tweaked to include the impact on Social Care as well as on Health services.

AB raised concerns about engaging with the public given the context and size of the documents. RS confirmed that the team are working on breaking down the presentation to main findings and hope to use appropriate technology to present the information in a friendly and interactive way.

CF noted that a lot of the data ties in with Dyfed Powys Police's data on crime and demand trends. She agreed with IC's observation on 'Feeling Safe' since Ceredigion is known to be one of the safest counties in Dyfed-Powys. The police are experiencing recruitment issues and Ceredigion teams are being covered by officers from Carmarthen and Haverfordwest, this corresponds with the data on population demographics.

The Chair and Members thanked RS and the team for all their work. Members of the PSB were asked to promote the consultation on the draft Assessment within their networks as well as providing feedback from their own organisations. This part of the process is crucial in making sure that the Well-being Plan is effective and fit for purpose.

ACTION: Members to promote the consultation and the draft Assessment within their networks for feedback.

28.5	PSB Place Based Pilot Project Updates
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The Board have now moved from 6 PSB workstreams to 3 pilot project groups in order to progress the current Well-being Plan.

i. Carbon Neutral Aberystwyth and Decarbonisation Strategy

DD of Aberystwyth University is leading on this project. The key partners are Aberystwyth University, Hywel Dda University Health Board and Ceredigion County Council with advisory

support provided by Welsh Government Energy Services and Heat Network Delivery Unit. The National Library is working on its own carbon neutral plans and will share information and knowledge to support this pilot project.

The group met on 15/11/21. The plan is a building to house low carbon heat generation that will be piped to the various buildings involved. An initial feasibility study was undertaken 5 years ago (to meet the commitment to achieve Zero Carbon by 2030) but lack of money meant that the work did not progress at the time. There may now be WG funding available, but it is heavily oversubscribed, and the timescale is tight.

The group agreed that there are benefits in collaborating on the project and identified the need for an updated feasibility study, the estimated cost is £70,000. If funding cannot be found, a financial commitment will be requested from each of the 3 partners. All partners agreed to seek to secure senior management support to pave the way for an updated feasibility study to progress next Spring.

ii. Community Health and Social Solutions for Tackling Poverty and Promoting Well Being in Cardigan

HLL is leading on this project. She reported that the first meeting was held on 03/11/21 and there was excellent attendance and participation. It is clear that there are a range of challenges facing the community and a great deal of groups and organisations are working in Cardigan to offer a wealth of activities in the town. The group agreed that empowering the community from within is essential and initial steps in the action plan will include:

- **Mapping** of assets and resources
- **Researching** and gathering existing consultation reports and strategies in order to identify outstanding actions and recommendations
- **Investing** by bringing together any available funding aimed at tackling hardship
- **Targeting** provision by setting up an outreach programme to make it easier for citizens in Cardigan to access support and advice
- **Linking** by work with key stakeholders to promote and increase opportunities for people to engage in activities to improve their own outcomes and the outcomes of others, and
- **Monitoring** the data sets available for Cardigan.

The group have also agreed that all future references to the aims and objectives of this pilot project will now emphasise “tackling hardship and promoting well-being”. The group will meet again in December to discuss available data sets, the mapping of assets and resources and decide on the best delivery method for the pilot project.

iii. Multi-agency approach to Well-being in Lampeter

EJ of Ceredigion Council is leading on this project. The group have not met yet, but internal discussions have taken place. The intention is to focus on working together to promote well-being in Lampeter and neighbouring areas. There are numerous groups and organisations offering activities, it is recognised that the demographics are changing and there is a need to map and better understand what is on offer to ensure that the health and wellbeing needs of those living in the area are being met.

The Through Age and Wellbeing model has set out a strategy for an integrated service delivery model and this PSB project will further enable the delivery of the strategy.

CY provided an update on progress of the transformation of Lampeter leisure centre into the Council's first Well-being hub. The new floor plans were presented; these are now ready, and the work will go out to tender soon.

28.6 | An All Wales Review of Assaults on Emergency Workers

Ch. Insp CF presented a report commissioned by Chief Constable Pam Kelly, former Dyfed-Powys Officer. The Joint Emergency Service Group (JESC) covers the four Welsh Forces, British Transport Police, Welsh Ambulance Service and the three Fire and Rescue Services in Wales. The report, circulated prior to the meeting, outlines the number, type and location of assaults (punching, kicking, pinching, spitting and verbal abuse) on Emergency Workers from the 1st of January 2021 until end of June 2021.

AW raised that CCC staff have experienced similar issues, mainly Social Care staff, the Covid enforcement team and Animal Health team. The officers now wear body cameras, this sometimes calms the situation but can also provide evidence if needed.

Members were asked to acknowledge the report and to consider whether the PSB can use it to positively influence the agenda to reduce assaults on our emergency workers in Wales.

28.7 | Feedback from Ceredigion County Council Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 15th September, 2021

RRE thanked DD and LW who presented the minutes of the PSB meeting in July 2021. The minutes of the last PSB meeting were approved. The issue of phosphates was raised by Scrutiny committee members and RRE welcomed the opportunity to raise this again today.

28.8 | Green Infrastructure Action Plans

Ceredigion Planning Policy Team worked with the Rural Communities Team to prepare a funding bid to Welsh Government Transforming Towns Initiative. The Planning Policy team helped to prepare the business case for Green Infrastructure Action Plans for the six towns in Ceredigion.

Over the last 18 months, capacity has been built through engagement and evidence building, but this has not fully concluded in delivering projects to transform our towns.

There is still work to be done to reach the final stage of capacity building so as to be able to support project delivery and move forward with projects to enhance or build upon our Green Infrastructure assets in the short, medium and long term.

These are the essential elements of Green Infrastructure Action Plans (GIAPs) and would help advance the aims of the PSB Climate Change sub-group. It has been confirmed that the Re-Connecting Nature report by R4C may be used as a reference for baseline information and will be made available in the tender specification to consultants for the completion of GIAPs.

Welsh Government have approved the GIAP project under the Transforming Towns Initiative and the Rural Towns Development Officer is currently expediting a procurement framework for the Transforming Towns revenue funded projects to go to tender.

DECISION: The Chair and PSB members agreed to support this work moving forward.

28.9	Any Other Business
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AB updated members on the Covid-19 vaccination and Flu programmes. COVID VACCS-JCVI have updated their guidance to include boosters for everyone over 40 and 2nd doses are available for 16-17 year olds. The Health Board still have 7 mass vaccination centres open and access to a mobile vaccination unit where needed. GPs are giving booster jabs to housebound patients, with support from the vaccination team. The flu vaccine programme is well underway, GP surgeries and community pharmacies are offering vaccinations to all over 50's and those under 50 at risk. The schools programme this year includes secondary school children for the 1st time.

AW raised that it has been agreed to end the Covid element of the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) groups across Wales, as there are other multi-agency groups who can respond to Covid.

There was no other business. The Chair closed the meeting by thanking all for attending and for their continued contributions to the discussions.

28.10	<u>Date of next meeting:</u> 7th of March 2022, 13.30-15.30
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Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO:	Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee
DATE:	15 June 2022
LOCATION:	
TITLE:	CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group Safeguarding Report Qtr 2 2021/22
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To monitor activity on a multi-agency basis of the actions taken to safeguard children and adults within Ceredigion
REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION:	To ensure members monitor progress in the CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group quarterly management meetings

BACKGROUND:

Please see attached CYSUR-CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group Safeguarding Report for Qtr 2, 2021/22.

These are multi-agency management reports in relation to safeguarding children and adults in Ceredigion during the period 1st July to 30th September 2021. They provide management information on action taken under the Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

The Reports include information provided by other agencies in relation to safeguarding the welfare of children and adults in Ceredigion.

The management information is discussed by members of the CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined (Ceredigion) Local Operations Group in order to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the safeguarding of children and adults arrangements in Ceredigion and the outcomes achieved

These multi agency meetings provide an opportunity to identify and act upon any performance and other issues within this area of work.

Performance information is also provided to the Mid and West Wales Regional Safeguarding Board which is also an opportunity to analyse performance, trends and issues across the Region.

Summary of Key points:

CHILDREN SAFEGUARDING;

- There was a slight decrease in the number of reports regarding children that led to action being taken under Safeguarding Procedures in this Quarter compared to Quarter 1, with the number being 106 in Q2 compared to 116 in Q 1.
- However, there was an increase in the number of Initial Child Protection Conferences held compared to Quarter 1, with 11 conferences being held relating to 33 children in this quarter compared to 9 initial conferences relating to 18 children in Quarter 1.
- As an outcome of Initial Child Protection Conferences, there were 27 children placed on the Child Protection Register in this quarter. 6 children were not placed on the register.
- 14 Review Conferences were held in this quarter, relating to 24 children. Of those 24 children, 13 children remained on the CP register, 11 children were removed from the register. Of the 11 children who were de-registered, 3 were in receipt of further interventions on a Child in Need of Care and Support Plan; 6 were subject of a Court Order and are Looked After Children with 2 further young people not in need of any services
- Police were the main source of the reports that were received, with Internal Social Services and then Education also providing the majority of reports that were received.
- There was a decrease in the number of Section 47 Enquiries undertaken in this quarter compared to Quarter 1, with 51 undertaken in this quarter and 65 in Q 1. Of the 51 enquiries undertaken, 38 of those enquiries were undertaken jointly between Police and Social Services.
- Of the Enquiries undertaken, sexual abuse/exploitation was the main category of abuse being investigated (21) with 14 relating to allegations of physical abuse, 12 related to neglect and 4 related to emotional abuse.
- 81.5% of Initial Child Protection Conferences were held in Statutory Timescales compared to 94% in Q 1. 2 conferences relating to 5 children were held out of timescale, 1 due to staffing issues and the other due to availability of the children's family. 91.7% of Review Child Protection Conferences were held in timescale and 100% of Core Group meetings were held in timescales.
- The main risk factors for the children who were on the Child Protection Register were Domestic Abuse (95%), parental separation (60%), parental substance/alcohol misuse (57.8%), parental non co-operation with the CP Plan (55.5%) and adult offences of violence (53.3%). Parental Mental Health difficulties was a 46.7% risk factor affecting children on the register.

- Of the 45 children on the register as of the 30th September, 24 children were registered under the category of emotional/psychological abuse, 20 children were registered under the category of neglect and 1 was registered under neglect and sexual abuse.

ADULT SAFEGUARDING.

- There is an increase in Q2 of the number of adults who are suspected of being at risk of abuse and/or neglect, from Q1, with 147 adults in Q2 compared to 133 in Q 1. However, the figures are comparable to the numbers of adults in Quarter 4 (146). In Q4, there was an increase in the numbers compared to the previous quarters and this seems to be following the lifting of COVID 19 restrictions. In Q4 there was an increase in the number of reports received, with a slight decrease in Q1 of this year and then an increase again in Q2.
- 175 reports/referrals were received in all in this quarter. Of the 175 reports received, 87 reports proceeded to a Section 126 Enquiry.
- Provider Agencies have been the largest source of reports this quarter (42), followed by Police, (34) then the Local Authority (26) and then Health (25).
- The number of reports received relating to emotional/psychological abuse is higher than any category of abuse reported in this quarter, with 74 reports regarding this, compared to 49 of physical abuse, 52 of neglect, 50 financial abuse and 15 of sexual abuse. This is consistent with previous quarters where emotional/psychological abuse has been the highest reported category of abuse.
- There is an increase in the number of reports received that highlighted financial abuse as a cause of concern but there has been a decrease in the number of reports where the allegation relates to neglect.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why

No

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:

Summary:

This report is provided on an ongoing basis and demonstrates the continuing work that is undertaken in relation to safeguarding children and adults in Ceredigion.

- Long term:** Balancing short term need with long term planning for the future
- Integration:** Positively impacting on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three
- Collaboration:** Working together with other partners to delivery
- Involvement:** Involving those with an interest and seeking their views, stakeholder engagement and consultation
- Prevention:** Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse

RECOMMENDATION (S):

To note the contents of the report and the levels of activity with the Local Authority

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

So that governance of the Local Authority activity and its partner agencies are monitored

- Contact Name:** Siân Howys
- Designation:** Corporate Lead Officer: (Children & Families)
- Date of Report:** 15 December 2021

Acronyms:

- CP – Child Protection
- CPR – Child Protection Register
- Part 4 – Allegations against a member of staff or those working with children, e.g. - foster carers, volunteers, playgroups, etc.
- CPCC – Child Protection Case Conference
- ICPC – Initial Child Protection Conference



CEREDIGION
CYSUR LOCAL OPERATIONAL GROUP
Performance Management Report

Quarter: 2
1.7.21 – 30.9.21

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION:

This is the multi-agency management report in relation to safeguarding children in Ceredigion during the period 1st July to 30th September 2021. It provides performance management information on action taken to safeguard children.

It includes reports from partner agencies relating to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children in Ceredigion.

The indicators and measures used are defined and reported on locally, regionally and nationally.

This management information is regularly discussed by members of the CYSUR Ceredigion Local Operations Group in order to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding children arrangements in Ceredigion and the outcomes achieved.

Any comments or queries regarding the report should be addressed to:

Elizabeth Upcott
Rheolwr Corfforaethol Diogelu
Safeguarding Corporate Manager,
Elizabeth.Upcott@ceredigion.gov.uk
01545 574212

SECTION 2: Headline and Comparative Data

Referral Outcomes	July-Sept 2021	April-June 2021	Jan-Mar 2021	Oct-Dec 2020	July-Sept 2020
Reports/Referrals leading to Child Protection Strategy Discussions / Meetings	106	116	99	102	92
Number of Initial CP Conferences (excluding transfer and pre-birth conferences)	9	8	3	13	10
Number of Initial Pre Birth CP Conferences	-	1	-	1	2
Number of Transfer CP Conferences	1	-	1	-	-
Pre-Birth Transfer CP Conference	1	-	-	-	-
Total number of Initial CP Conferences(including transfer and pre-birth Conferences)	11	9	4	14	12
Total number of children subject to Initial/Pre-birth/Transfer Conferences	33	18	9	20	23
Number of children's names placed on the CP Register (excluding pre-birth and transfer conferences)	26	17	4	15	18
Number of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth	-	1	-	1	2
Number of children's names placed on the CP Register after transfer from other Local Authorities	0	-	3	-	-
No. of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth after transfer from other Local Authorities	1	-	-	-	-
Total number of children's names placed on the CP Register following Initial Conferences	27	18	7	16	20
Total number of children's names not placed on the CP Register	6	-	2	4	3
Number of Review CP Conferences	13	12	18	17	16
Number of Review Pre Birth CP Conferences	1				
Total Number of Review CP Conferences (inc Pre Birth)	14				
Number of children subject to Review CP Conferences	23	24	35	39	26
Number of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth	1	-	-	-	-
Total number of children subject to Review/Pre-birth Conferences	24				
Total number of children remaining on CP Register	13	7	11	18	11
Total number of children removed from the CP Register	11	17	24	21	15

Analysis:

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There was a slight decrease in the number of referrals that lead to action taken under Wales Safeguarding Procedures during this quarter.
The percentage of children discussed at review conferences and who were deregistered was 46%.

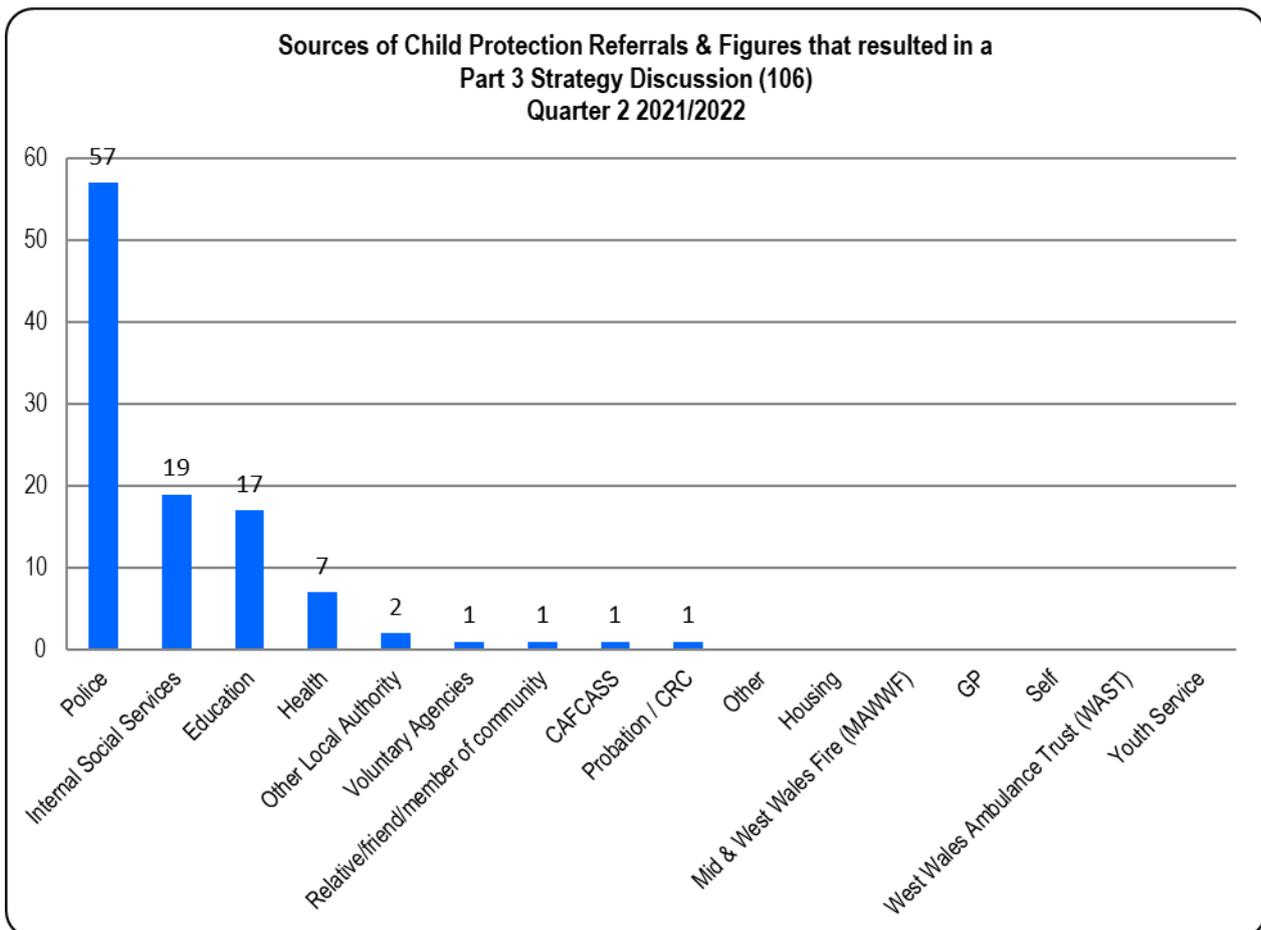
SECTION 3: Child Protection Reports and Referrals:

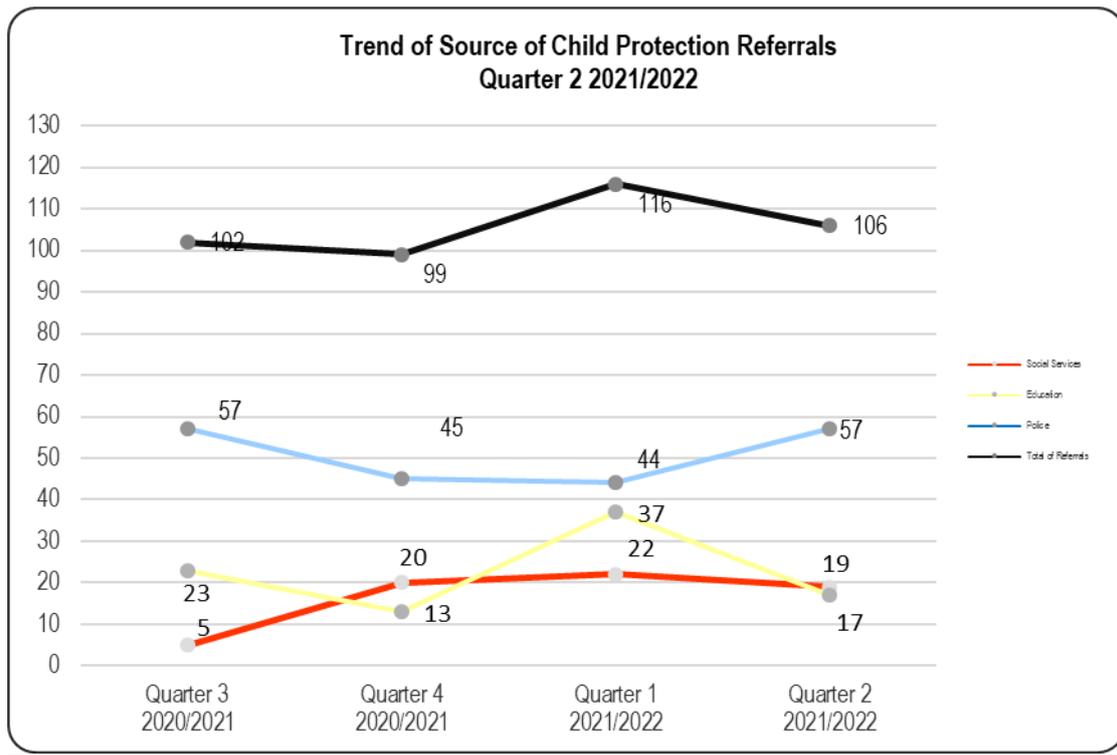
Victoria Climbié Inquiry Recommendation 39 requires that front line staff transfer enquiries about the safety and welfare of children to the appropriate team without delay and within an hour. In Ceredigion, Porth Gofal receives and records all calls from the public, professionals and agencies and passes them to the Child and Family Assessment and Support Team.

The following table shows the level of compliance with the recommendation:

Level	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 1 hour	Passed to Duty Team Officer with 2 hours	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 2-5 hours	Total
July				
1	39	16	40	95
2	42	18	4	64
3	48	20	12	80
4	17	7	1	25
5	5	0	1	6
Level	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 1 hour	Passed to Duty Team Officer with 2 hours	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 2-5 hours	Total
August				
1	56	17	29	102
2	63	26	9	98
3	35	11	4	50
4	2	2	0	4
5	0	0	0	0
				Total
September				
1	80	20	56	156
2	89	49	21	159
3	68	17	0	85
4	23	10	0	33
5	1	0	0	1

Sources of Child Protection Referrals and Figures that resulted in a Strategy Discussion					
Contact by	July	August	September	Total	Comp figures quarter 1
Police	16	15	26	57	44
Internal Social Services	6	5	8	19	22
Education	8	-	9	17	37
Health	3	3	1	7	8
Other Local Authority	1	1	-	2	1
Voluntary Agencies	1	-	-	1	1
Relative/friend/member of community	-	1	-	1	-
Probation / CRC	-	1	-	1	-
CAFCASS	-	-	1	1	-
Other	-	-	-	-	2
Housing	-	-	-	-	1
Mid & West Wales Fire (MAWWF)	-	-	-	-	-
GP	-	-	-	-	-
Youth Service					
Self	-	-	-	-	-
West Wales Ambulance Trust(WAST)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	35	26	45	106	116

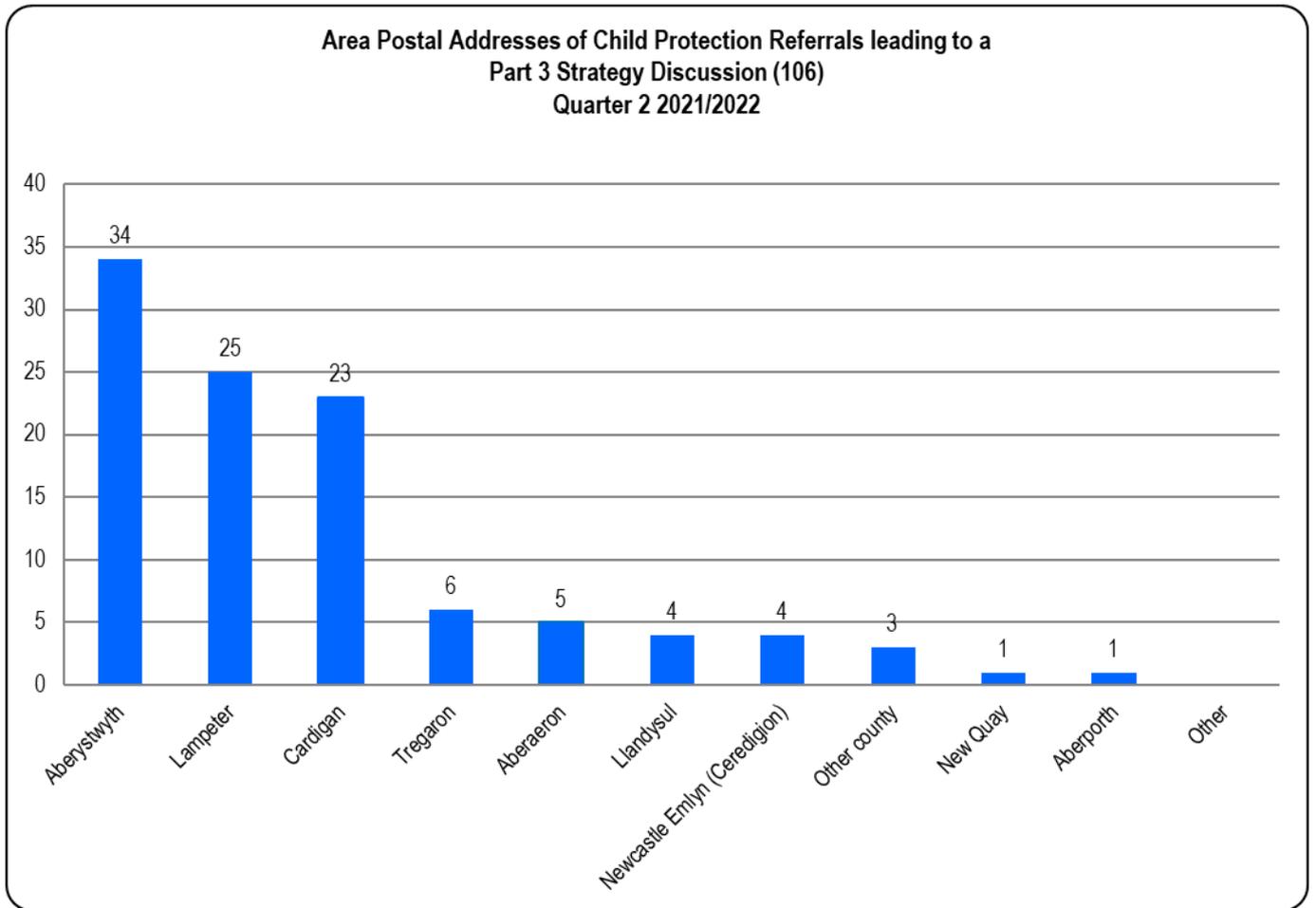




Analysis:

The Police remained as the largest source of referrals during the quarter; the schools' rate has decreased considerably following a considerable increase at the previous quarter following the schools being reopened.

Area Postal Addresses of Child Protection Referrals leading to a Part 3 Strategy Discussion					
Nearest town in Postal Address	July	August	Sept	Total	Comparative figure quarter 1
Aberystwyth	13	5	16	34	40
Lampeter	3	11	11	25	13
Cardigan	9	6	8	23	23
Tregaron	5	-	1	6	8
Aberaeron	2	-	3	5	6
Llandysul	1	1	2	4	9
Newcastle Emlyn (Ceredigion)	1	1	2	4	5
Other county	-	1	2	3	5
New Quay	-	1	-	1	6
Aberporth	1	-	-	1	1
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total Number of Referrals	35	26	45	106	116



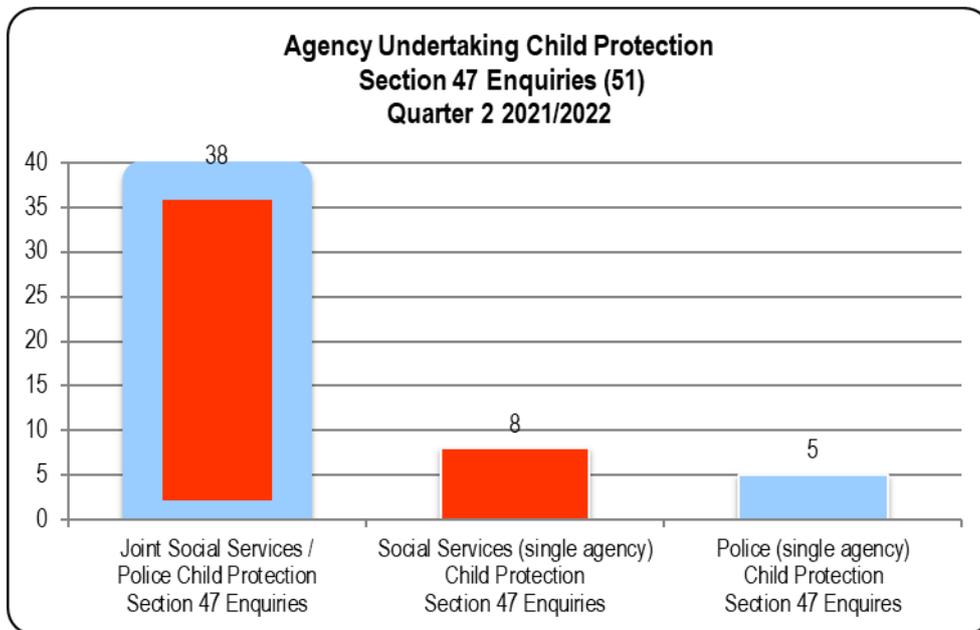
Analysis:

Aberystwyth is consistently the area of the greatest number of referrals

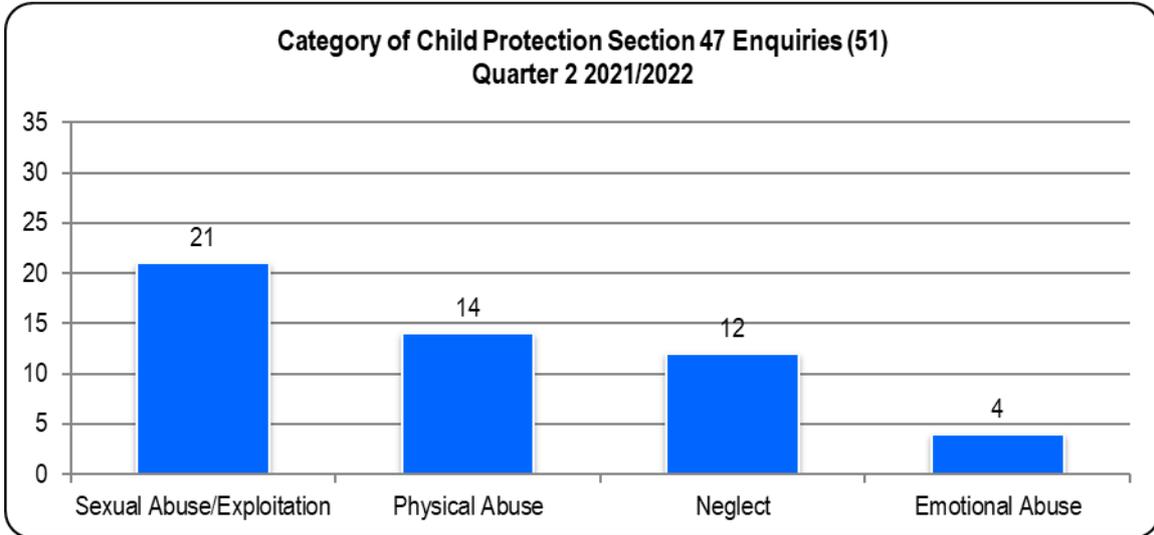
% Breakdown of Safeguarding Activity Quarter 2 2021/2022 (1 July – 30 September)			
Total of 958 - All Initial Contacts re Children			
NAET Assigned to Children's Teams - Information unavailable	Strategy Discussions 11%	Section 47 Enquiries- 5%	Initial Child Protection Conferences - 1%

SECTION 4: Child Protection Section 47 Enquiries

No. of Part 3 Child Protection Strategy Discussions/ Meetings					
July	August	Sept	Total	Comparative fig quarter 1	
35 (27)	26 (48)	45 (41)	106	116	
Agency undertaking Child Protection Section 47 Enquiries					
	July	August	Sept	Total	Comparative fig quarter 1
Joint Social Services / Police Child Protection Section 47 Enquiries	14	9	15	38	50
Social Services (single agency) Child Protection Section 47 enquiries	3	2	3	8	6
Police (single agency) Child Protection Section 47 enquires	1	2	2	5	9
Total Enquiries	18	13	20	51	65



Category of Child Protection Section 47 Enquiry					
Category	July	August	Sept	Total	comparative fig Quarter 1
Sexual Abuse/Exploitation	10	5	6	21	25
Physical Abuse	2	2	10	14	24
Neglect	3	5	4	12	10
Emotional Abuse	3	1	-	4	6
Total Number of Enquiries	18	13	20	51	65



Video Interviews					
	July	August	Sept	Total	comparative fig Quarter 1
Number of video interviews with children	-	-	-	-	-

Analysis:

The main concerns that lead to completing child protection enquiries were allegations of sexual abuse/exploitation and physical abuse.

The majority of enquiries were carried out jointly by Police and Children Services.

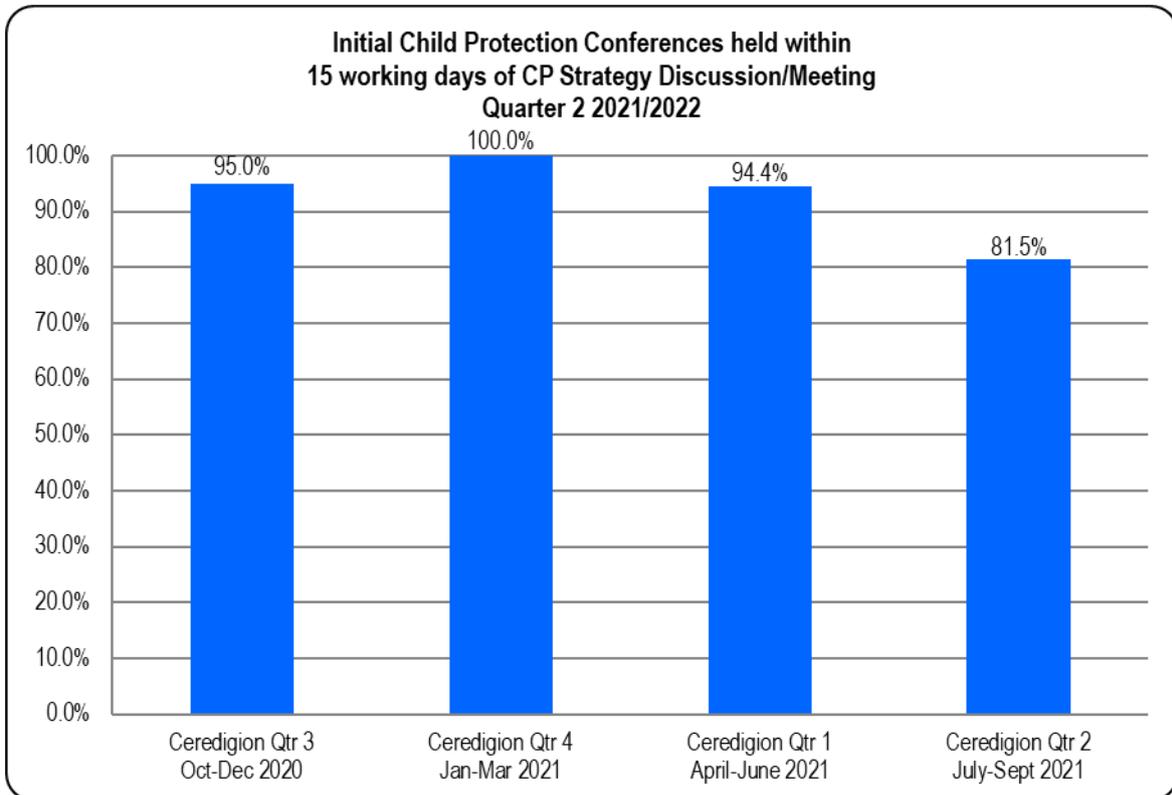
SECTION 5: Child Protection Conferences

This table contains breakdown figures in relation to Outcomes of Initial Child Protection Conferences					
Total Number of Initial CPCs	No. of children	No. of unborn	No. of families	Number of children placed on CPR incl. unborn and transferred	No. of children with Child In Need of Care and Support Plan if not registered
11	32	1	11	27	6

Initial Child Protection Conferences in timescale

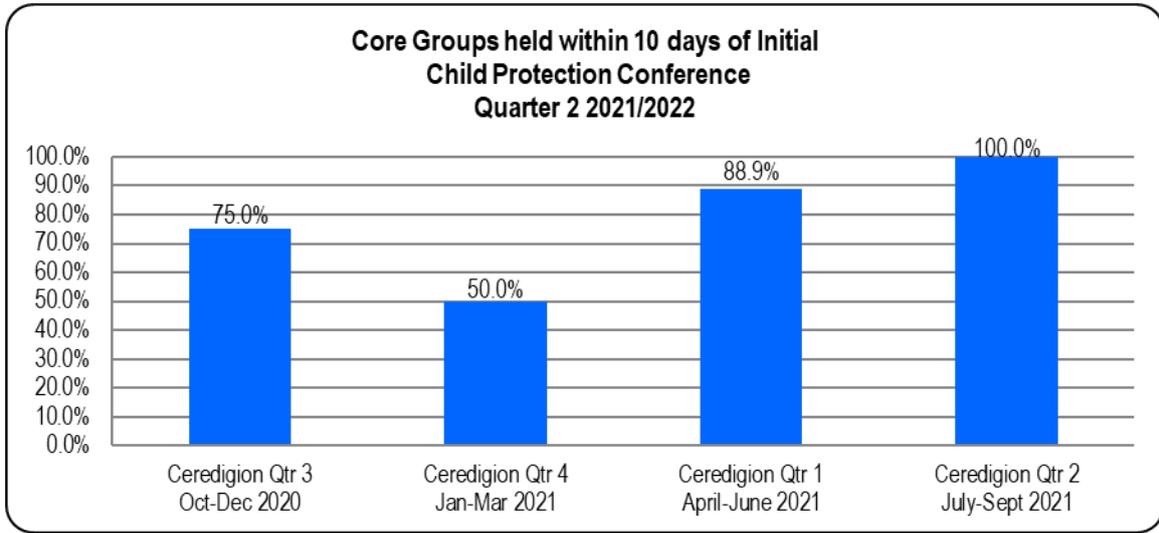
81.5% of Initial Child Protection Conferences were recorded to have taken place within 15 working days of the Strategy Discussion/Meeting. There was a delay for 1 Initial Child Protection Conference for 3 children due to staffing issues and for a further family of 2 siblings there was delay due to family unavailability.

It is important to note that all initial and Review Case Conferences are being held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Both parents and children have been able to participate in the meetings.



Child Protection Core Group Meetings in timescale:

100.0% of Child Protection Core Group Meetings were recorded to have taken place within 10 working days of the Initial CP Conference.



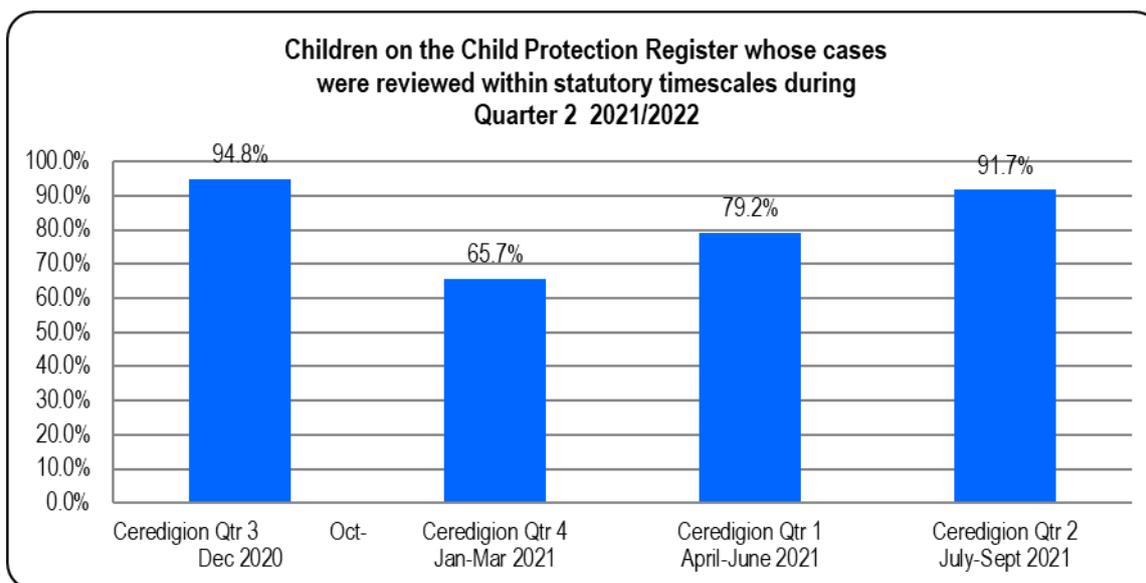
This table contains breakdown figures in relation to the outcomes of Review Child Protection Conferences:						
Total No. of Review CPCs	No. of children	No. of Unborn	No. of families	No. of names of children remaining on CP Register	No. of names of children removed from CP Register	No. of children with Child In Need of Care and Support Plan following de-registration
14	23	1	14	13	11	9

Outcomes of Reviews:

Of the 11 children who were de-registered, 3 were in receipt of further intervention on a Child in Need of Care and Support Plan; 6 subject to a Court Order and Looked After Children with 2 further young persons not in need of any services.

Review Child Protection Conferences in Timescales:

91.7% of Review Child Protection Conferences were recorded to have taken place within timescales. For 1 child the Conference was out of timescales due to staff sickness absence and for 1 other child it was due to staffing issues. All RCPC were rearranged as soon as possible; 1 review conference was 1 day late and the other was 2 days late.



Participation of parents and children in Child Protection Conferences						
*Comparative data for Quarter 1 in brackets						
*Social Worker report to parents 24 hours before CPC	*CP Chair met with family before CPC	*CP Chair met with child before CPC	*Family member present at CPC	*Children's views represented at CPC who did not attend (5 -18 yrs.)	*Children attendance at CPC (Over 11 yrs.)	*Children Who have allocated Advocate / Tros Gynnal.
96% (100%)	100% (95%)	100% (100%)	96% (95%)	70% (90%)	9% (12%)	62% (63%)

Child and Family Participation and Attendance at Conferences:

Attendance by parents, children and family members:

At least 1 parent/grandparent with parental responsibility was present in 24 (96%) Child Protection Conferences.

In total, 40 parents and other family members attended CP Conferences.

The views of children and young people have been represented before and during the CP Conference;

A total of 52 Children from 24 families were the subject of Initial, Pre-birth, Transfer and Review CP Conferences during this quarter.

Conferences consisted of 2 (4%) Pre-birth child, 1 (2%) child was under 6 months, 1 (2%) child was between 6 and 12 months, 14 (24%) children were over 1 and under 5 years, 16 (28%) children were between 5 and 10 years and 23 (40%) children were between 11 and 18 years old. 9 (56%) Children between the ages of 5 and 10 had their views represented at the Conference. 2 (9%) of the Young Persons aged over 11 years attended their Conference, both (100%) of these Young People met with the Chair prior to the Conference; the Chair met with one of these young people after the Conference. 17 (81%) of the Young Persons who did not attend the Conferences had their views represented at the Conference.

21 (62%) Of young persons over the age of 5 years received the services of an advocate, 9 were referred for a service but report was unavailable/young person seen at time of Conference. 4 Further young people needed to be referred to the service.

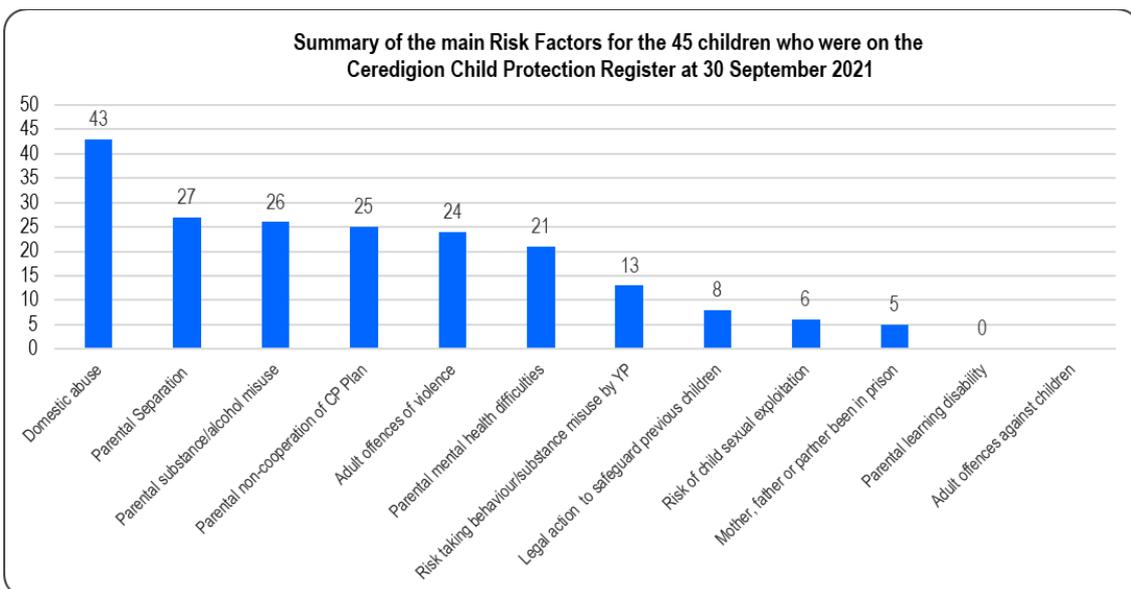
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5 Young People declined the service and were therefore taken out of the equation. It was further recorded that 2 children under the age of 5 had also met with the Advocacy Service.

Analysis

96% Conferences have at least 1 family member in attendance.

Summary of main Risk Factors/ ACEs identified and discussed at Child Protection Conferences	
This table is based on the Independent Conference Chair’s evaluation of risk factors noted at Initial CP Conferences when children’s names were placed on the Child Protection Register and at Review CP Conferences when children’s names remained on the Register.	
Summary of the main Risk Factors for the 45 children who were on the Ceredigion Child Protection Register at 30 September 2021	
Domestic Abuse (ACE)	43 (95.5%)
Parental separation has been a factor in this household (ACE)	27 (60.0%)
Parental substance/alcohol misuse (ACE)	26 (57.8%)
Parental non-cooperation with the CP Plan	25 (55.5%)
Adult offences of violence	24 (53.3%)
Parental mental health difficulties (ACE)	21 (46.7%)
Risk taking behaviour/substance misuse by young person	13 (28.9%)
Legal action taken to safeguard previous children in family	8 (17.8%)
Risk of child sexual exploitation	6 (13.3%)
Mother, father or partner have been in prison (ACE)	5 (11.1%)
Parental learning disability	0 (%)
Adult offences against children	0 (%)

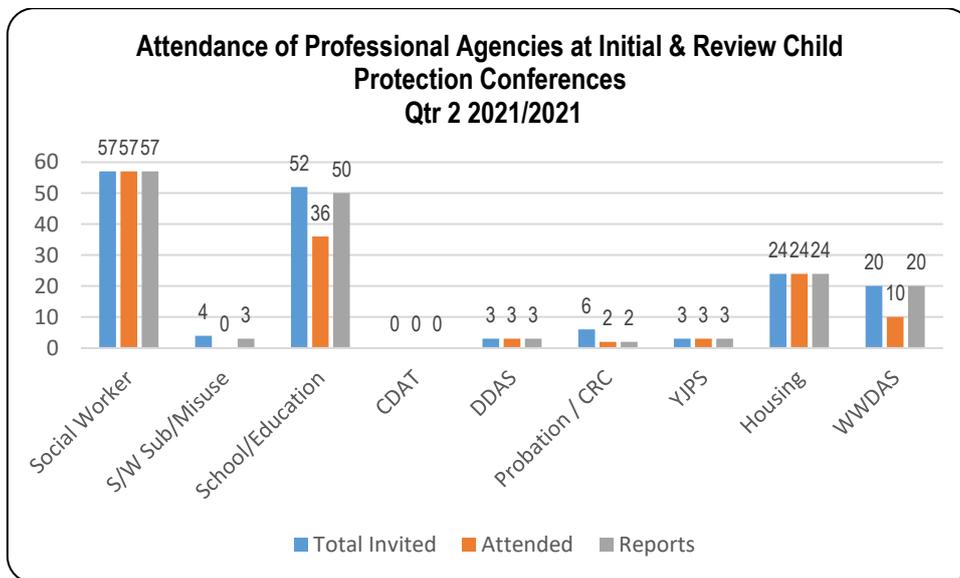


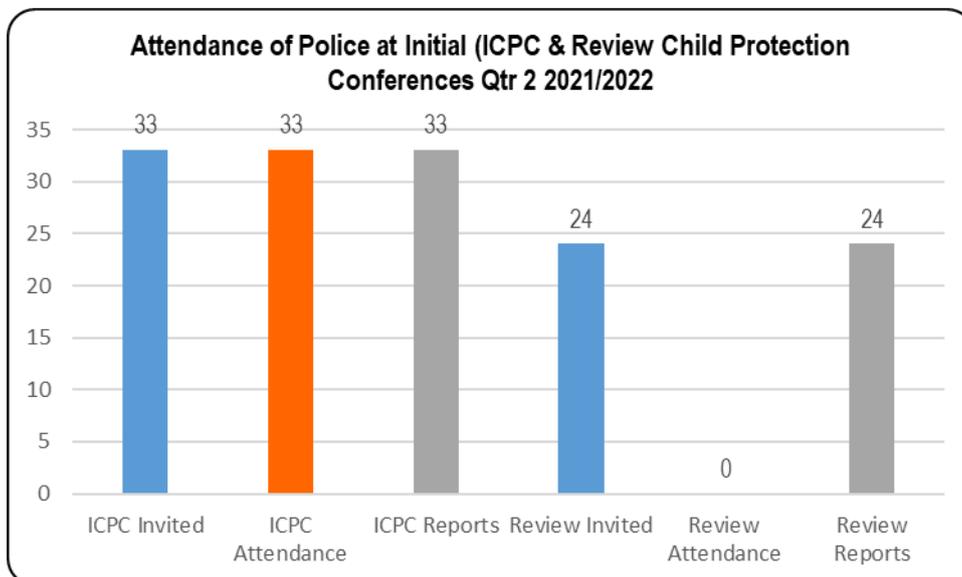
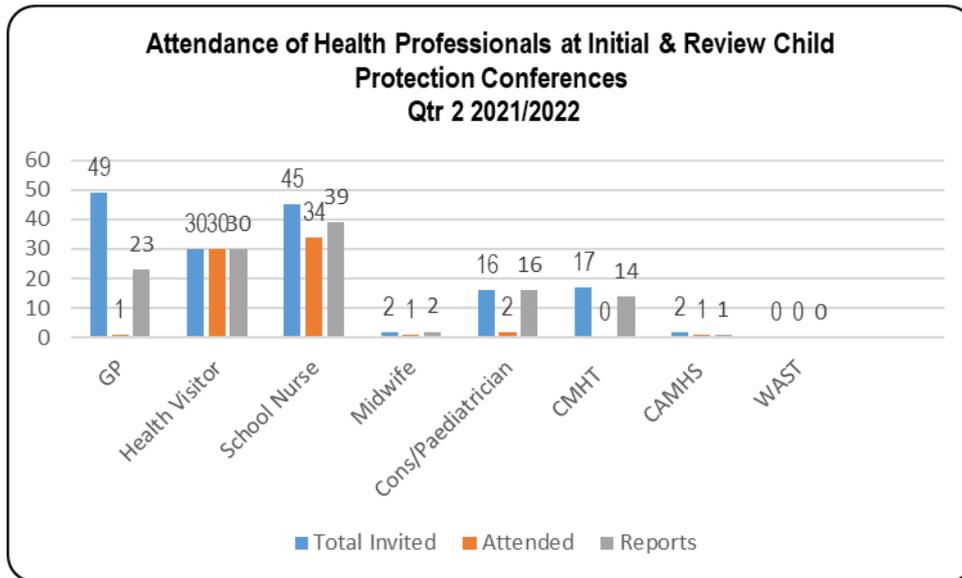
The Toxic Three Risk Factors for the 45 children who were on the Ceredigion Child Protection Register at 30 September 2021		
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where all of the Three Toxic Risk Factors feature (Domestic Abuse, Parental Substance Misuse and Parental Mental Health)	12	27.0%
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where Parental Separation <i>or / and</i> Incarceration feature (ACE)	28	62.2%
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where all five ACE (Domestic Abuse, Parental Substance Misuse, Parental Mental Health, Parental Separation and Incarceration)	4	8.9%

Analysis:

The main risk factors recorded were domestic abuse, parental separation, parental substance/alcohol misuse and parental non-cooperation with the CP Plan.

Agency Attendance at Conferences:





The attendance of agencies at CPCs is illustrated in the charts above. An average of 7 agencies' staff members were invited to each CPC and an average of 4 attended.

There was an average of 6 written reports available at each CPC.

The date for a Review CPC was arranged at each conference when it was required.

All 25 (100%) of CPCs were quorate.

2 (8%) CPC's recommended that a Family Group meeting be convened.

Written reports were provided by Social Workers for all 25 (100%) of CPCs, Chronologies were included in all (100%) of Initial Conferences reports.

25 (100%) of professionals/agency staff expressed their views about the level of risk and registration at all CPCs.

45 (79%) CPC registration decisions were unanimous; with 12 (21%) CPC registration a majority decision.

0 (0%) CPCs reported that there was dissent regarding the safety of the CP Plan for safeguarding the welfare of a child on the CP Register.

2 (8%) CPC's identified a young carer.

4 (17%) CPC identified that there was a shortfall in information regarding the mother's partner.

4 (17%) CPC's identified that the young persons had moderate/severe learning disability; with 5 (22%) CPC's reporting that the young person's had an Individual Development Plan.

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3 (13%) CPC identified a physical/sensory disability, 4 (17%) behaviour problems were reported in CPC's.

6 (26%) CPCs identified that the young persons had speech/language difficulties; with 0 (0%) CPC informed that the children had been excluded from school.

CHILD AND FAMILY FEEDBACK

The previous system for attaining Child and Family feedback following their attendance at a Child Protection Conference has not been possible since the start of the Pandemic in March 2020 due to the fact that all Conferences are held virtually.

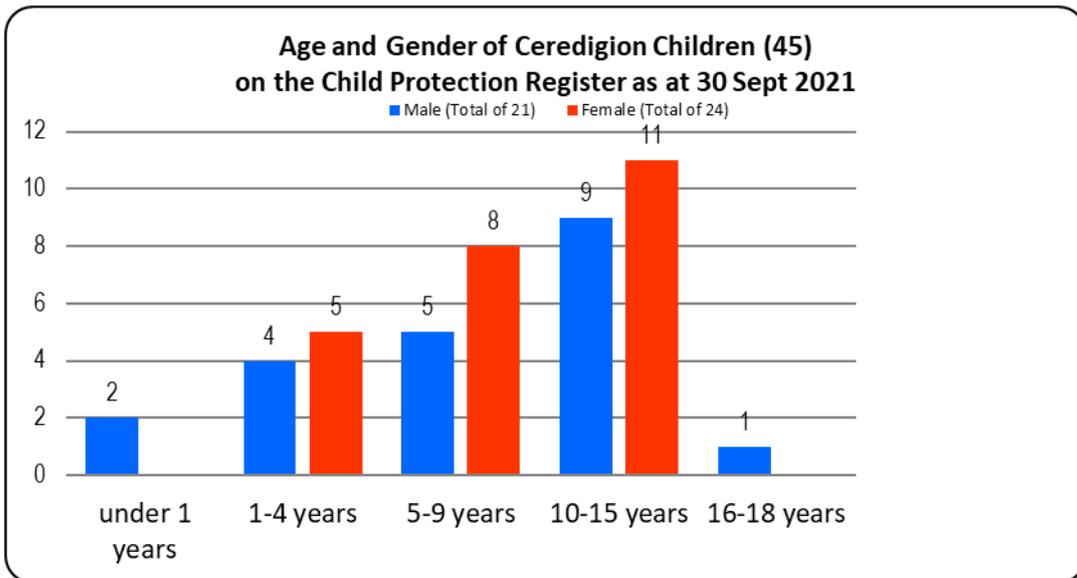
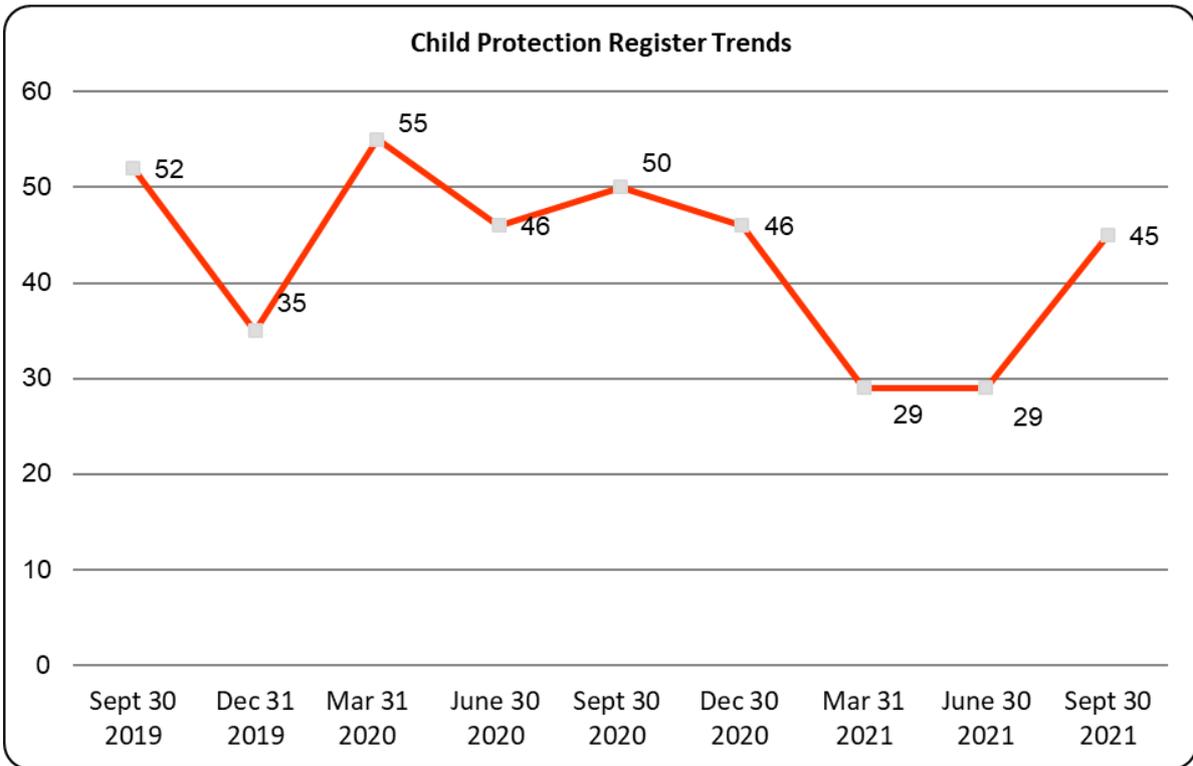
However, since the beginning of April 2021, Evaluation Questionnaires have been sent to families following their attendance at a Child Protection Conference to gain their views and feedback. For the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021, a total of 40 Evaluation Questionnaires were circulated, however only one has been returned.

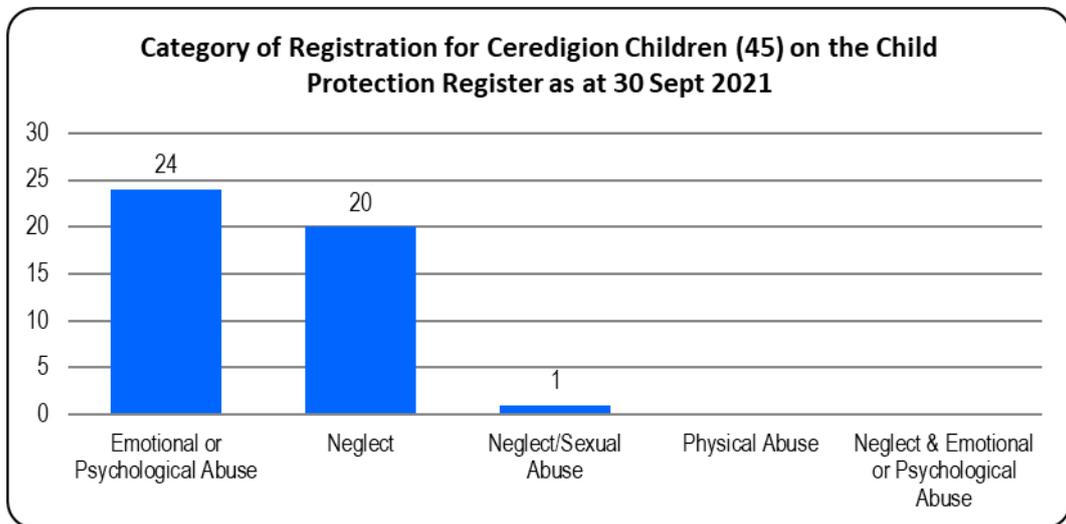
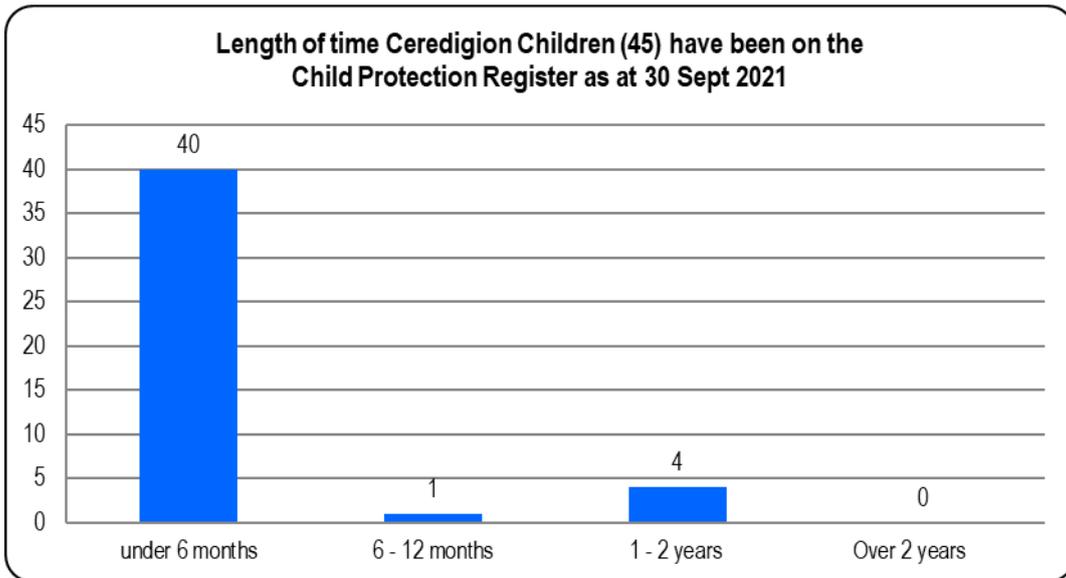
This process will continue until such time that Child Protection Conferences take place on a face to face basis.

SECTION 6: Child Protection Register

The following table and chart provides the register data and trends at the end of each quarter commencing with the most recent quarter.

Child Protection Register (CPR)	No of Ceredigion children registered on the CPR	No of Ceredigion Families registered on CPR	No of children temporarily registered on CPR	No of families temporarily registered on CPR	Total no. of all children registered on the CPR	Total no. of all families registered on the CPR	Total no of Ceredigion children on CPR Looked After
Sept 30 th 2021	45	17	12	10	57	27	0
June 30 th 2021	29	15	13	6	42	21	4
March 31 st 2021	29	16	12	6	41	22	5
Dec 31 st 2020	46	24	7	5	53	29	5
Sept 30 th 2020	50	22	4	3	54	25	1
June 30 th 2020	46	24	4	2	50	26	4
March 31 st 2020	55	26	10	4	65	30	2
Dec 31 st 2019	35	20	12	5	47	25	3
Sept 30 th 2019	52	27	7	3	59	30	4
June 30 th 2019	55	31	10	5	65	36	3
March 31 st 2019	74	40	4	3	78	44	5
Dec 31 st 2018	53	32	2	2	55	34	4
Sept 30 th 2018	58	36	9	7	67	43	3





WG Measure 28 - The average length of time for all children who were on the Child Protection Register:

This Measure asks for the average length of time in calendar days on the register for all children who were de-registered during the quarter	July-Sept	255.45
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	July-Sept 2021	April-June 2021	Jan-Mar 2021	Oct-Dec 2020	July-Sept 2020	April-June 2020	Jan-Mar 2020	Oct-Dec 2019	July-Sept 2019
Rate per 10,000 Children under 18	35	23	23	36	39	36	42	27	40

WG Measure 27 – The number of re-registrations of children on Local Authority Child Protection Registers within the year

Initial Conferences	July-Sept 2021	April-June 2021	Jan-Mar 2021	Oct-Dec 2020	July-Sept 2020	April-June 2020	Jan-Mar 2020	Oct-Dec 2019
Number of Children previously on the register and deregistered within last 12 months	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Analysis

The number of children on the Register at the end of this period has increased substantially from the previous quarter but is more in line with the same period in the previous 2 years. 11 Children were deregistered, which consisted of 3 families with 2 children and 5 families with one child. However 26 Children were registered at Initial Child Protection Conferences with a further child to be registered at birth. The number of children in these families consisted of 1 family with 5 children, 1 family with 4 children, 4 families consisting of 3 children, 2 families with 2 children and 1 further family with 1 child.

The highest category of registration is emotional abuse and neglect which reflects domestic abuse as one of the greatest risk factors.

The majority of children are on the Register for a period of up to 6 months.

The number of girls on the Register remains higher than the number of boys.

The biggest age category of registration remains consistently at 10-15yrs.

SECTION 7: Child Protection Strategy Meetings held under Part 4 and Part 5 of the All Wales Child Protection Procedures

There were 26 children referred and in total there were 34 strategy meetings held in the quarter.

Strategy Meetings were held in relation to 1 Ceredigion Looked After Child and 1 other Local Authority Looked After Child.

There were no Ceredigion Looked After Child placed out of county reported to be the subject of Child Protection Enquiries within the placement area.

Category of Child Protection Strategy Meeting (Specific Circumstances)	July Meetings held	August Meetings held	September Meetings held	Total number of cases
Risk of child sexual exploitation	2	2	5	7
Concerns regarding sexually harmful behaviour	5	2	1	8
Concerns regarding a young person going missing from foster care	1	0	1	1
Concerns regarding a young person going missing from home	2	1	1	3
Concerns regarding a person in contact with children through their work	3	3	5	8
Total number of meetings	13	8	13	
Total number of cases discussed in this quarter				27

SECTION 8: Multi Agency Child Exploitation Management Meetings

New Case / Review	Exit / Remain in MACSE	Male / Female	Age	At home / in care	CPR	Date of meeting	Agency Attendance
R	Remain	Male	17	C	N	01.07.21	Planned Care, Education, Police, Health, YJS, Fostering, Coleg, CAMHS
R	Remain	Male	15	H	N	29.09.21	Planned Care, Education, Police, Health, Coleg, CAMHS, Choices, TAF
N	Remain	Male	16	H	N	10.09.21	Planned Care, Education, Police, Health, YJS, TAF
N	Remain	Male	15	H	N	10.09.21	Planned Care, Education, Police, Health, YJS, TAF
N	Remain	Female	15	H	N	29.07.21	Planned Care, Education, Police, Health
N	Remain	Female	17	H	N	11.08.21	Planned Care, Police, YJS, Housing, CAMHS
N	Remain	Female	14	H	N	16.08.21	Planned Care, Education, Police, YJS, CAMHS
N	Exit	Male	16	H	N	25.08.21	Planned Care, Education, Police, Health

There were 6 new cases that came into MACE in Quarter 2 and 2 review cases. 3 cases were female aged 14 - 17 years, and 5 cases were male aged 15 – 17 years. None are on the CP Register, one is Looked After.

SECTION 9: Police Marac Report

Area	Number of referrals through DD	Number of cases progressed to full MARAC	Number of repeats	Number of children in household
Carmarthenshire	343	33	34	245
Ceredigion	109	12	18	97
Pembrokeshire	226	13	14	226
Powys	128	18	25	156

SECTION 10: Learning Services

ADRODDIAD LOG GWASANAETHAU YSGOLION

HYFFORDDIANT / TRAINING

Mae hyfforddiant Diogelu ac Amddiffyn Plant lefel 1 ar rhaglen e-ddysgu yn unig, dyma'r nifer o staff sydd wedi cwblhau yr hyfforddiant hyn drwy cyfnod chwarter 2. Yn ogystal, mae'r niferoedd o staff sydd wedi cwblhau lefel 2 Amddiffyn Plant yn rhithiol hefyd wedi ei ychwanegu yn ystod y cyfnod hwn.

Level 1 Safeguarding and Child Protection training is only available as an e-learning programme, below is the number of staff who have completed the training during the quarter 2 period. In addition, the number of staff who have completed the level 2 Child Protection training virtually during this period, is also noted below.

Lefel 1 / Level 1	215 (mewnol / internal) 104 (allanol / external)
Lefel 2 / Level 2	35 (mewnol / internal) 9 (allanol / external)

HYFFORDDIANT AP LEFEL 3 /CP LEVEL 3 TRAINING

Ar 23/09/21 cynhaliwyd hyfforddiant rhithiol a chyflwyniwyd gan Dr Didi, wnaeth mwyafrif o Athrawon Dynodedig AP ysgolion Ceredigion, Sir Gar a Phowys mynychu, a dderbyniwyd adborth positif iawn o'r sesiwn.

On 23/09/21 Dr Didi delivered training which was attended virtually by the majority of the Designated Safeguarding Leads in Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Powys. Very positive feedback has been received from the session.

VAWDASV

Mae yna 49 o staff mewnol a 18 aelod o staff allanol wedi cwblhau hyfforddiant VAWDASV ar-lein yng nghyfnod chwarter 2.

49 internal staff and 18 members of external staff have completed the online VAWDASV training between the quarter 2 period.

ADDYSG DDEWISOL GARTREF / ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

Nifer o blant yr ydych yn ymwybodol ohonynt sydd yn cael eu haddysgu'n ddewisol gartref / <i>Number of children that you are aware of that are Electively Home Educated (EHE)</i>	Nifer o blant EHE sy'n hysbys i'r Awdurdod Lleol sydd wedi cael cynnig ymweliad blynyddol yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf / <i>Number of EHE children known to the Local Authority that have been</i>	Canlyniad / <i>Outcome</i>
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	<i>offered an annual visit in the last 12 months</i>	
223 (a reduction of 18 since the last period)	173 (an increase of 76 since the last period)	Declined – 39 Did not attend - 48

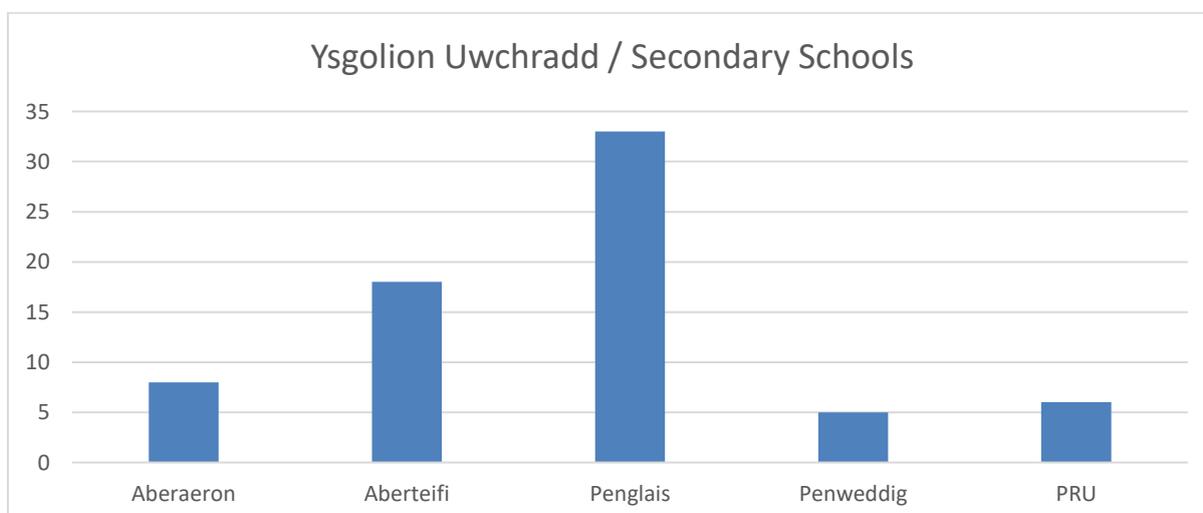
PLANT MEWN GOFAL / LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

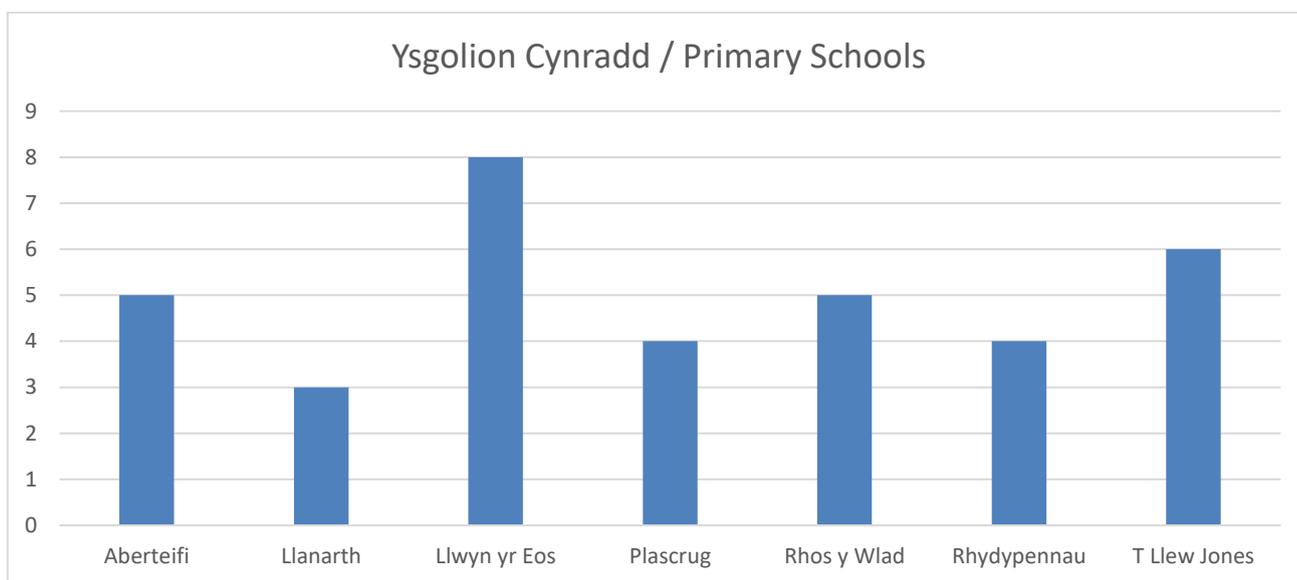
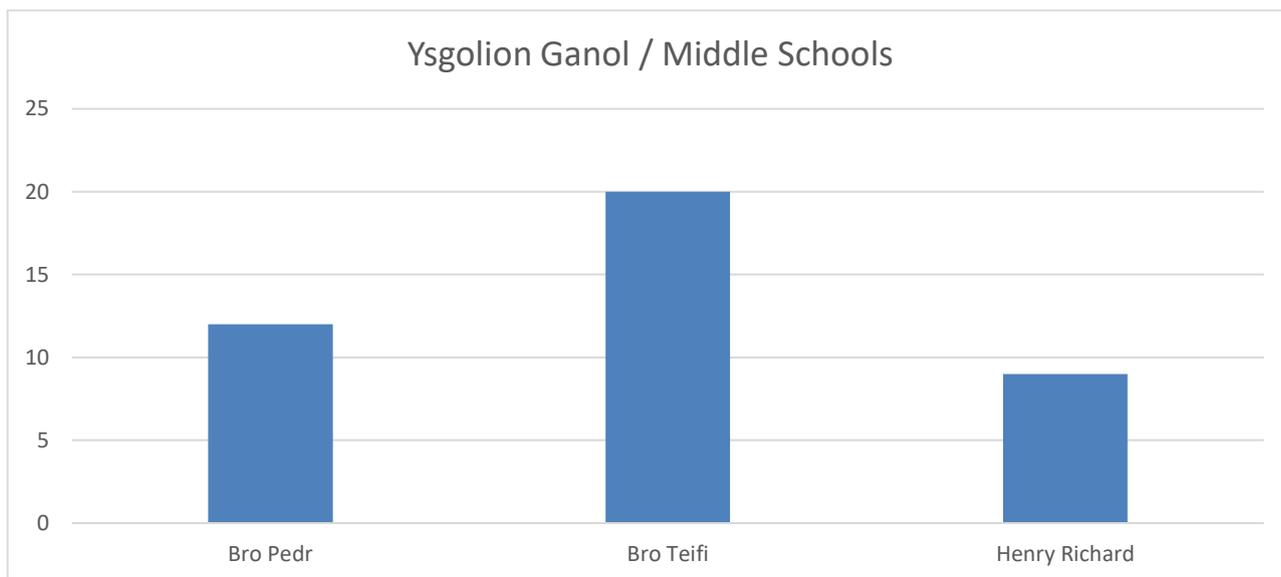
Plant mewn gofal yng Ngheredigion o oedran ysgol statudol / <i>Looked after children in Ceredigion of statutory school age</i>	Gorffennaf / July – 43 Medi / September – 45 <i>(Nid oes ffigyrau yn cael ei cofnodi ar gyfer mis Awst / No figures are recorded for August)</i>
Plant mewn gofal allan o'r Sir o oedran ysgol statudol / <i>Looked after children placed out of County of statutory school age</i>	Gorffennaf / July – 13 Medi / September – 15 <i>(Nid oes ffigyrau yn cael ei cofnodi ar gyfer mis Awst / No figures are recorded for August)</i>
Plant mewn gofal o Siroedd eraill o oedran ysgol statudol / <i>Looked after children from other Local Authorities of statutory school age</i>	Gorffennaf / July – 30 Medi / September – 32 <i>(Nid oes ffigyrau yn cael ei cofnodi ar gyfer mis Awst / No figures are recorded for August)</i>

CYSWLLT YSGOLION / SCHOOL CONTACTS

Gweler isod, y rhifau a natur y cyswllt a dderbyniwyd o ysgolion / sefydliadau dysgu yn ystod chwarter 2.

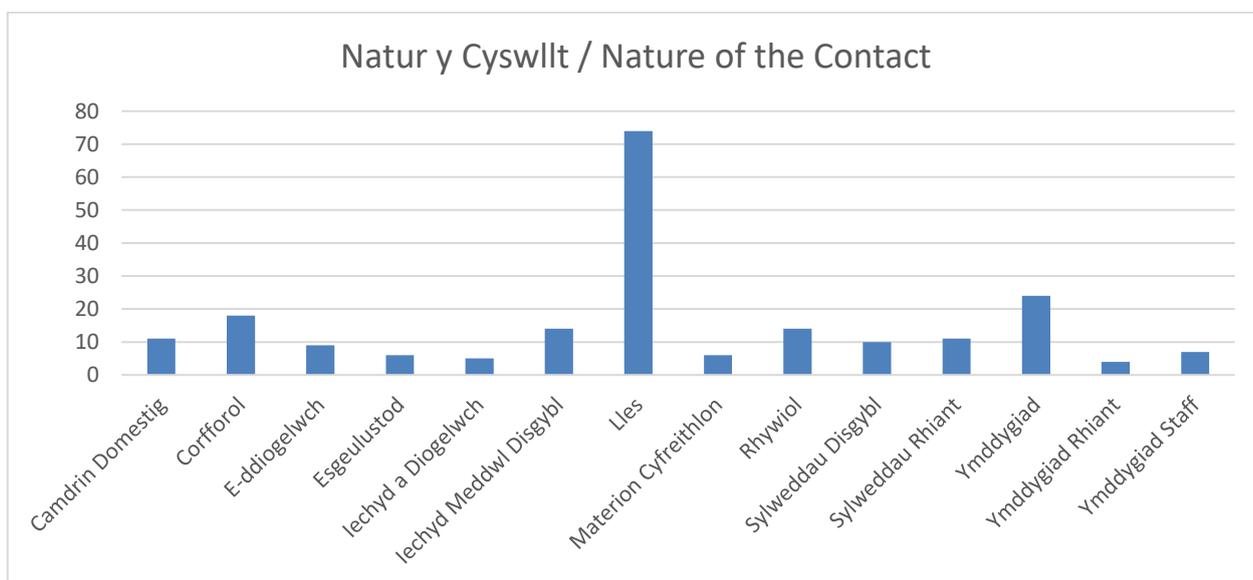
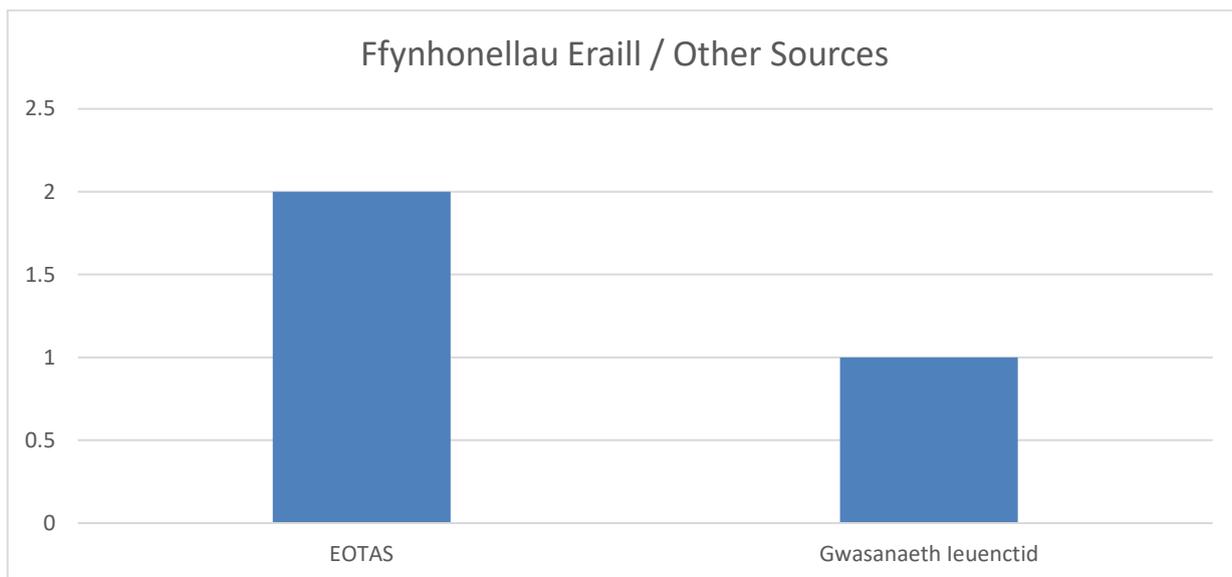
Please see below the number of contacts received from schools/learning establishments and their nature, during the period of quarter 2.





I nodi, fe wnaeth 22 o’r Ysgolion Cynradd gwneud cyswllt yn ystod cwarter 2, ond oherwydd y rhif uchel hyn, nid oedd modd cynnwys pob Ysgol ar y dabl, felly wedi cynnwys yn yr uchod, y rhai wnaeth gysylltu mwy na ddwywaith drwy gydol y cyfnod.

To note, 22 Primary Schools made contact during quarter 2, however due to this large figure, it wasn’t possible to capture all on one table. Therefore the above only highlights the Schools who made contact on more than 2 occasions during the period.

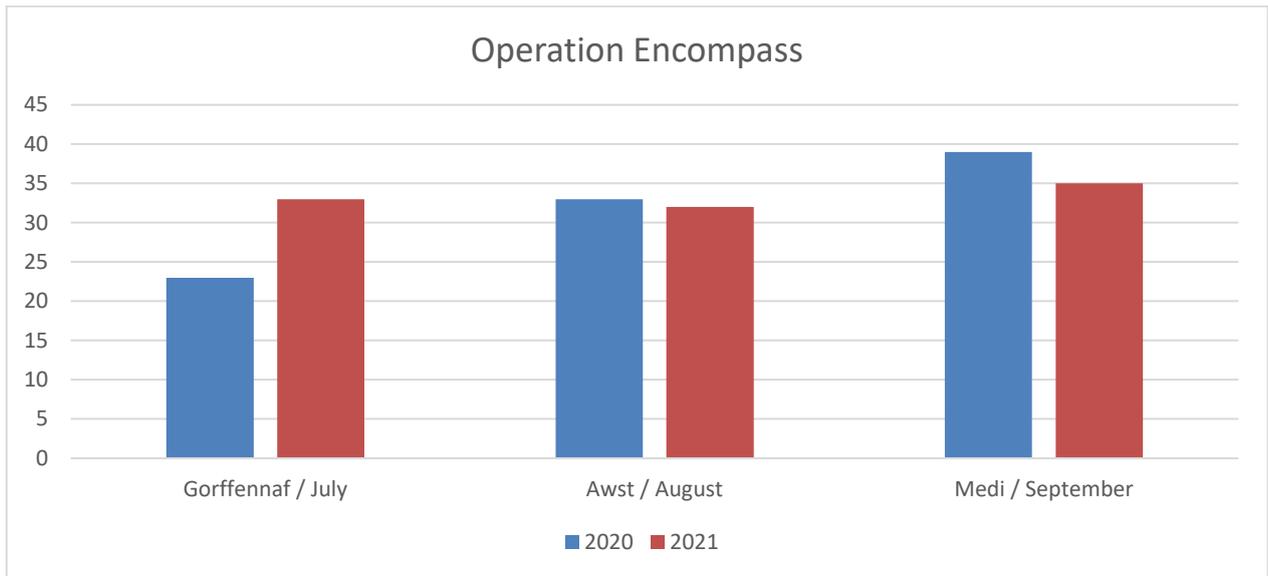


Oherwydd fod niferoedd fawr o rhesymau cyswllt, maen't wedi crynhoi mewn l'r grwpiau isod, er mwyn medru darllen yn fwy glir ar y siart. (Eto, mae'r siart uchod dimond wedi cofnodi y cyswllt am y pryderon sydd wedi dod at sylw 4 gwaith neu'n fwy).

Due to the large amount of reasons given for contact, some have been grouped together as noted below, in order for the information to be presented more clearly on the chart. (Again, due to the high number of contacts received, the above table is showing the types of concerns which were reported on 4 or more occasions only).

Arf / Weapon	
Cais am wybodaeth / Request for Information	
Camdrin Domestig / Domestic Abuse	
Corfforol / Physical	
E-ddiogelwch / E-Safety	Gan gynnwys cam ddefnydd ffon symudol/rhynggrwyd. Danfon negeseuon/lluniau/fideo anweddus. / Which also includes misuse of mobile phones/internet.

	<i>Sending inappropriate messages, photos, videos.</i>
Esgeulustod / <i>Neglect</i>	<i>Gan gynnwys amodau cartref, materion ariannol, goruchwyliaeth. / Which also includes home conditions, financial issues and supervision.</i>
Gofal / <i>Care</i>	
Iechyd a Diogelwch / <i>Health and Safety</i>	
Iechyd Meddwl Disgybl / <i>Pupil Mental Health</i>	<i>Gan gynnwys camdriniaeth emosiynol / Which also includes Emotional abuse.</i>
Iechyd Meddwl Rhiant / <i>Parent Mental Health</i>	
Lles / <i>Wellbeing</i>	<i>Gan gynnwys plant ar goll, presenoldeb, tor perthynas, galar, gofalwyr ifanc, cyswllt cyfnod clo, materion cyswllt rhwng rhieni / Which also includes missings, attendance, relationship breakdown, young carers, contact difficulties during lockdown, contact issues between parents.</i>
Materion Cyfreithlon / <i>Legal Matters</i>	
Prevent	
Rhywiol / <i>Sexual</i>	<i>Gan gynnwys perthnasau amhriodol ag egsbloetio plant yn rhywiol / Which also includes inappropriate relationships and Child Sexual Exploitation.</i>
Sylweddau Disgybl / <i>Pupil Substances</i>	<i>Gan gynnwys cyffuriau ag alcohol / Includes Alcohol and Drugs misuse.</i>
Sylweddau Rhiant / <i>Parent Substances</i>	<i>Gan gynnwys cyffuriau ag alcohol / Includes Alcohol and Drugs misuse.</i>
Materion Traws / <i>Trans Matters</i>	
Ymddygiad Disgybl / <i>Pupil Behaviour</i>	
Ymddygiad Rhiant / <i>Parent Behaviour</i>	<i>Gan gynnwys materion parthed rhieni yn y carchar / Which includes incarceration.</i>
Ymddygiad Staff / <i>Staff Conduct</i>	<i>Gan gynnwys unrhyw gwynion/sylwadau parthed ymddygiad aelodau o staff ysgolion a/neu sydd yn gysylltiedig ag ysgolion Ceredigion. / Which includes any complaints or comments regarding staff behaviour or conduct, who is a member of teaching staff or associated with a Ceredigion school.</i>



SECTION 11: Health

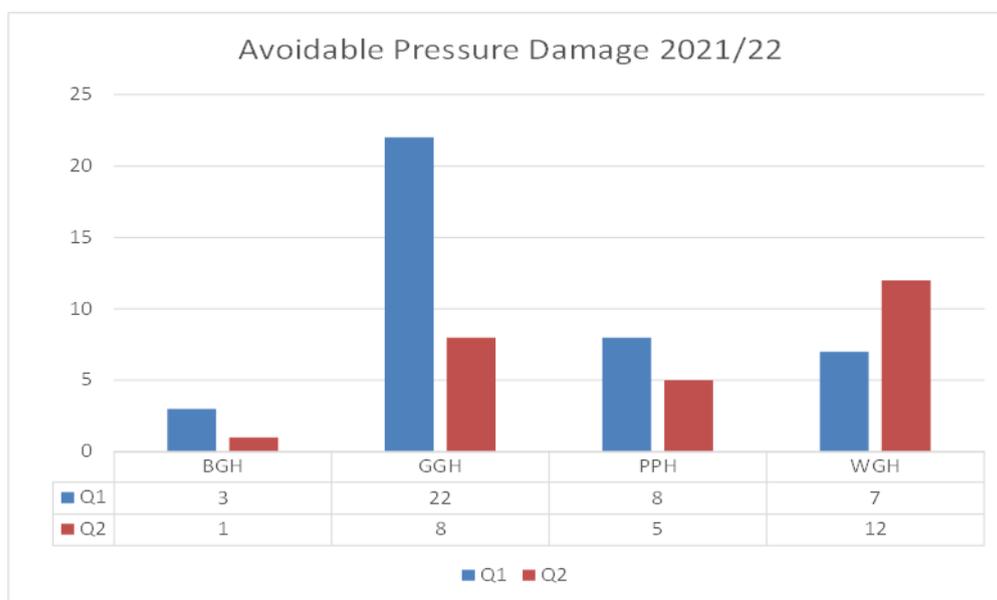


Hywel Dda University Health Board Safeguarding Report to the Local Operational Groups

Qtr 2 2021/22

This report informs the Local Operational Groups of updates on safeguarding developments in Hywel Dda University Health Board during quarter 2 2021/22

Quarter 2 2021/22 Acute Hospital Avoidable Pressure Damage Audit



There were twenty-six avoidable cases of pressure damage incidents across all four sites in Q2. This was a decrease from forty cases in quarter 1 2021/22. The numbers reflect when the scrutiny meetings took place, rather than when the pressure damage occurred. In part the higher numbers reflected in Q1 were to do with the catching up on scrutiny meetings that did not take place at the beginning of the year due to the impact of Covid on the Acute Hospitals.

25 reported cases were grade 1 or 2, these grades would not have been reported to safeguarding prior to the SSWBWA, 1 was recorded as Suspected Deep Tissue Injury (SDTI) and none were unstageable.

It is not uncommon for pressure damage to be reported as SDTI, but within a few days it is apparent that it is a grade 1 or 2.

Safeguarding Adults

Referrals related to discharge appear to be broadly consistent with the preceding two quarters cross the UHB.

Discharge action plans are in place across all four acute hospitals, with some currently being reviewed in partnership with other agencies. The Health Board Adult Safeguarding Team plan to undertake another review specifically related to discharge referrals to identify specific themes and feedback to the next Acute Service Delivery Group.

Safeguarding Children

Was Not Brought

In October 2020, Hywel Dda University Health Board developed and implemented a health board wide procedure in relation to monitoring vulnerable people, who were not brought or did not attend appointments and no access visits. Presently the Corporate Child Safeguarding Team are undertaking an audit, which has a two-pronged approach. Firstly, this will measure awareness of the procedure across Health Board services. The findings of this will be available to report to UHB Service Safeguarding Delivery groups in January 2022. The second aspect of the audit will review the compliance with the protocol within paediatric, ophthalmology and audiology services. The findings of this and any recommendations will be reported to the Heads of Service and presented to the Safeguarding Delivery Groups and Strategic Safeguarding Working Group in due course.

Non-Compliance with Safeguarding Procedures

The Corporate Child Safeguarding Team are reporting incidents of non-compliance with child safeguarding procedures via the Datix reporting system. This includes incidents where a MARF has not been submitted in a timely way following attendance at ED for self harm. Further, they are providing a collated report to Service Safeguarding Delivery Groups which identifies service areas where non-compliance occurs and the themes surrounding that non-compliance. This will allow individual and collective instances to be addressed by the directorates concerned and ensure that training and supervision is tailored to address areas of concern.

Sharing Safeguarding Information in Pregnancy Database

There are some exciting new developments in relation to the Safeguarding Maternity database and the development of a new Safeguarding Maternity database mobile phone app for community midwives to access whilst working in the community. It is envisaged that this will be available in December 2021.

LAC

Enabling Quality Improvement Programme (EQliP)

The LAC health team have identified some children and young people (CYP) who have issues with constipation and soiling. The soiling is seen as a behaviour the CYP can control and not as a consequence of constipation and risks placement breakdown. In some instances, the carers and social workers have been unaware that the child is constipated. We are aware that this issue is not just unique for Looked After Children but for all CYP and can have a significant impact on the young people and their wider family and communities. One in ten children of school age suffer with a bowel or bladder problem, but only a third of these families ask for support (Brenda Cheer, ERIC, 2021). 95% of children who are affected by soiling, are actually constipated.

Health professionals are often expected to resolve the issue promptly, with people not understanding how lengthy a resolution can be. There is no paediatric continence service within HDdUHB at present, practitioners are often working alone or signposting to third sector organisations. Depending on the practitioner's knowledge base and experience, carers may receive varying support and advice.

With this in mind a team of professionals from a number of services (LAC Team, Public Health, Women & Childrens), made an application to the EQliP programme, with the aim to develop a tool/resource that can be shared with parents/carers or professionals working with these CYP. This resource or tool would educate on childhood constipation and then offer resources on how to manage the constipation at the earliest opportunity. For the next 12 months the team members will meet monthly with an Improvement Coach and plan, implement and move this project forward.

VAWDASV

The pilot of IRISi in Carmarthenshire clusters is due to go out to tender for the Advocate Educator role.

The UHB has also submitted a bid to NHS Charities for a Health DVA role, in partnership with specialist providers in one or two Emergency Departments with the lowest number of MARAC referrals, depending on funding allocated. A meeting is taking place with the Regional VAWDASV Advisor and specialist providers to work up the final proposal for submission in early 2022.

With additional funding provided by WG via the Regional VAWDASV resource, the UHB Domestic Abuse Support Officer role has been developed to increase capacity for Group 2 Ask and Act training.

The UHB recently engaged in the Group 6 workshop held in the region. Discussion is taking place with the Board secretary regarding champion roles at strategic level and promoting the Group 6 Strengthening Leadership training resources via the national microsite. [NTF Group 6](#)

Safeguarding Autumn Newsletter

The newsletter highlighted National Safeguarding Week with promotion of the regional events taking place. A specific focus was given to the launch of the High Risk Behaviours including Self neglect and Hoarding policy and guidance.

A specific item on professional curiosity was included with attention drawn to new resources which are being developed in the region.

The Regional Domestic Homicide learning materials have been promoted widely in this newsletter and the UHB global email system.

A reminder to staff about their Information Sharing responsibilities was also included.

[HDdUHB Safeguarding Autumn Newsletter](#)

Safeguarding Maturity Matrix

NHS Wales has an essential role in ensuring that all adults and children receive the care, support and services they need in order to promote a healthy, safer and fairer Wales. Measuring the effectiveness of health services in the contribution to safeguarding adults and children is difficult and complex.

With endorsement by the Chief Nursing Officer's Nurse Directors Forum, an all age NHS Wales Safeguarding Maturity Matrix was developed via the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network. It addresses interdependent strands regarding safeguarding: service quality improvement, compliance against agreed standards and learning from incidents and reviews.

The aim of capturing and collating a national SMM is to provide assurance, share practice and drive improvements towards a 'Once for Wales' consistent approach to safeguarding across Wales.

The UHB completed their self-assessment for 2020/21 and submitted to the National safeguarding Team in October 2021. This was scrutinised via peer review on 25th November 2021. A copy of the UHB improvement plan is embedded for information.



SMM Approved and submitted 2021.pdf

SECTION 12: S-CAMHS

S-CAMHS Update Report for CYSUR

In line with the Welsh Government document “Admission Guidance”, HDUHB has in place a robust Admission Policy/Pathway outlining the process for admitting any young person into an Adult Mental Health Ward. The Guidance stipulates that the Health Board must have a designated Unit and within HDUHB this is Morlais Ward on the Glangwili Hospital campus.

A new Protocol has been approved to meet this statutory requirement which will ensure compliance against Welsh Government expectations.

Admission to an adult mental health ward can be a frightening experience and every attempt is made to consider the least restrictive alternative for admission. In the majority of cases a young person is admitted to the designated unit on Cilgerran Ward supported by staff from the mental health unit.

In line with the guidance, the staff have received additional training in safeguarding young people and in addition the staff on Morlais ward have all undertaken the following:

Safeguarding Children Level 3 Training

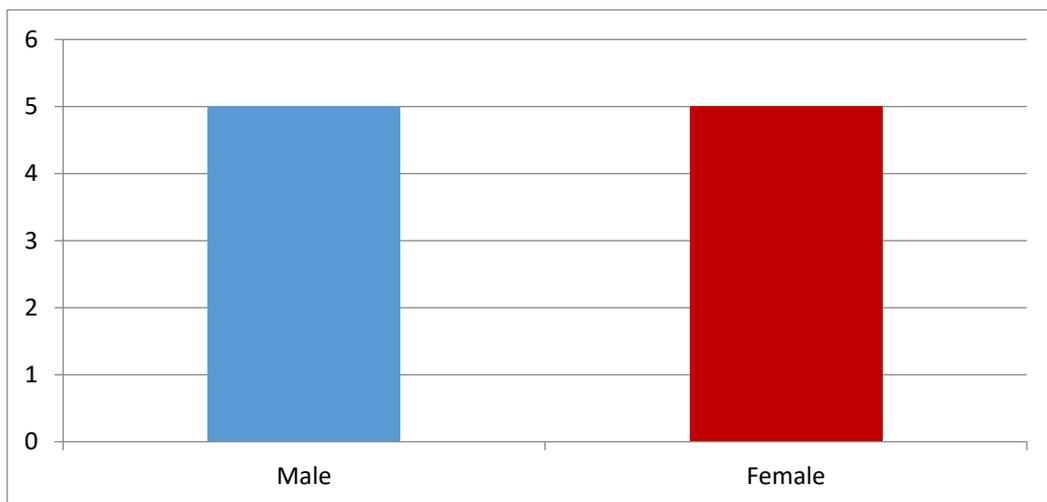
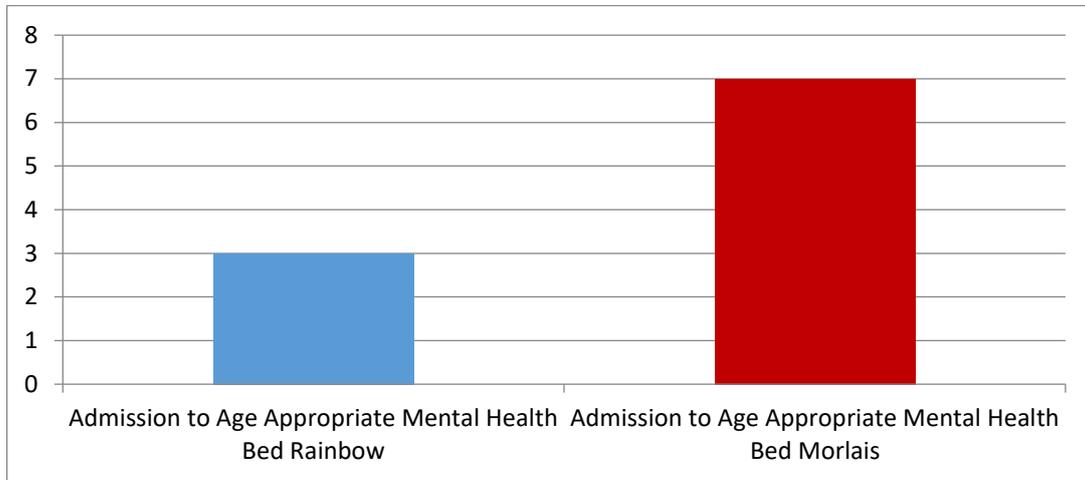
Have a valid Enhanced DBS in place

Undertaken specific training on the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people

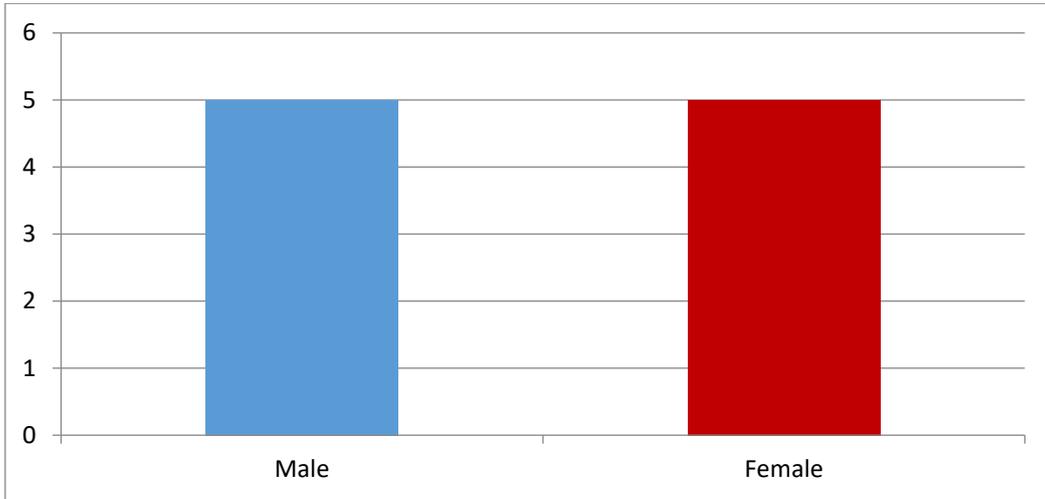
Training on the Mental Health Act and Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014

All admissions to the mental health bed must be reported, initially internally as a DATIX, and followed by a Serious Untoward Incident report to the Delivery Unit in line with the Welsh Government’s Admission Guidance Document.

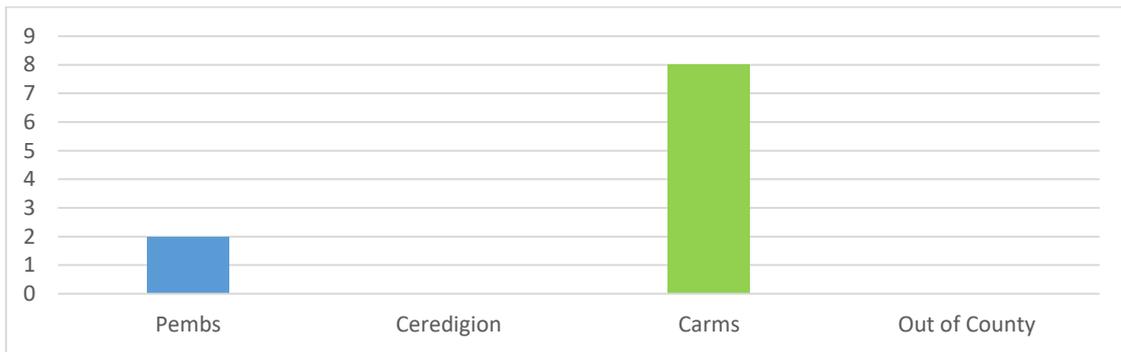
Q2 Admissions to the age appropriate bed on the Rainbow bed and Morlais Adult Mental Health Ward Glangwili Hospital site:



Q2 Admission to Age Appropriate Mental Health Bed Rainbow / Morlais Bed by gender:



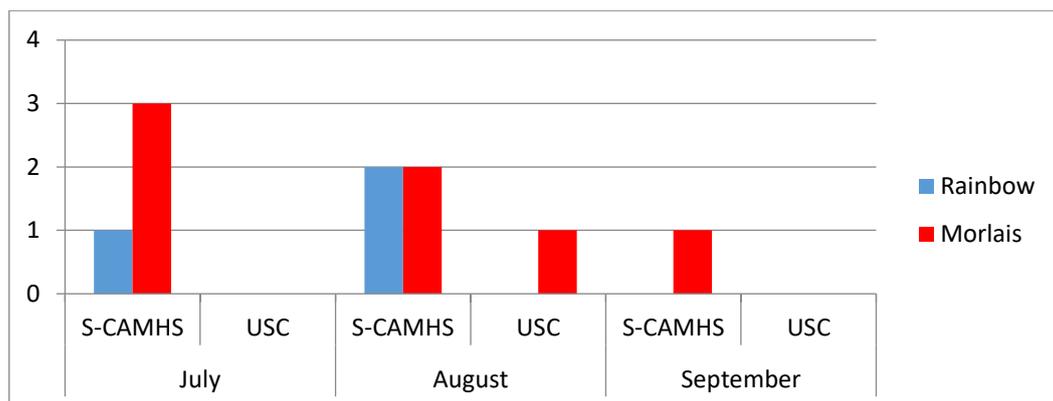
Q2 Admissions to Rainbow / Morlais Bed according to Locality:



Admissions to Paediatric Age Appropriate Bed (Rainbow Unit, Non reportable)

Specialist CAMHS records for Quarter 2 are outlined above with 10 Admissions in total, with 3 Admissions to the Paediatric bed and 7 Admissions to the Adult Mental Health Ward (Morlais). Please note, that two of these admissions were initially admitted to Rainbow, but were transferred to Morlais Ward, therefore the admissions are noted under both beds.

Q2 Admissions to Rainbow / Morlais split by admitting team:



Mental Health Status

2 individuals were subject to Section 136 of the Mental Health Act during this reporting period.

Admission Outcomes

	Discharged Home	Onward Admission	Remains on Ward
Rainbow	1	2	0
Morlais	7	0	0

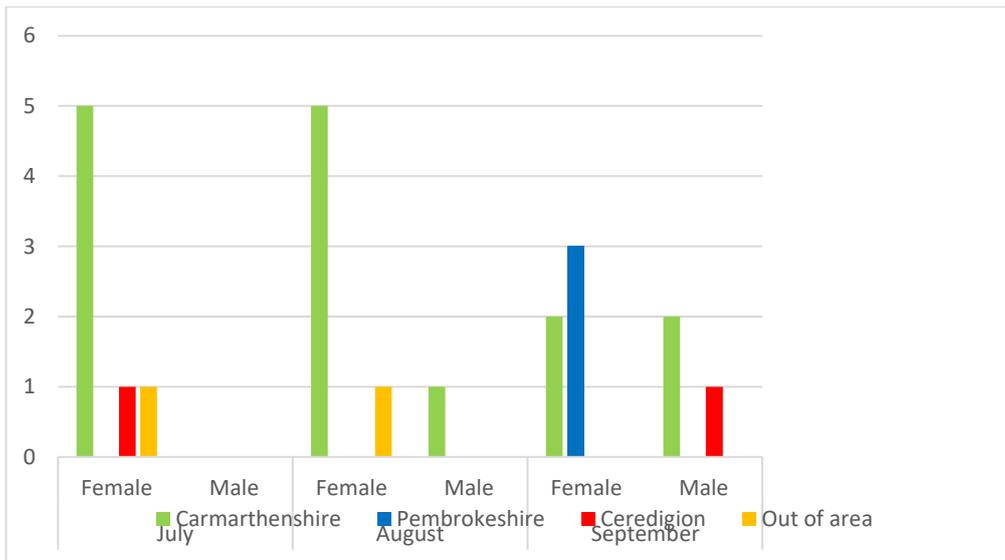
Admissions relating to Self-Harm

Within HDUHB there are robust systems in place for S-CAMHS to provide a mental health assessment, following referral from the Paediatric ward where any young person is admitted following an episode of self harm. The reason for admission is generally following an overdose but, on occasions, it can be following deliberate cutting or an attempted hanging.

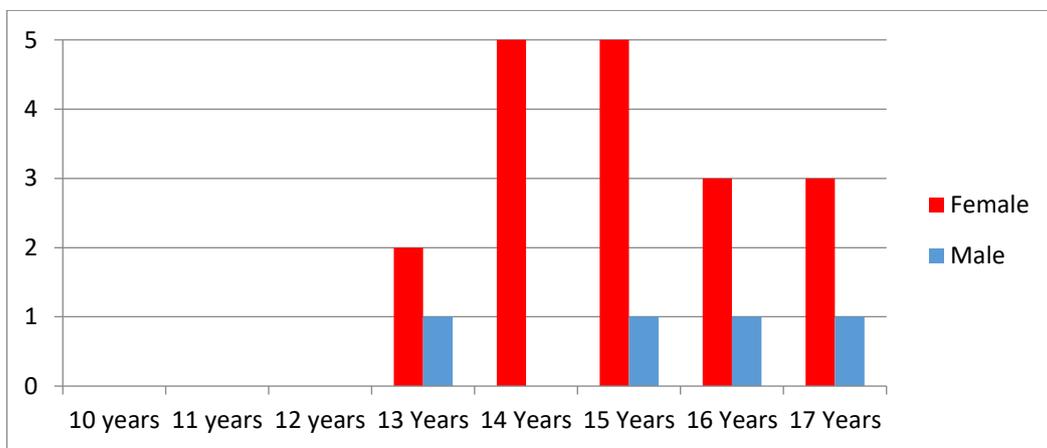
All overdose/self harm admissions receive a follow up appointment within three working days to monitor risk and provide support. There is a robust Pathway in place along with Guidance for admission of all young people who present following self harm in order that a comprehensive mental health assessment and risk management plan can be agreed. Where appropriate, referral to the Safeguarding team and/or Social Services may be considered.

The following table details the numbers of admissions following Deliberate Self Harm (DSH) Quarter 2 2021-2022 for the 3 Local Authority Areas:

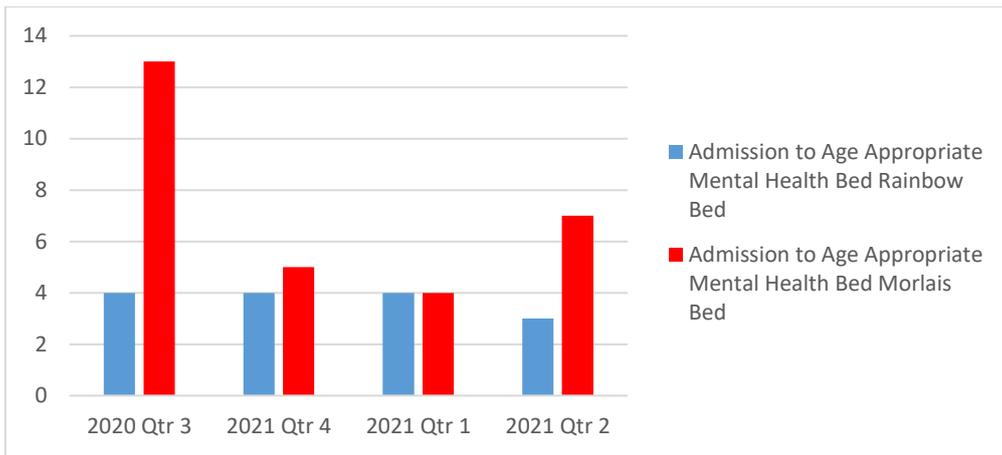
Q2 Self-harm / Overdose Admission Statistics split by gender and locality:



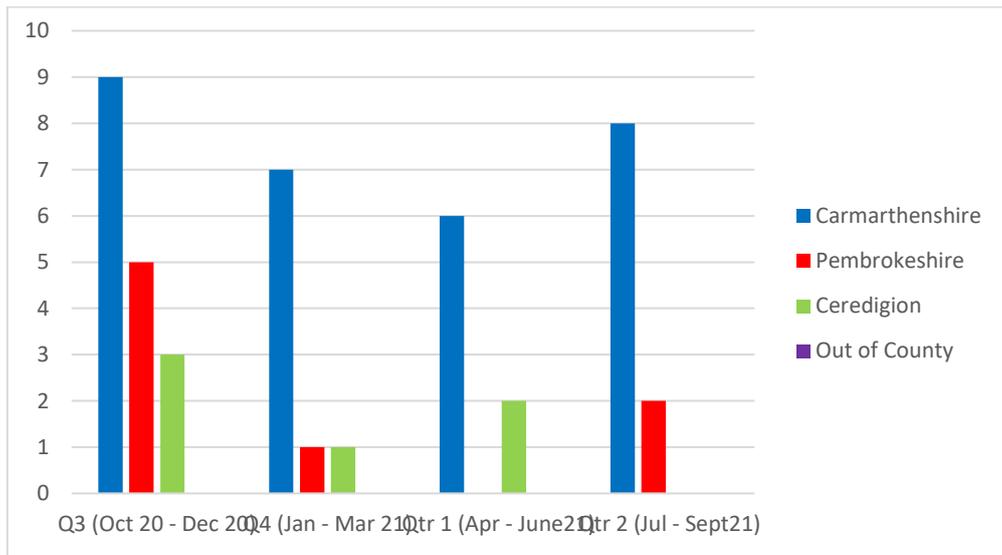
Q2 Self-harm / Overdose Admission Statistics split by gender and age profile:



Comparison Data (last 12 months) - Age Appropriate Bed

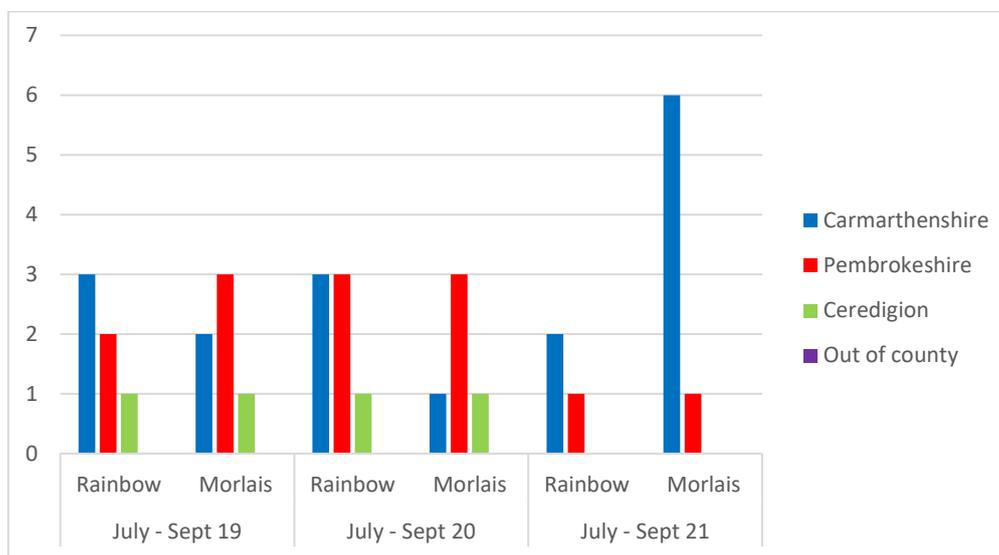


Admission Trend comparison by locality (last 12 months)



Annual Admission Comparison by locality

The following graph compares the numbers of admissions for Quarter 2 2021/2022 against the number of admissions for the same quarter of 2020/2021 and 2019/2020, further defined by locality.



Advocacy

In line with the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2012, Health Boards are expected to ensure that access to Advocacy Services is in place, as per Part 4 of the Measure, for any individual admitted into hospital. All young people admitted to Morlais Ward are asked on admission if they would like access to an Independent Mental Health Advocate. The expected performance target is that 100% of clients are offered this and this information is recorded and reported via our Information Analyst.

On Cilgerran Ward, information is provided to young people on admission on the availability of access to the Advocacy Service. However, the above performance standard is not applicable therefore data is not routinely collated.

CEREDIGION
CWMPAS LOCAL OPERATIONAL GROUP

Performance Management Report – Safeguarding Adults

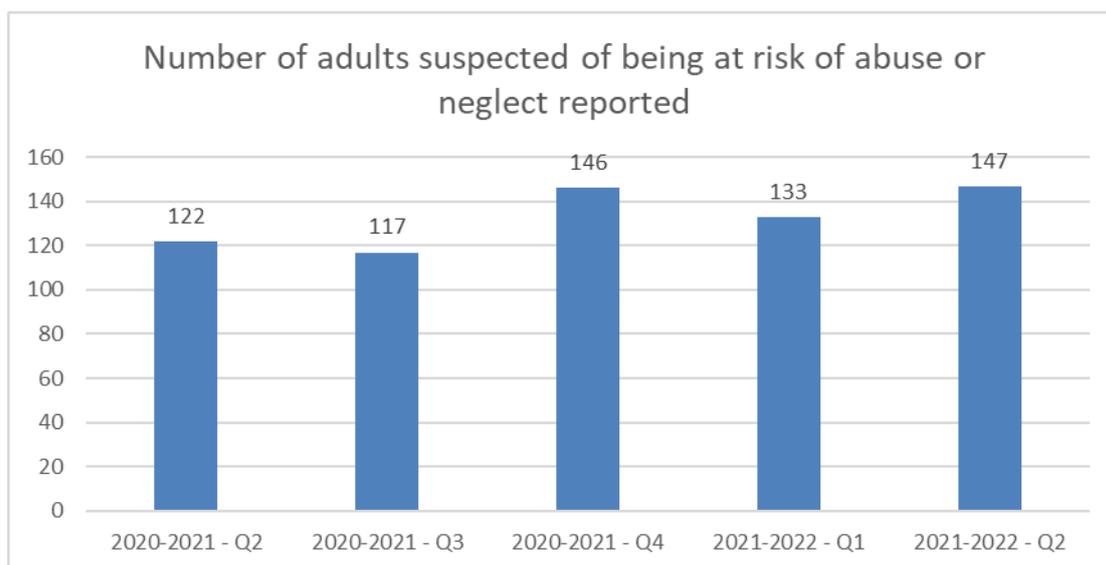
Quarter: 2

1/7/21 – 30/9/21

Number of Adult at Risk Reported

Number of adults suspected of being at risk of abuse or neglect reported

2020-2021 - Q2	122
2020-2021 - Q3	117
2020-2021 - Q4	146
2021-2022 - Q1	133
2021-2022 - Q2	147



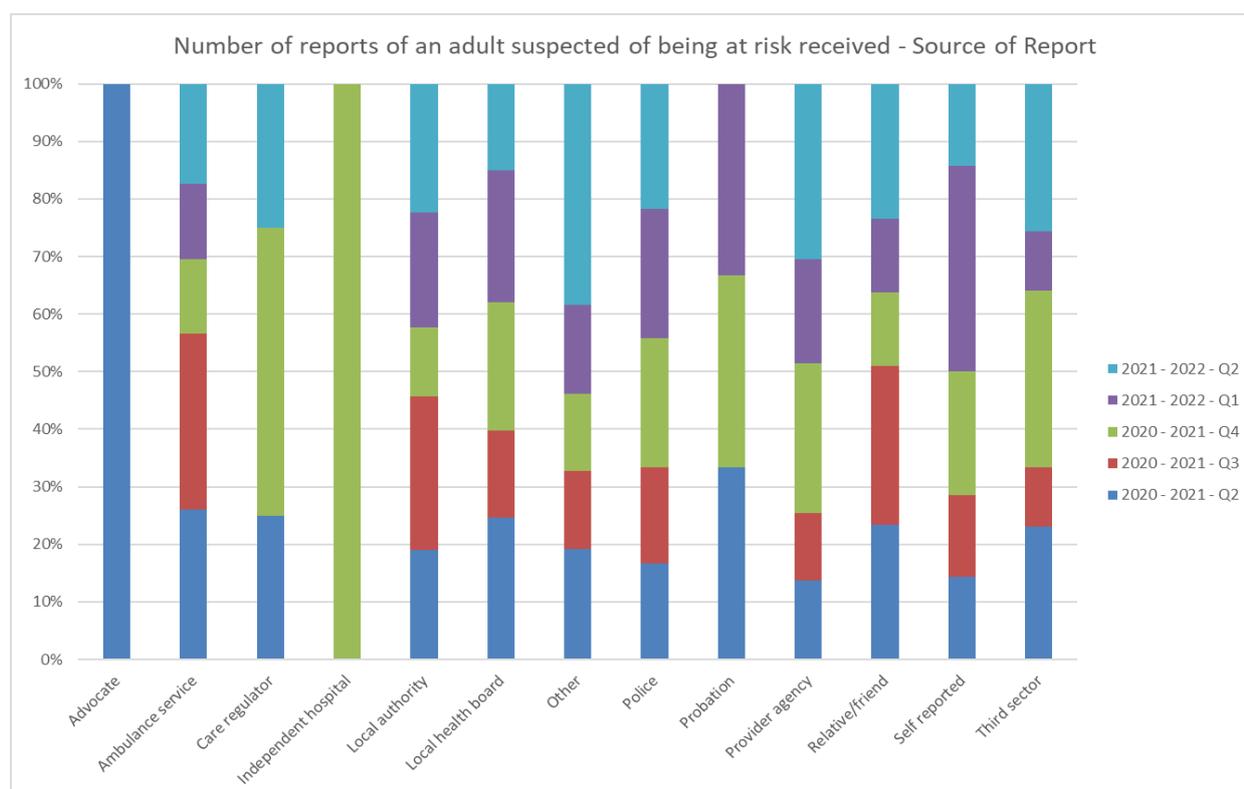
There is an increase in Q2 of the number of adults who are suspected of being at risk of abuse and/or neglect, from Q1. However, the figures are comparable to the numbers of adults in Quarter 4. In Q4, there was an increase in the numbers compared to the previous quarters and this seems to be following the lifting of COVID 19 restrictions. In Q4 there was an increase in the number of reports received, with a slight decrease in Q1 of this year and then an increase again in Q2.

Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received	
Reports - Month	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q2	149
Jul	54
Aug	52
Sep	43
2020 - 2021 - Q3	131
Oct	42
Nov	45
Dec	44
2020 - 2021 - Q4	157
Jan	38
Feb	67
Mar	52
2021 - 2022 - Q1	148
Apr	51
May	48
Jun	49
2021 - 2022 - Q2	175
Jul	53
Aug	72
Sep	50
Grand Total	760



Comment: - The number of reports received in Q2 has increased from Q1 with there been a large number of reports received in August during Q2.

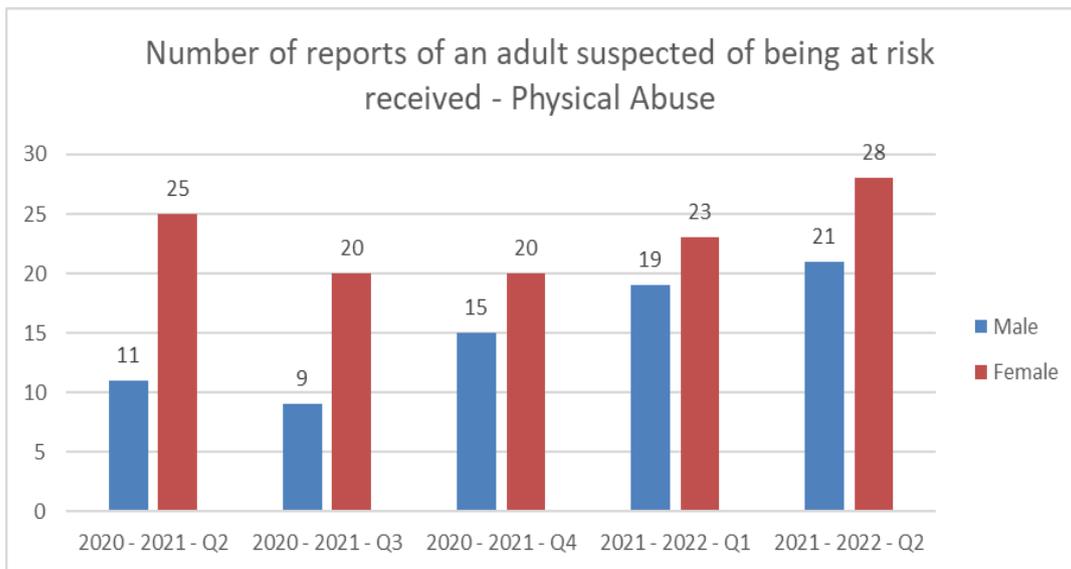
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received - Source of Reports						
Reports - Month						
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels					
Row Labels	2020 - 2021 - Q2	2020 - 2021 - Q3	2020 - 2021 - Q4	2021 - 2022 - Q1	2021 - 2022 - Q2	Grand Total
Advocate	1					1
Ambulance service	6	7	3	3	4	23
Care regulator	1		2		1	4
Independent hospital			1			1
Local authority	22	31	14	23	26	116
Local health board	41	25	37	38	25	166
Other	10	7	7	8	20	52
Police	26	26	35	35	34	156
Probation	1		1	1		3
Provider agency	19	16	36	25	42	138
Relative/friend	11	13	6	6	11	47
Self reported	2	2	3	5	2	14
Third sector	9	4	12	4	10	39
Grand Total	149	131	157	148	175	760



Provider agencies have been that largest source of reports in this quarter followed by Police, then the Local Authority and then Health. This is the first quarter for some time where Provider agencies have been the largest source of reporting. There has been an increase in tis quarter of Professional Concerns reporting particularly relating to one provider specifically.

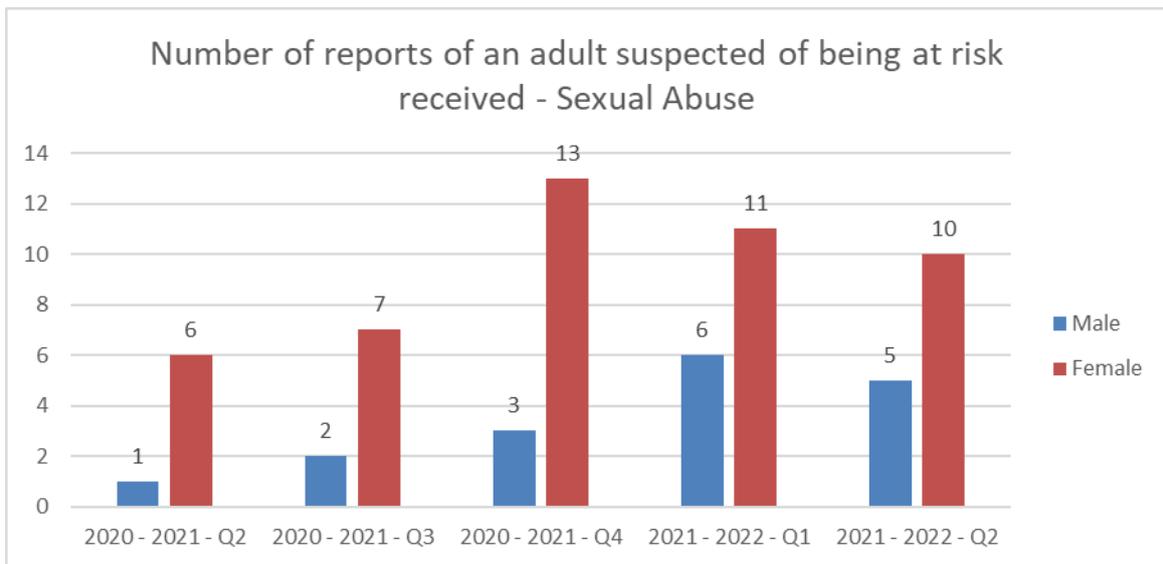
Performance Management Report 1/7/21 - 30/9/21

Physical Abuse			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk Received - Physical Abuse			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q2	11	25	36
2020 - 2021 - Q3	9	20	29
2020 - 2021 - Q4	15	20	35
2021 - 2022 - Q1	19	23	42
2021 - 2022 - Q2	21	28	49
Grand Total	75	116	191



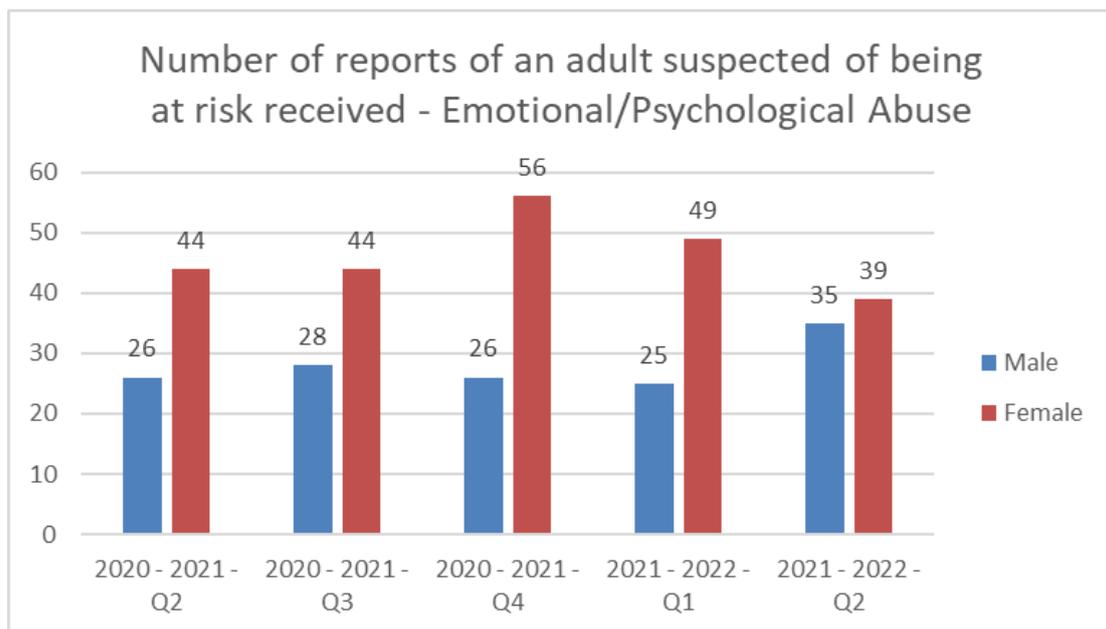
There is an increase in the number of reports where physical abuse is the category of abuse reported in comparison with Q1.

Sexual Abuse			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received – Sexual Abuse			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q2	1	6	7
2020 - 2021 - Q3	2	7	9
2020 - 2021 - Q4	3	13	16
2021 - 2022 - Q1	6	11	17
2021 - 2022 - Q2	5	10	15
Grand Total	17	47	64



Over the past 3 quarters there has been a decrease in the number of reports in relation to women being the victim of sexual abuse although there is a slight fluctuation in terms of males being the reported victim.

Emotional / Psychological Abuse			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received - Emotional/Psychological			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q2	26	44	70
2020 - 2021 - Q3	28	44	72
2020 - 2021 - Q4	26	56	82
2021 - 2022 - Q1	25	49	74
2021 - 2022 - Q2	35	39	74
Grand Total	140	232	372



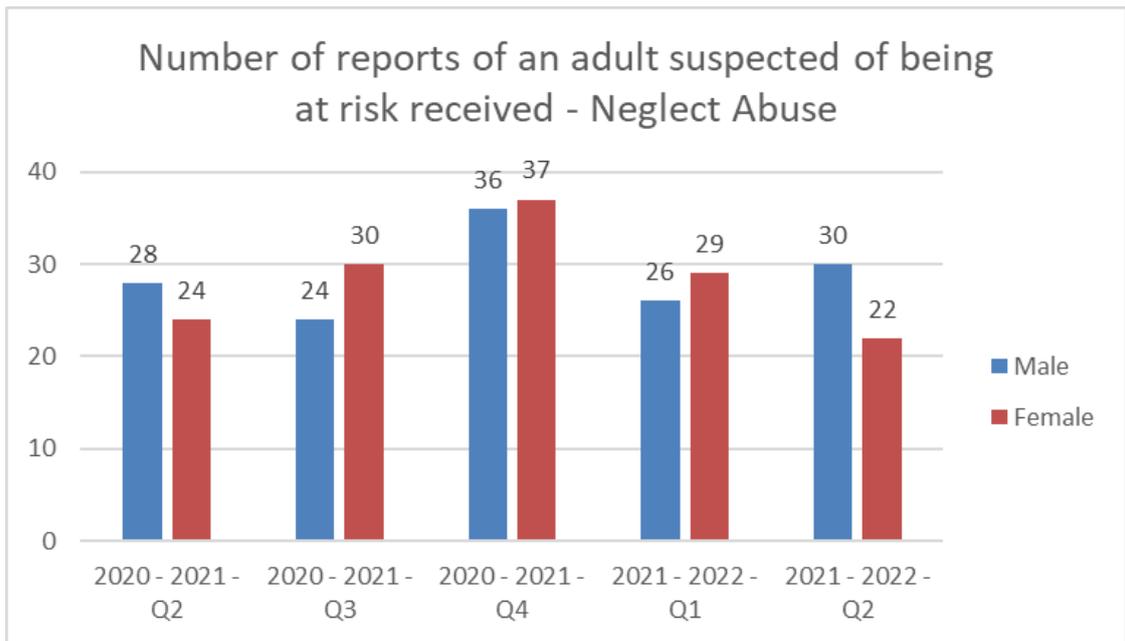
Over the last 3 quarters, there has been a decrease in the number of women who are reported to be victims of emotional/psychological abuse although there is an increase in the reports related to men. However, the number of reports received relation to emotional/psychological abuse is higher than any category of abuse reported in this quarter, with 74 reports regarding this, compared to 49 of physical abuse, 52 of neglect, 50 financial abuse and 15 of sexual abuse. This is consistent with previous quarters where emotional/psychological abuse has been the highest reported category of abuse.

Financial Abuse			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received – Financial Abuse			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q2	14	23	37
2020 - 2021 - Q3	15	19	34
2020 - 2021 - Q4	17	19	36
2021 - 2022 - Q1	21	18	39
2021 - 2022 - Q2	23	27	50
Grand Total	90	106	196



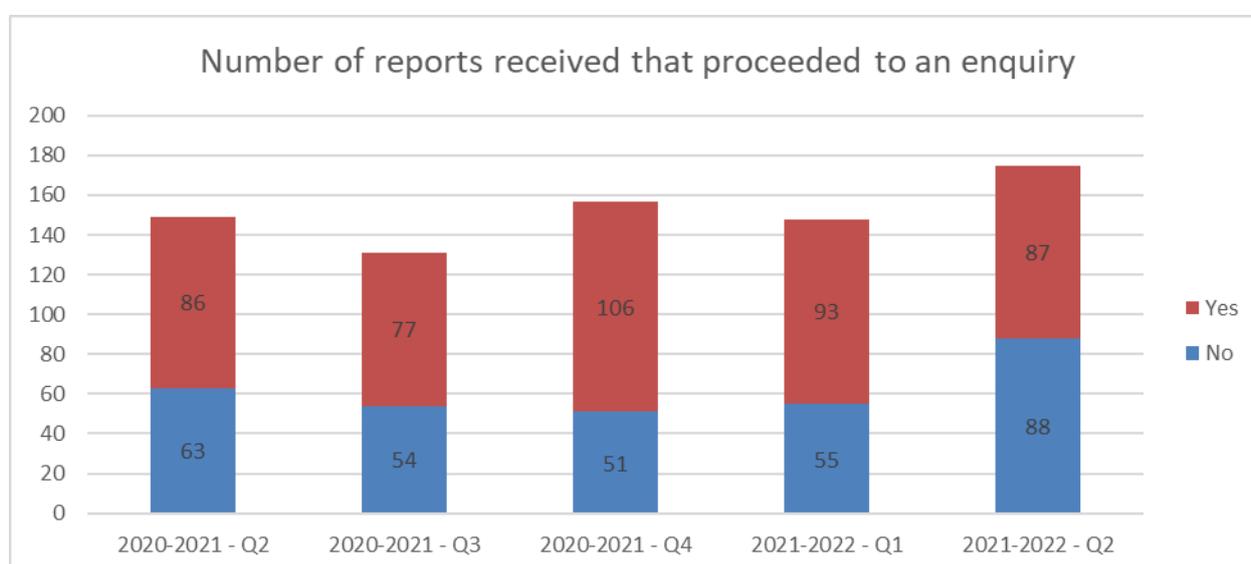
There is an increase in the number of reports that have highlighted financial abuse as a cause for concern in this Quarter.

Neglect			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received - Neglect			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q2	28	24	52
2020 - 2021 - Q3	24	30	54
2020 - 2021 - Q4	36	37	73
2021 - 2022 - Q1	26	29	55
2021 - 2022 - Q2	30	22	52
Grand Total	144	142	286



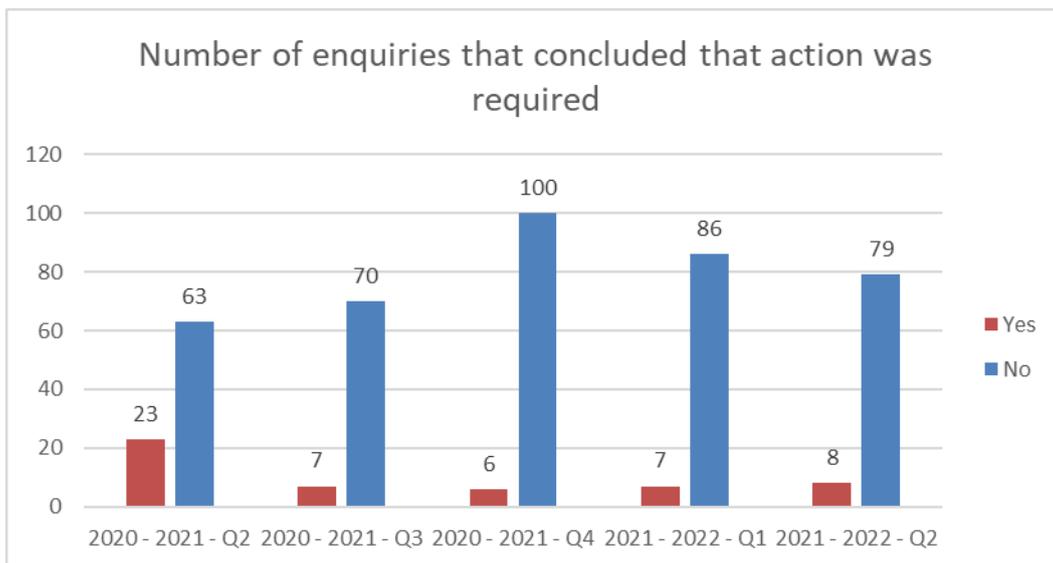
There is a decrease in the number of reports received where neglect is the cause of concern.

Number of reports that proceeded to an enquiry					
Reports that led to Enquiries					
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels				
Row Labels	No - Other (please comment)	No - The individual refused to participate in enquiry	No - The individual was not an adult at risk	Yes - Proceeded to enquiry	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q2	26	1	36	86	149
2020 - 2021 - Q3	33	4	17	77	131
2020 - 2021 - Q4	21	2	28	106	157
2021 - 2022 - Q1	25	3	27	93	148
2021 - 2022 - Q2	46	10	32	87	175
Grand Total	151	20	140	449	760



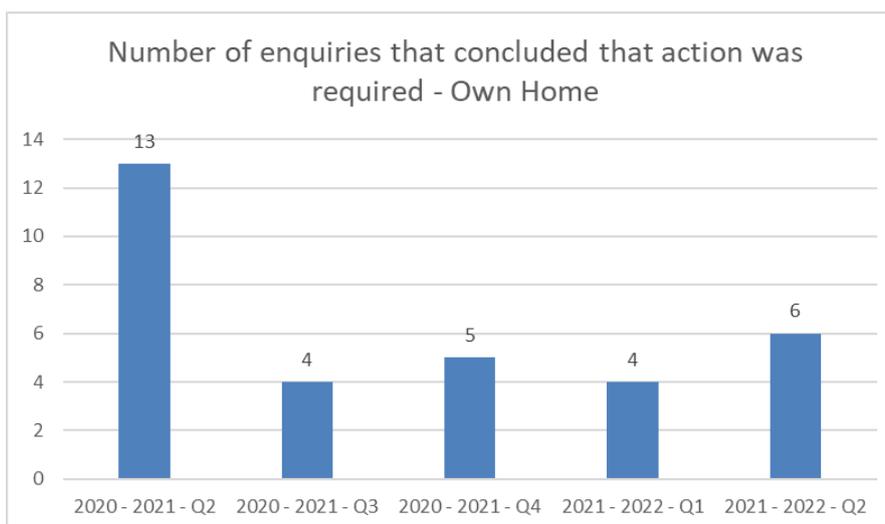
There are a higher number of reports that did not proceed to an enquiry in comparison with previous quarters. The team have reported an increase in the number of inappropriate referrals coming in and where the team have had to go back and discuss the referrals with the referrer.

Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Yes	No	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q2	23	63	86
2020 - 2021 - Q3	7	70	77
2020 - 2021 - Q4	6	100	106
2021 - 2022 - Q1	7	86	93
2021 - 2022 - Q2	8	79	87
Grand Total	51	398	449

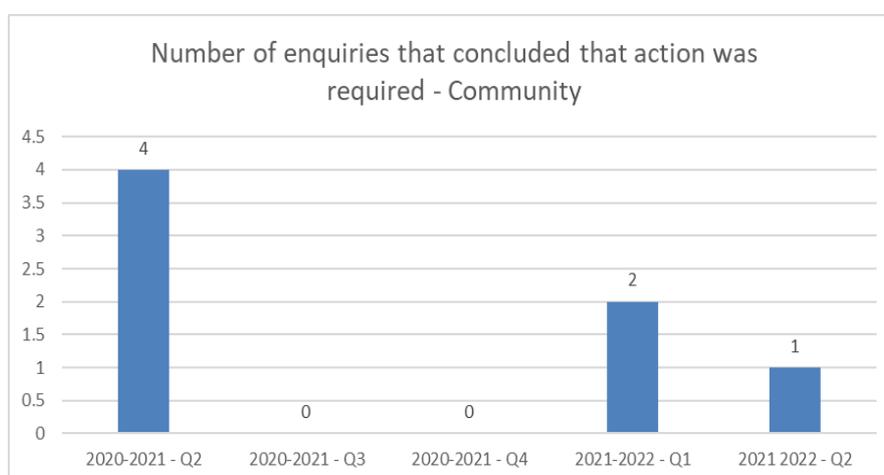


This is the number of enquiries that proceeded for further action under the Safeguarding Procedures, Strategy meetings, and further investigations.

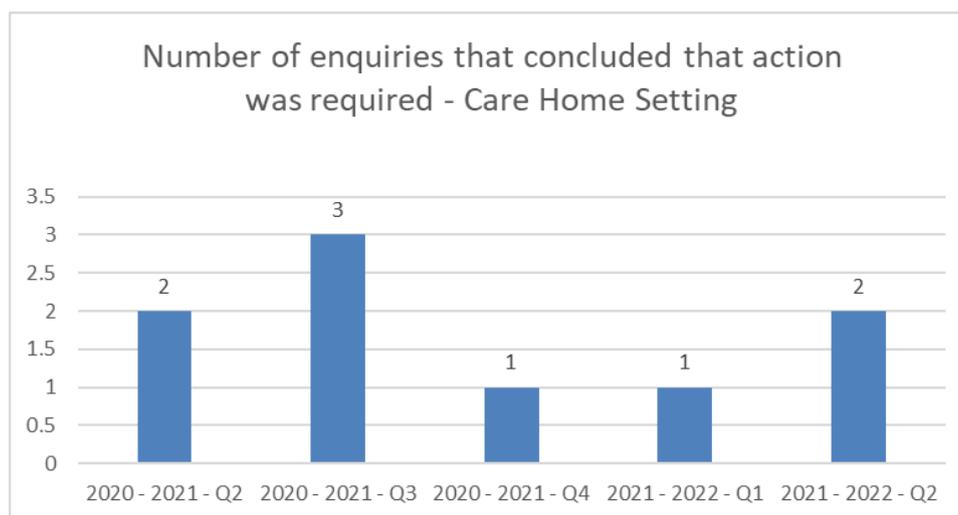
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Own Home	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q2	13
2020 - 2021 - Q3	4
2020 - 2021 - Q4	5
2021 - 2022 - Q1	4
2021 - 2022 - Q2	6
Grand Total	32



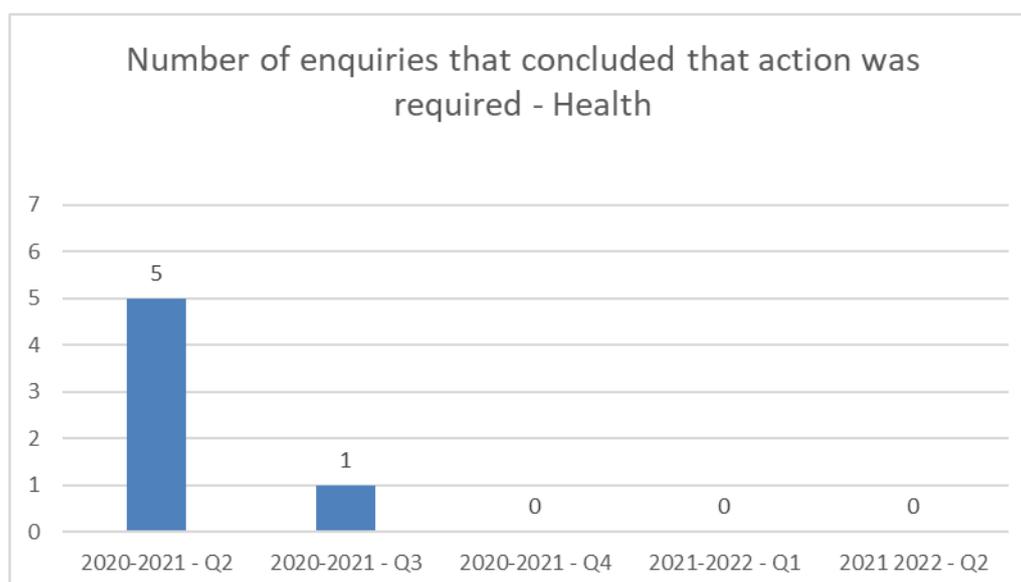
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Community	
Row Labels	Place - Community
2020-2021 - Q2	4
2020-2021 - Q3	0
2020-2021 - Q4	0
2021-2022 - Q1	2
2021 2022 - Q2	1



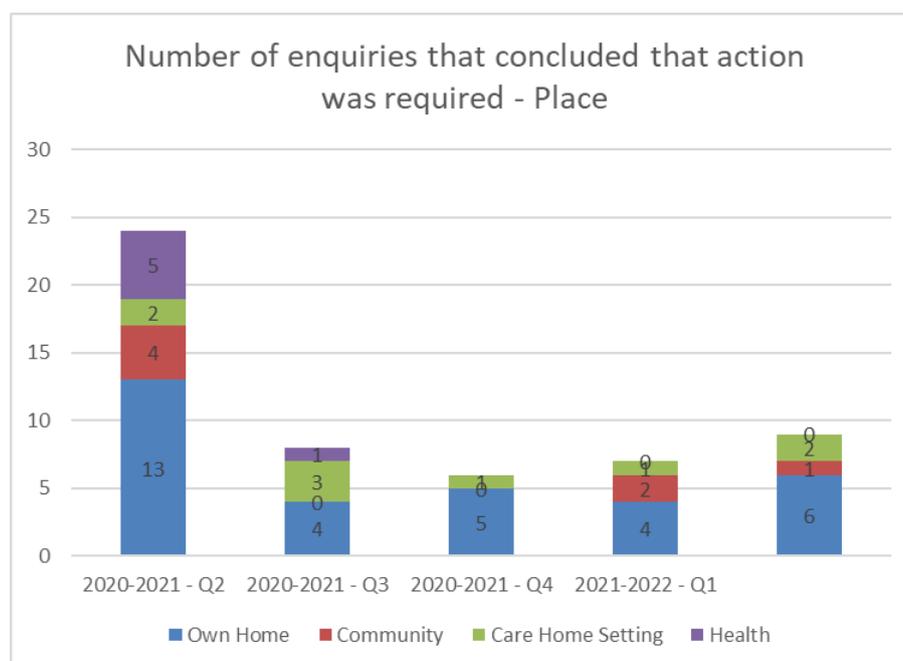
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Care Home Setting	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q2	2
2020 - 2021 - Q3	3
2020 - 2021 - Q4	1
2021 - 2022 - Q1	1
2021 - 2022 - Q2	2
Grand Total	9



Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Health	
2020-2021 - Q2	5
2020-2021 - Q3	1
2020-2021 - Q4	0
2021-2022 - Q1	0
2021 2022 - Q2	0

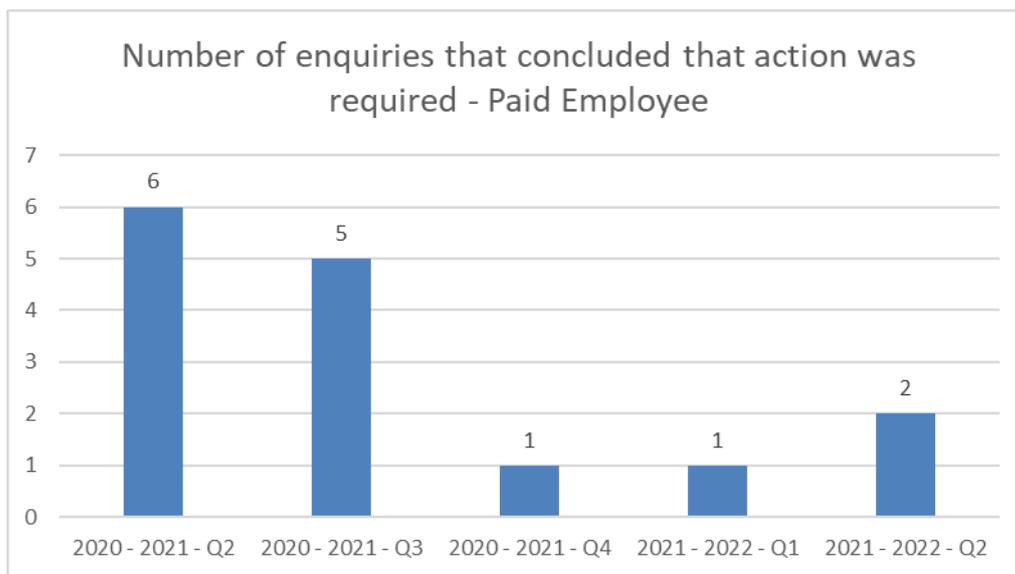


Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Place				
Period	Own Home	Community	Care Home Setting	Health
2020-2021 - Q2	13	4	2	5
2020-2021 - Q3	4	0	3	1
2020-2021 - Q4	5	0	1	0
2021-2022 - Q1	4	2	1	0
2021 2022 - Q2	6	1	2	0

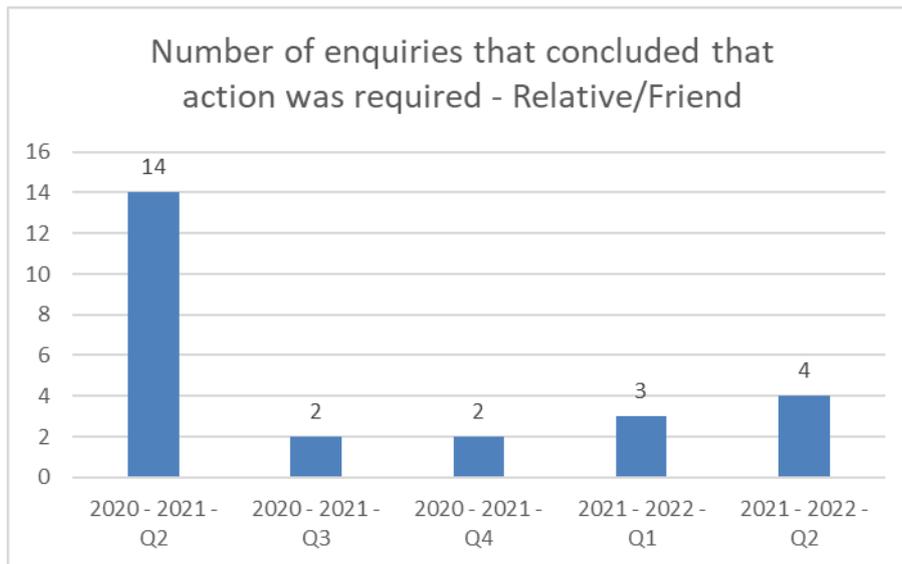


Further safeguarding processes needed to take place for the majority of people where abuse occurred in their own home as opposed to any other setting.

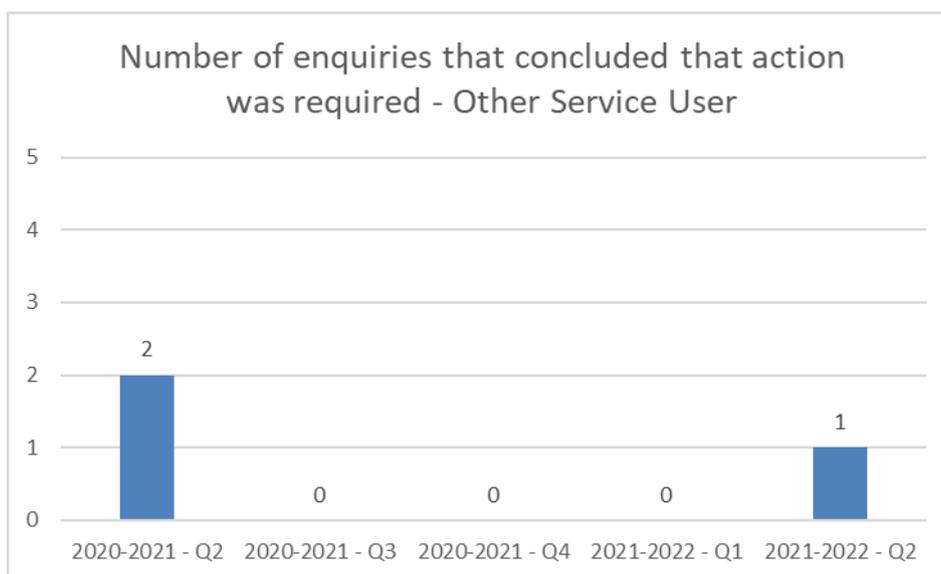
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required – Personal responsible - Paid Employee	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q2	6
2020 - 2021 - Q3	5
2020 - 2021 - Q4	1
2021 - 2022 - Q1	1
2021 - 2022 - Q2	2
Grand Total	15



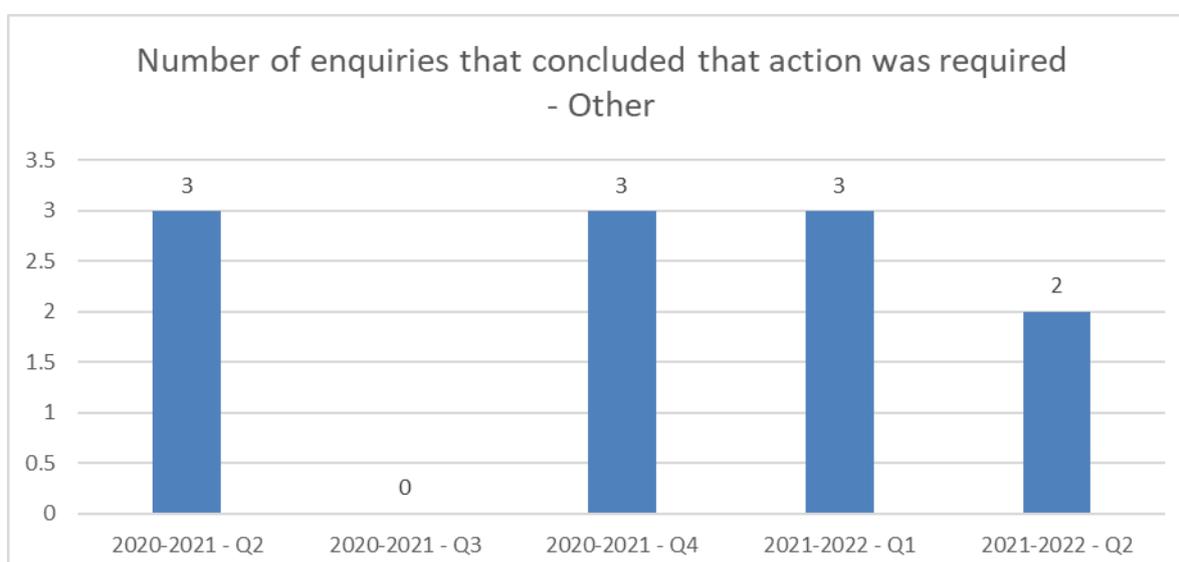
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required – person responsible – Relative / Friend	
Person - Relative Friend	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q2	14
2020 - 2021 - Q3	2
2020 - 2021 - Q4	2
2021 - 2022 - Q1	3
2021 - 2022 - Q2	4
Grand Total	25



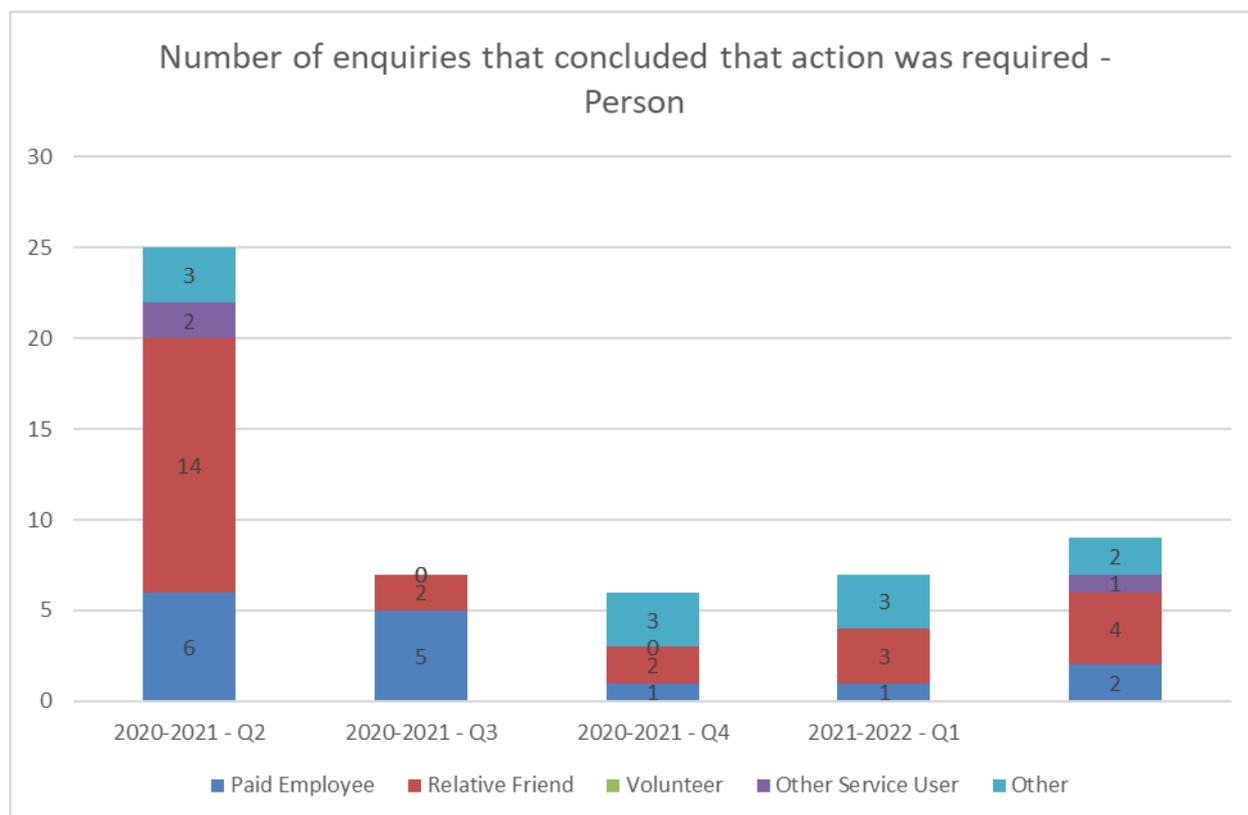
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required – Person Responsible – Other Service User	
2020-2021 - Q2	2
2020-2021 - Q3	0
2020-2021 - Q4	0
2021-2022 - Q1	0
2021-2022 - Q2	1



Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required – person responsible - Other	
Person - Other	
2020-2021 - Q2	3
2020-2021 - Q3	0
2020-2021 - Q4	3
2021-2022 - Q1	3
2021-2022 - Q2	2



Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Person					
Period	Paid Employee	Relative Friend	Volunteer	Other Service User	Other
2020-2021 - Q2	6	14	0	2	3
2020-2021 - Q3	5	2	0	0	0
2020-2021 - Q4	1	2	0	0	3
2021-2022 - Q1	1	3	0	0	3
2021-2022 - Q2	2	4	0	1	2



Where further safeguarding actions were required, this related mostly to relatives and friends who were allegedly responsible for the reported abuse.

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Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

DATE: 15 June 2022

LOCATION:

TITLE: CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group
Safeguarding Report
Qtr 3 2021/22

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To monitor activity on a multi-agency basis of the actions taken to safeguard children and adults within Ceredigion

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: To ensure members monitor progress in the CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group quarterly management meetings

BACKGROUND:

Please see attached CYSUR-CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group Safeguarding Report for Qtr 3, 2021/22.

These are multi-agency management reports in relation to safeguarding children and adults in Ceredigion during the period 1st October to 31st December 2021. They provide management information on action taken under the Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

The Reports include information provided by other agencies in relation to safeguarding the welfare of children and adults in Ceredigion.

The management information is discussed by members of the CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined (Ceredigion) Local Operations Group in order to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the safeguarding of children and adults arrangements in Ceredigion and the outcomes achieved

These multi agency meetings provide an opportunity to identify and act upon any performance and other issues within this area of work.

Performance information is also provided to the Mid and West Wales Regional Safeguarding Board which is also an opportunity to analyse performance, trends and issues across the Region.

Summary of Key points:

CHILDREN SAFEGUARDING;

- There was an increase in the number of reports regarding children that led to action being taken under Safeguarding Procedures in this Quarter compared to Quarter 2, with the number being 122 in this quarter compared to 106 in Q 2.
- However, there was a marked decrease in the number of Initial Child Protection Conferences held compared to Quarter 2, with only 8 children subject initial to child protection conferences in this quarter compared to 33 children in quarter 2.
- As an outcome of Initial Child Protection Conferences, there were 6 children placed on the Child Protection Register in this quarter. 2 children were not placed on the register.
- 13 Review Conferences were held in this quarter, relating to 34 children. Of those 34 children, 19 children remained on the CP register, 15 children were removed from the register. Of the 15 children who were de-registered, Of the 15 children who were de-registered, 6 were in receipt of further intervention on a Child in Need of Care and Support Plan; 6 subject to a Court Order and Looked After Children with 3 further young persons not in need of any services.
- The Police remained as the largest source of referrals during the quarter; the schools' rate has increased considerably following a considerable decrease at the previous quarter.
- There was a decrease in the number of Section 47 Enquiries undertaken in this quarter compared to Quarter 2, with 49 being undertaken in this quarter and 51 in Q 2. Of the 49 enquiries undertaken, 45 of those enquiries were undertaken jointly between Police and Social Services.
- Of the Enquiries undertaken, physical abuse was the main category of abuse being investigated, 22 with 12 relating to sexual abuse/exploitation. This is in contrast to Quarter 2, where 21 enquiries undertaken related to sexual abuse/exploitation and 14 related to physical abuse.
- 81.5% of Initial Child Protection Conferences were held in Statutory Timescales compared in Q 2. 100% of initial conferences were held in statutory timescales in this quarter.
- The main risk factors for the children who were on the Child Protection Register were Domestic Abuse (80.5%), parental separation (61.1%), parental substance/alcohol misuse (50.0%), parental non co-operation with the CP Plan (50.0%) and parental mental health difficulties (47.2%).

- Of the 36 children on the register as of the 31st December, 17 children were registered under the category of emotional/psychological abuse, 17 children were registered under the category of neglect and 1 was registered under neglect and sexual abuse and 1 was registered under sexual abuse.

ADULT SAFEGUARDING.

- There is a marked decrease in the number of adults suspected of being at risk of abuse or neglect in this quarter (117) compared to Q2 (152) but the figure is comparable to Q3 (117) last year.
- 137 reports/referrals were received in all in this quarter. Of the 137 reports received, 54 reports proceeded to a Section 126 Enquiry.
- Provider Agencies have been the largest source of reports this quarter (33), followed by Others (23), ie members of the public etc, Police, (20) and then the Local Authority (26) and Health (19).
- This quarter, the number of reports received relating to emotional/psychological abuse has decreased in this quarter-it was the highest category of abuse in the last quarter. Physical abuse has been the highest category of abuse recorded in this quarter with there being 68 reports of adults at risk, 45 of emotional/psychological abuse, 22 of financial abuse, 50 of neglect, and 12 of sexual abuse.
- There is a marked decrease in the number of reports concerning financial abuse from the previous quarter and a marked decrease in the reports of emotional/psychological abuse.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why No

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:

Summary:

This report is provided on an ongoing basis and demonstrates the continuing work that is undertaken in relation to safeguarding children and adults in Ceredigion.

- Long term:** Balancing short term need with long term planning for the future
- Integration:** Positively impacting on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three
- Collaboration:** Working together with other partners to delivery
- Involvement:** Involving those with an interest and seeking their views, stakeholder engagement and consultation
- Prevention:** Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse

RECOMMENDATION (S):

To note the contents of the report and the levels of activity with the Local Authority

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

So that governance of the Local Authority activity and its partner agencies are monitored

- Contact Name:** Siân Howys
- Designation:** Corporate Lead Officer: (Children & Families)
- Date of Report:** 31 March 2022

Acronyms:

- CP – Child Protection
- CPR – Child Protection Register
- Part 4 – Allegations against a member of staff or those working with children, e.g. - foster carers, volunteers, playgroups, etc.
- CPCC – Child Protection Case Conference
- ICPC – Initial Child Protection Conference



CEREDIGION

CYSUR LOCAL OPERATIONAL GROUP

Performance Management Report

Quarter: 3

1.9.21 – 31.12.21

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION:

This is the multi-agency management report in relation to safeguarding children in Ceredigion during the period 1st October to 31st December 2021. It provides performance management information on action taken to safeguard children.

It includes reports from partner agencies relating to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children in Ceredigion.

The indicators and measures used are defined and reported on locally, regionally and nationally.

This management information is regularly discussed by members of the CYSUR Ceredigion Local Operations Group in order to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding children arrangements in Ceredigion and the outcomes achieved.

Any comments or queries regarding the report should be addressed to:

Elizabeth Upcott
Rheolwr Corfforaethol Diogelu
Safeguarding Corporate Manager,
Elizabeth.Upcott@ceredigion.gov.uk
01545 574212

SECTION 2: Headline and Comparative Data

Referral Outcomes	Oct-Dec 2021	July-Sept 2021	April-June 2021	Jan-Mar 2021	Oct-Dec 2020
Reports/Referrals leading to Child Protection Strategy Discussions / Meetings	122	106	116	99	102
Number of Initial CP Conferences (excluding transfer and pre-birth conferences)	4	9	8	3	13
Number of Initial Pre Birth CP Conferences	-	-	1	-	1
Number of Transfer CP Conferences	-	1	-	1	-
Pre-Birth Transfer CP Conference	-	1	-	-	-
Total number of Initial CP Conferences(including transfer and pre-birth Conferences)	4	11	9	4	14
Total number of children subject to Initial/Pre-birth/Transfer Conferences	8	33	18	9	20
Number of children's names placed on the CP Register (excluding pre-birth and transfer conferences)	6	26	17	4	15
Number of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth	-	-	1	-	1
Number of children's names placed on the CP Register after transfer from other Local Authorities	-	-	-	3	-
No. of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth after transfer from other Local Authorities	-	1	-	-	-
Total number of children's names placed on the CP Register following Initial Conferences	6	27	18	7	16
Total number of children's names not placed on the CP Register	2	6	-	2	4
Number of Review CP Conferences	13	13	12	18	17
Number of Review Pre Birth CP Conferences	-	1			
Total Number of Review CP Conferences (inc Pre Birth)	13	14			
Number of children subject to Review CP Conferences	34	23	24	35	39
Number of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth	-	1	-	-	-
Total number of children subject to Review/Pre-birth Conferences	34	24			
Total number of children remaining on CP Register	19	13	7	11	18
Total number of children removed from the CP Register	15	11	17	24	21

Analysis:

There was a significant increase in the number of referrals that lead to action taken under Wales Safeguarding Procedures during this quarter.

The percentage of children discussed at review conferences and who were deregistered was 44%.

DRAFT

SECTION 3: Child Protection Reports and Referrals:

Victoria Climbié Inquiry Recommendation 39 requires that front line staff transfer enquiries about the safety and welfare of children to the appropriate team without delay and within an hour. In Ceredigion, Porth Gofal receives and records all calls from the public, professionals and agencies and passes them to the Child and Family Assessment and Support Team.

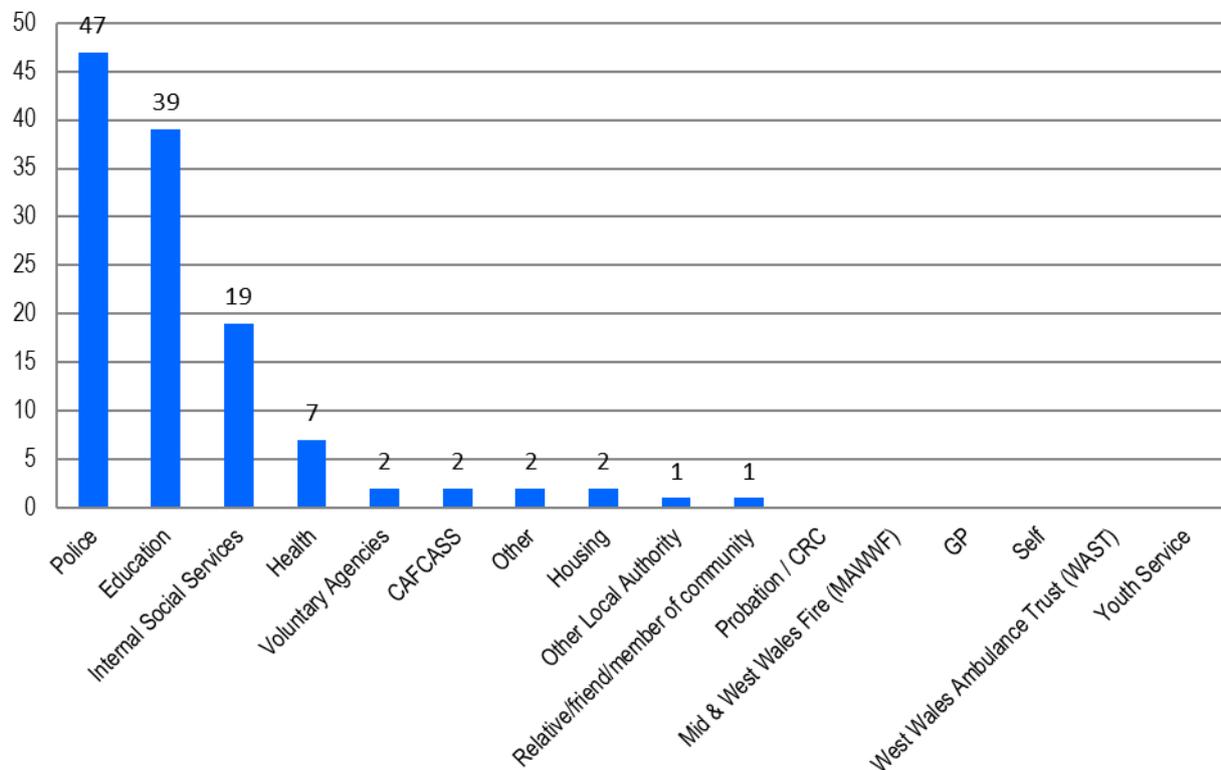
The following table shows the level of compliance with the recommendation:

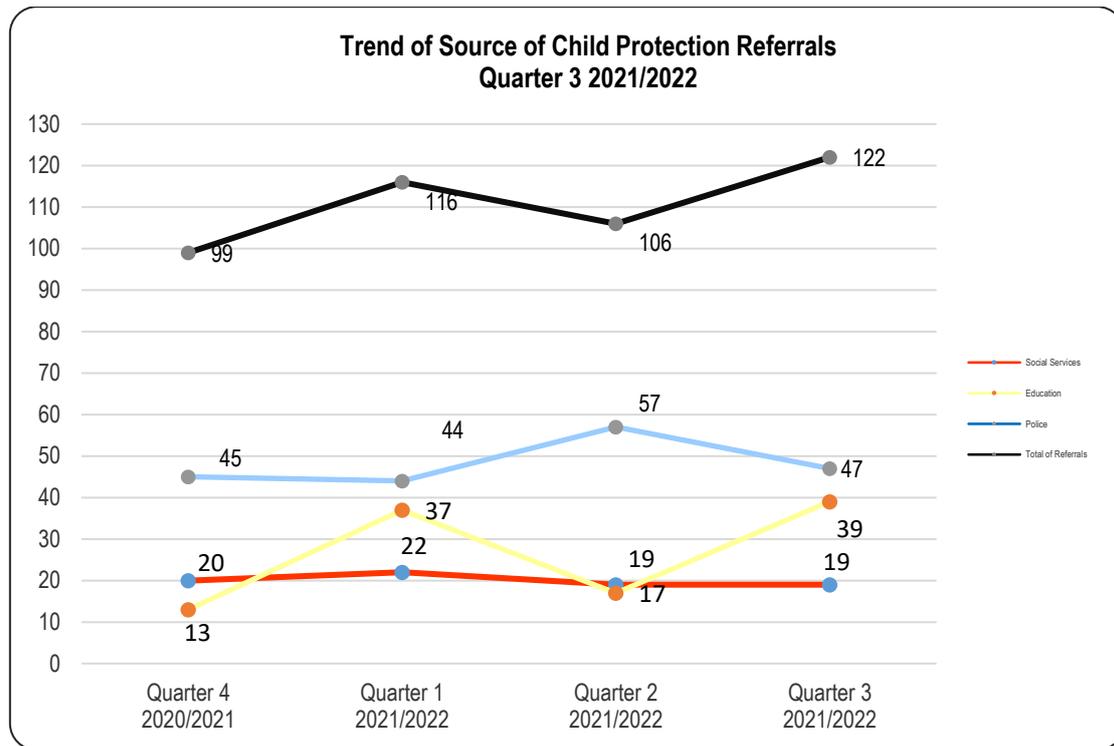
Level	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 1 hour	Passed to Duty Team Officer with 2 hours	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 2-5 hours	Total
October				
1	35	26	29	90
2	39	27	15	81
3	33	24	21	78
4	22	7	2	31
5	2	0	0	2
Level	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 1 hour	Passed to Duty Team Officer with 2 hours	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 2-5 hours	Total
November				
1	36	15	55	106
2	41	10	17	68
3	50	23	28	101
4	19	6	1	26
5	3	0	0	3
Level	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 1 hour	Passed to Duty Team Officer with 2 hours	Passed to Duty Team Officer within 2-5 hours	Total
December				
1	42	19	36	97
2	27	14	24	65
3	59	27	21	107
4	26	9	4	39
5	3	0	0	3

**Sources of Child Protection Referrals and Figures
that resulted in a Strategy Discussion**

Contact by	October	November	December	Total	Comp figures quarter 2
Police	14	15	18	47	57
Education	13	14	12	39	17
Internal Social Services	9	6	4	19	19
Health	2	2	3	7	7
Voluntary Agencies	-	1	1	2	1
CAFCASS	1	0	1	2	1
Other	-	2	-	2	-
Housing	1	1	-	2	-
Other Local Authority	-	1	-	1	2
Relative/friend/member of community	-	1	-	1	1
Probation / CRC	-	-	-	-	1
Mid & West Wales Fire (MAWWF)	-	-	-	-	-
GP	-	-	-	-	-
Youth Service	-	-	-	-	-
Self	-	-	-	-	-
West Wales Ambulance Trust(WAST)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	40	43	39	122	106

**Sources of Child Protection Referrals & Figures that resulted in a
Part 3 Strategy Discussion (122)
Quarter 3 2021/2022**

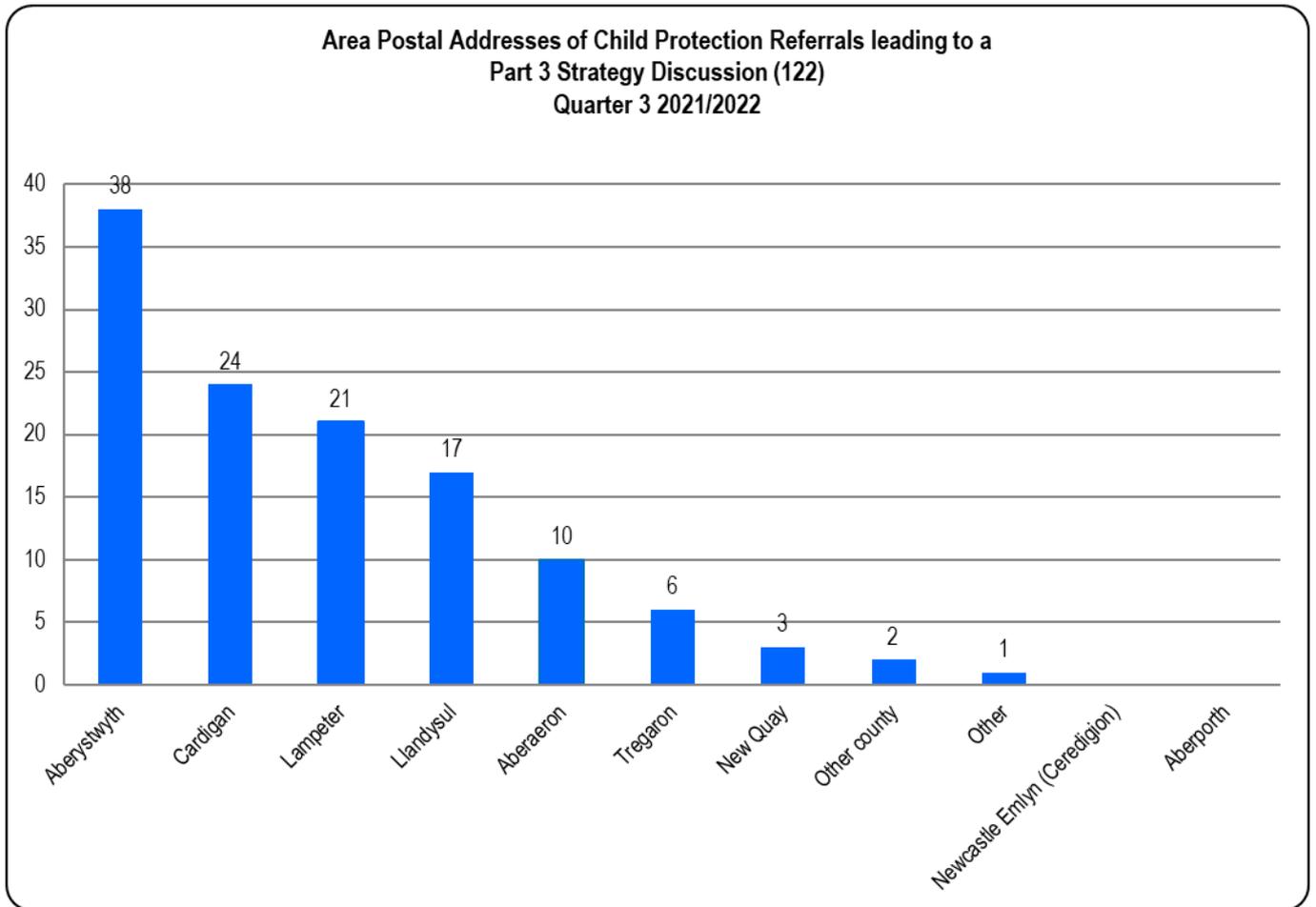




Analysis:

The Police remained as the largest source of referrals during the quarter; the schools' rate has increased considerably following a considerable decrease at the previous quarter.

Area Postal Addresses of Child Protection Referrals leading to a Part 3 Strategy Discussion					
Nearest town in Postal Address	October	November	December	Total	Comparative figure quarter 2
Aberystwyth	11	13	14	38	34
Cardigan	6	7	11	24	23
Lampeter	6	8	7	21	25
Llandysul	5	7	5	17	4
Aberaeron	4	5	1	10	5
Tregaron	4	2	-	6	6
New Quay	2	1	-	3	1
Other county	1	-	1	2	3
Other	1	-	-	1	-
Newcastle Emlyn (Ceredigion)	-	-	-	-	4
Aberporth	-	-	-	-	1
Total Number of Referrals	40	43	39	122	106



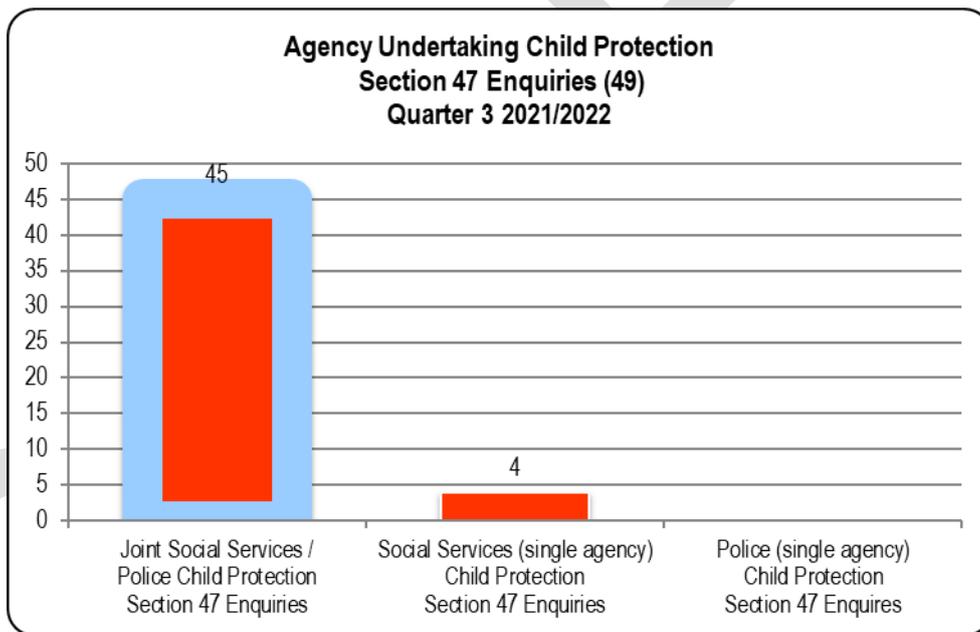
Analysis:

Aberystwyth is consistently the area of the greatest number of referrals

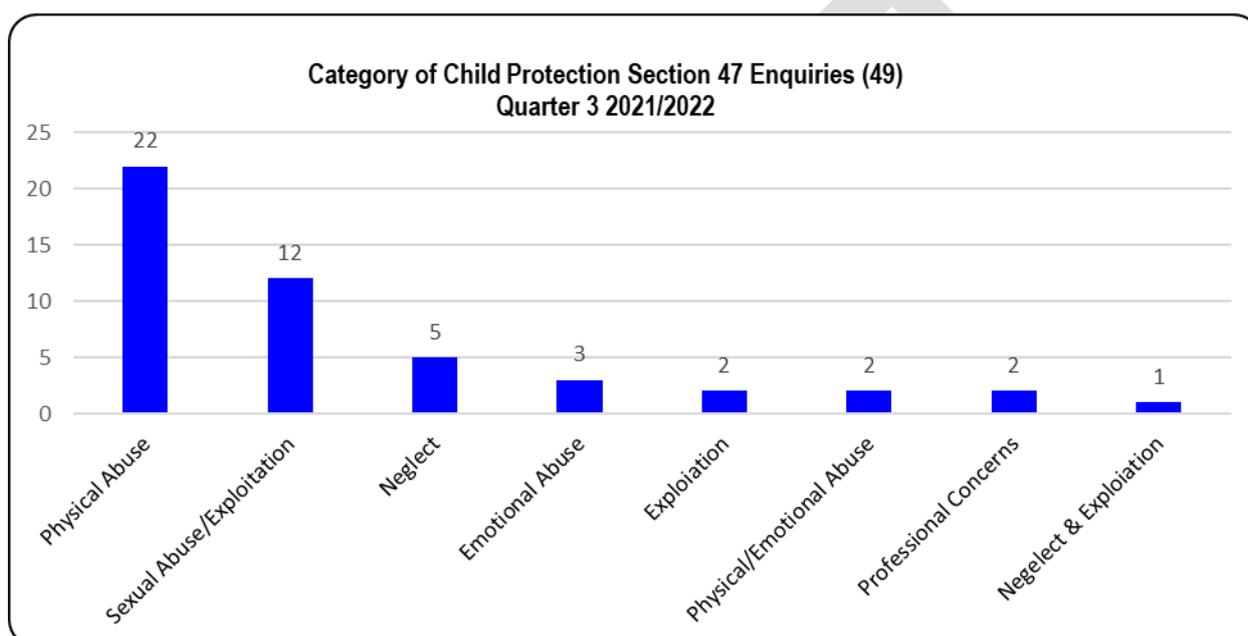
% Breakdown of Safeguarding Activity Quarter 3 2021/2022 (1 October – 31 December)			
Total of - 897 - All Initial Contacts re Children			
NAET Assigned to Children's Teams - Information unavailable	Strategy Discussions 14%	Section 47 Enquiries 5%	Initial Child Protection Conferences 1%

SECTION 4: Child Protection Section 47 Enquiries

No. of Part 3 Child Protection Strategy Discussions/ Meetings					
October	November	December	Total	Comparative fig quarter 2	
40 (35)	43 (26)	39 (45)	122	106	
Agency undertaking Child Protection Section 47 Enquiries					
	October	November	December	Total	Comparative fig quarter 2
Joint Social Services / Police Child Protection Section 47 Enquiries	13	21	11	45	38
Social Services (single agency) Child Protection Section 47 enquiries	-	4	-	4	8
Police (single agency) Child Protection Section 47 enquires	-	-	-	-	5
Total Enquiries	13	25	11	49	51



Category of Child Protection Section 47 Enquiry					
Category	October	November	December	Total	comparative fig Quarter 2
Physical Abuse	6	9	7	22	14
Sexual Abuse/Exploitation	2	7	3	12	21
Neglect	4	1	-	5	12
Emotional Abuse	1	2	-	3	4
Exploitation	-	2	-	2	-
Physical/Emotional Abuse	-	1	1	2	-
Professional Concerns	-	2	-	2	-
Neglect & Exploitation	-	1	-	1	-
Total Number of Enquiries	13	25	11	49	51



Video Interviews					
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	comparative fig Quarter 2
Number of video interviews with children	-	-	-	-	-

Analysis:

The main concerns that lead to completing child protection enquiries were allegations of sexual abuse/exploitation and physical abuse.

The majority of enquiries were carried out jointly by Police and Children Services.

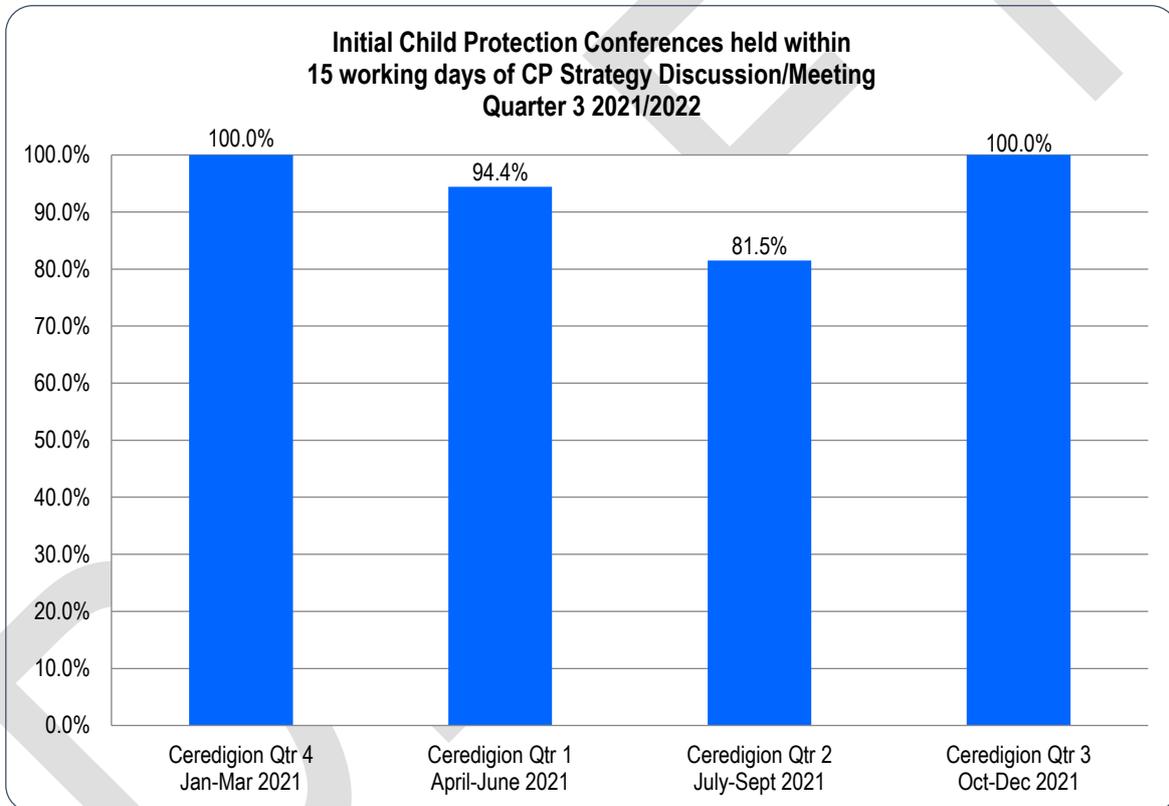
SECTION 5: Child Protection Conferences

This table contains breakdown figures in relation to Outcomes of Initial Child Protection Conferences					
Total Number of Initial CPCs	No. of children	No. of unborn	No. of families	Number of children placed on CPR incl. unborn and transferred	No. of children with Child In Need of Care and Support Plan if not registered
4	8	-	4	6	-

Initial Child Protection Conferences in timescale

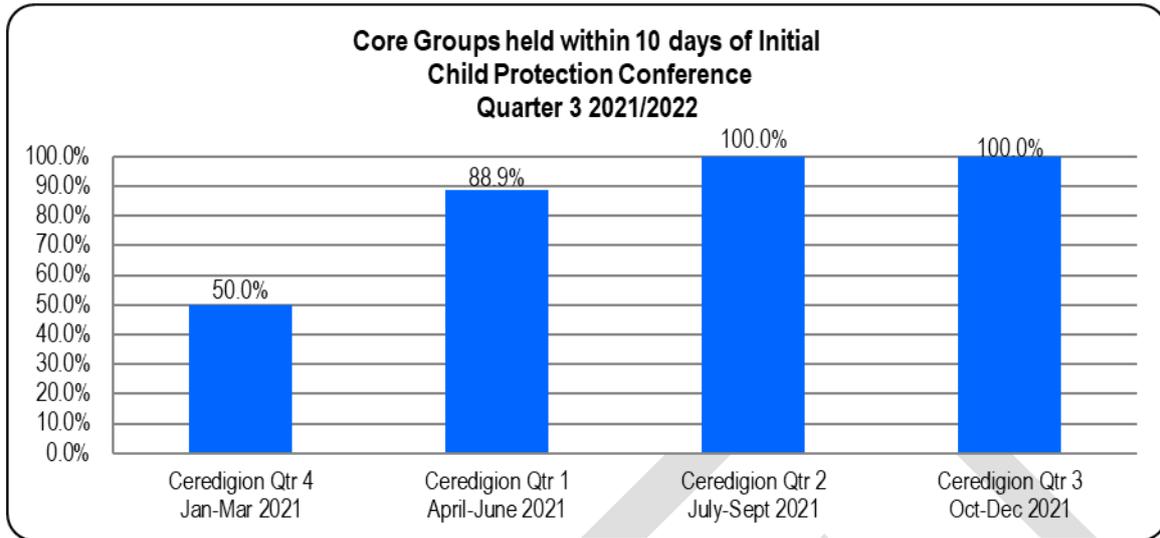
100.0% of Initial Child Protection Conferences were recorded to have taken place within 15 working days of the Strategy Discussion/Meeting.

It is important to note that all initial and Review Case Conferences are being held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Both parents and children have been able to participate in the meetings.



Child Protection Core Group Meetings in timescale:

100.0% of Child Protection Core Group Meetings were recorded to have taken place within 10 working days of the Initial CP Conference.



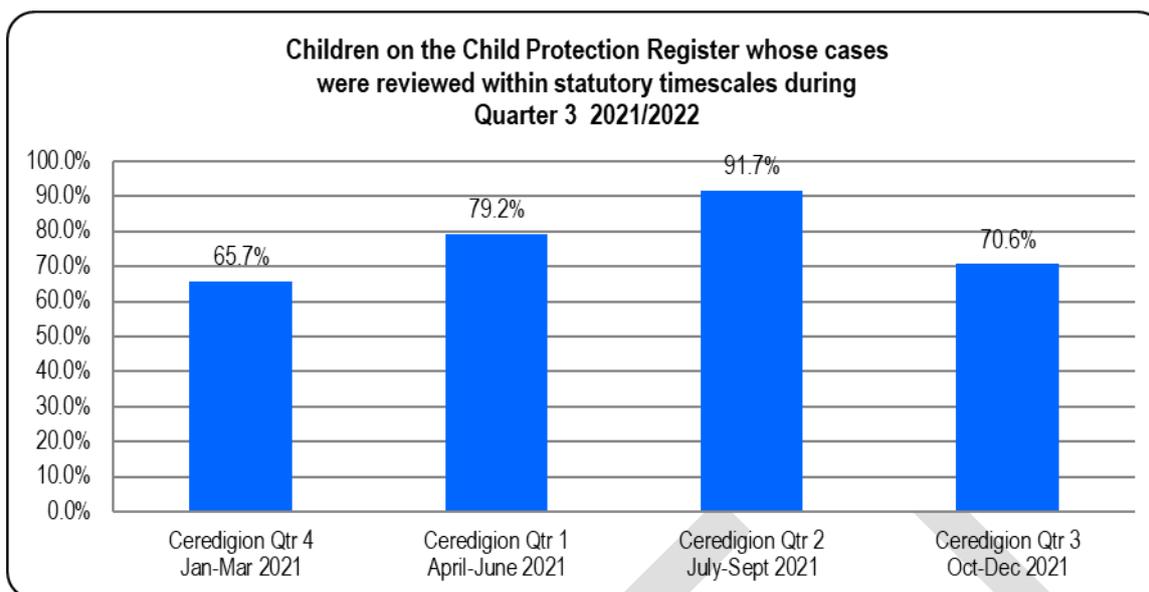
This table contains breakdown figures in relation to the outcomes of Review Child Protection Conferences:						
Total No. of Review CPCs	No. of children	No. of Unborn	No. of families	No. of names of children remaining on CP Register	No. of names of children removed from CP Register	No. of children with Child In Need of Care and Support Plan following de-registration
13	34	-	13	19	15	12

Outcomes of Reviews:

Of the 15 children who were de-registered, 6 were in receipt of further intervention on a Child in Need of Care and Support Plan; 6 subject to a Court Order and Looked After Children with 3 further young persons not in need of any services.

Review Child Protection Conferences in Timescales:

70.6% of Review Child Protection Conferences were recorded to have taken place within timescales. For 1 child the Conference was out of timescales due to case being in Court Proceedings, for a family of 6 children the Conference was delayed due to staff and family sickness as well as Chair availability; 1 further Conference for 3 siblings was delayed due to family sickness and change of Social Worker. All RCPC were rearranged as soon as possible; 1 review conference was 17 days late, another Conference was 53 days late and for 1 other Conference there was a delay of 9 days.



Participation of parents and children in Child Protection Conferences

*Comparative data for Quarter 2 in brackets

*Social Worker report to parents 24 hours before CPC	*CP Chair met with family before CPC	*CP Chair met with child before CPC	*Family member present at CPC	*Children's views represented at CPC who did not attend (5 -18 yrs.)	*Children attendance at CPC (Over 11 yrs.)	*Children Who have allocated Advocate / Tros Gynnal.
94% (96%)	94% (98%)	N/a (100%)	100% 96%)	94% (70%)	0% (9%)	68% (62%)

Child and Family Participation and Attendance at Conferences:

Attendance by parents, children and family members:

At least 1 parent/grandparent with parental responsibility was present in all 17 (100%) Child Protection Conferences.

In total, 28 parents and other family members attended CP Conferences.

The views of children and young people have been represented before and during the CP Conference;

A total of 42 Children from 17 families were the subject of Initial, Pre-birth, Transfer and Review CP Conferences during this quarter.

Conferences consisted of 0 (%) Pre-birth child, 2 (5%) children were under 6 months, 0 (0%) child was between 6 and 12 months, 8 (19%) children were over 1 and under 5 years, 16 (38%) children were between 5 and 10 years and 16 (38%) children were between 11 and 18 years old. All 16 (100%) Children between the ages of 5 and 10 had their views represented at the Conference.

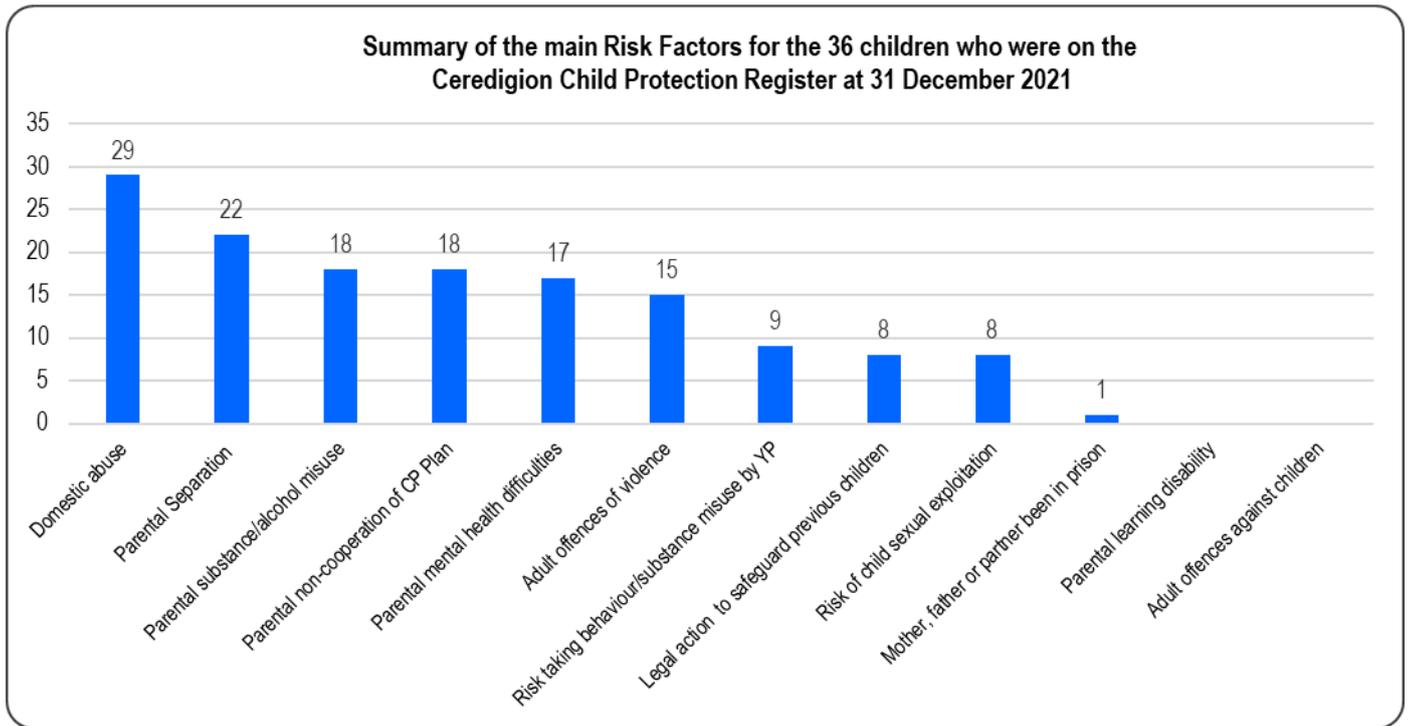
None of the Young Persons aged over 11 years attended their Conference; however 14 (88%) of the Young Persons who did not attend the Conferences had their views represented at the Conference.

21 (68%) Of young persons over the age of 5 years received the services of an advocate, 10 were referred for a service but report was unavailable/young person seen at time of Conference. 1 Young Person declined the service and was therefore taken out of the equation.

Analysis

100% Conferences have family members in attendance.

Summary of main Risk Factors/ ACEs identified and discussed at Child Protection Conferences	
This table is based on the Independent Conference Chair's evaluation of risk factors noted at Initial CP Conferences when children's names were placed on the Child Protection Register and at Review CP Conferences when children's names remained on the Register.	
Summary of the main Risk Factors for the 36 children who were on the Ceredigion Child Protection Register at 30 December 2021	
Domestic Abuse (ACE)	29 (80.5%)
Parental separation has been a factor in this household (ACE)	22 (61.1%)
Parental substance/alcohol misuse (ACE)	18 (50.0%)
Parental non-cooperation with the CP Plan	18 (50.0%)
Parental mental health difficulties (ACE)	17 (47.2%)
Adult offences of violence	15 (41.7%)
Risk taking behaviour/substance misuse by young person	9 (25.0%)
Legal action taken to safeguard previous children in family	8 (22.2%)
Risk of child sexual exploitation	8 (22.2%)
Mother, father or partner have been in prison (ACE)	1 (2.7%)
Parental learning disability	0 (0.0%)
Adult offences against children	0 (0.0%)



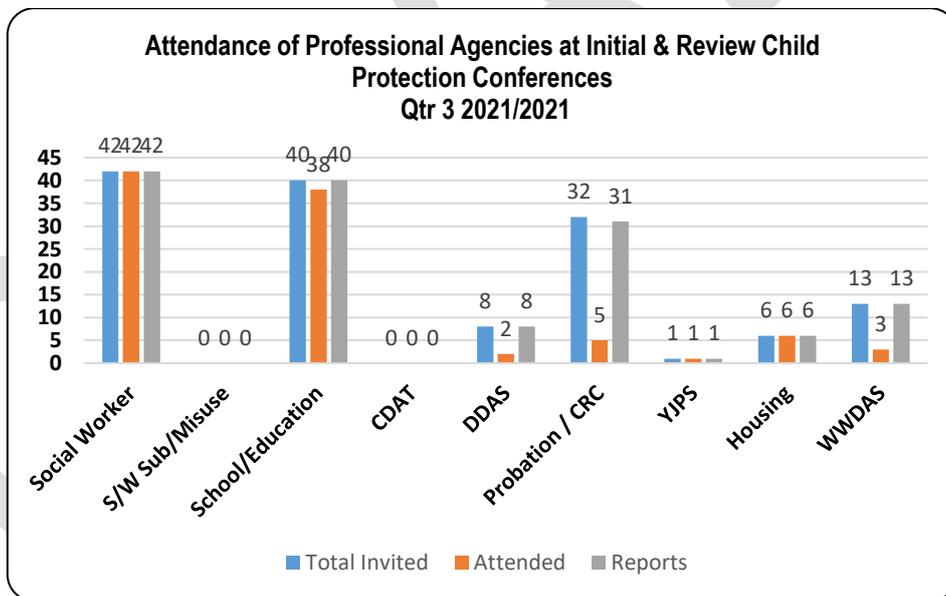
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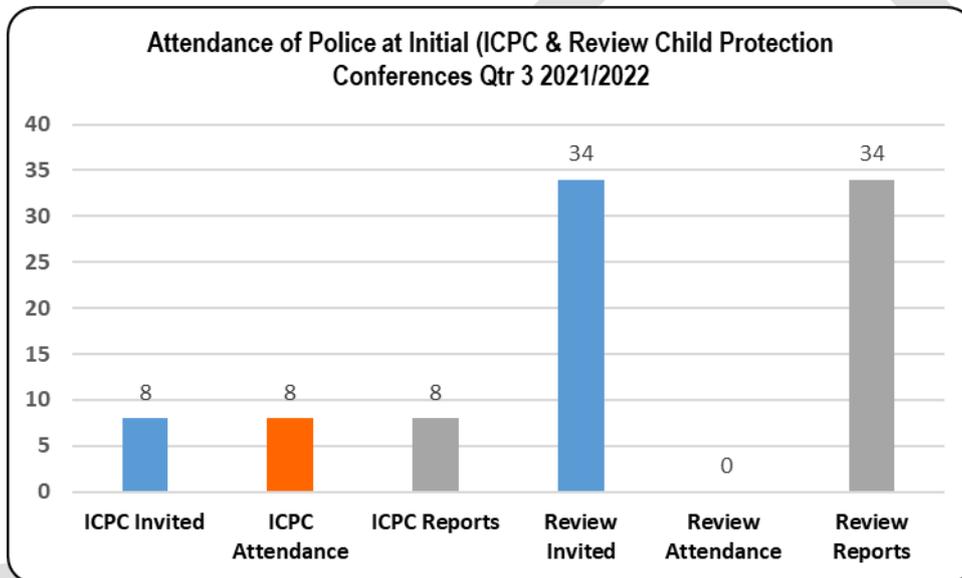
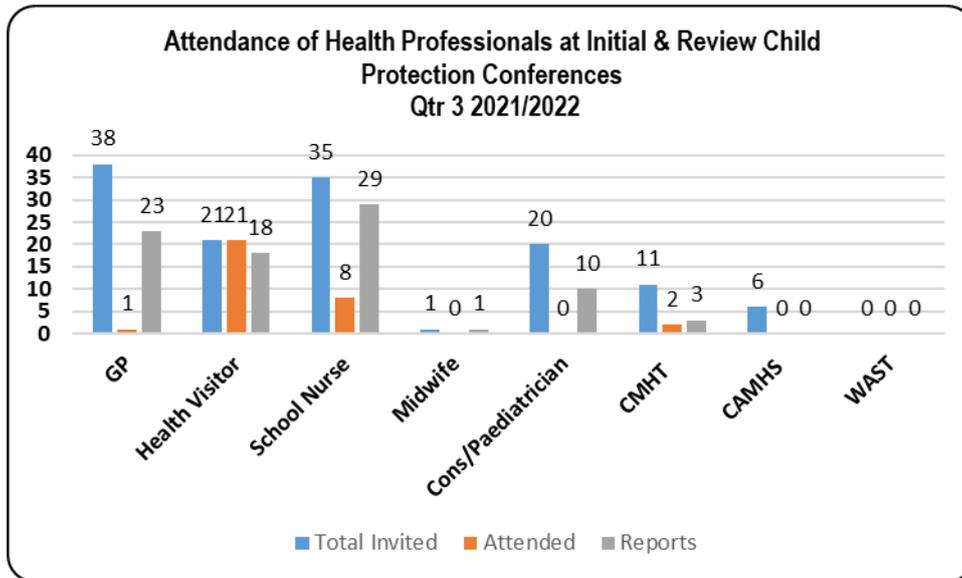
The Toxic Three Risk Factors for the 36 children who were on the Ceredigion Child Protection Register at 31 December 2021		
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where all of the Three Toxic Risk Factors feature (Domestic Abuse, Parental Substance Misuse and Parental Mental Health)	5	13.9%
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where Parental Separation <i>or / and</i> Incarceration feature (ACE)	23	63.9%
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where all five ACE (Domestic Abuse, Parental Substance Misuse, Parental Mental Health, Parental Separation and Incarceration)	0	0.0%

Analysis:

The main risk factors recorded were domestic abuse, parental separation, parental substance/alcohol misuse and parental non-cooperation with the CP Plan.

Agency Attendance at Conferences:





The attendance of agencies at CPCs is illustrated in the charts above. An average of 7 agencies' staff members were invited to each CPC and an average of 3 attended. There was an average of 6 written reports available at each CPC.

The date for a Review CPC was arranged at each conference when it was required.

All 17 (100%) of CPCs were quorate.

4 (24%) CPC's recommended that a Family Group meeting be convened.

Written reports were provided by Social Workers for all 17 (100%) of CPCs, Chronologies were included in all (100%) of Initial Conferences reports.

17 (100%) of professionals/agency staff expressed their views about the level of risk and registration at all CPCs.

40 (95%) CPC registration decisions were unanimous; with 2 (5%) CPC registration a majority decision.

0 (0%) CPCs reported that there was dissent regarding the safety of the CP Plan for safeguarding the welfare of a child on the CP Register.

0 (0%) CPC's identified a young carer.

1 (6%) CPC identified that there was a shortfall in information regarding the mother's partner.

4 (24%) CPC's identified that the young persons had moderate/severe learning disability; with 6 (46%) CPC's reporting that the young person's had an Individual Development Plan.

3 (18%) CPC identified a physical/sensory disability, 7 (41%) behaviour problems were reported in CPC's.

4 (24%) CPCs identified that the young persons had speech/language difficulties; with 1 (8%) CPC informed that the children had been excluded from school.

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CHILD AND FAMILY FEEDBACK

The previous system for attaining Child and Family feedback following their attendance at a Child Protection Conference has not been possible since the start of the Pandemic in March 2020 due to the fact that all Conferences are held virtually.

However, since the beginning of April 2021, Evaluation Questionnaires have been sent to families following their attendance at a Child Protection Conference to gain their views and feedback. For the period 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021, a total of 57 Evaluation Questionnaires were circulated, however only one has been returned.

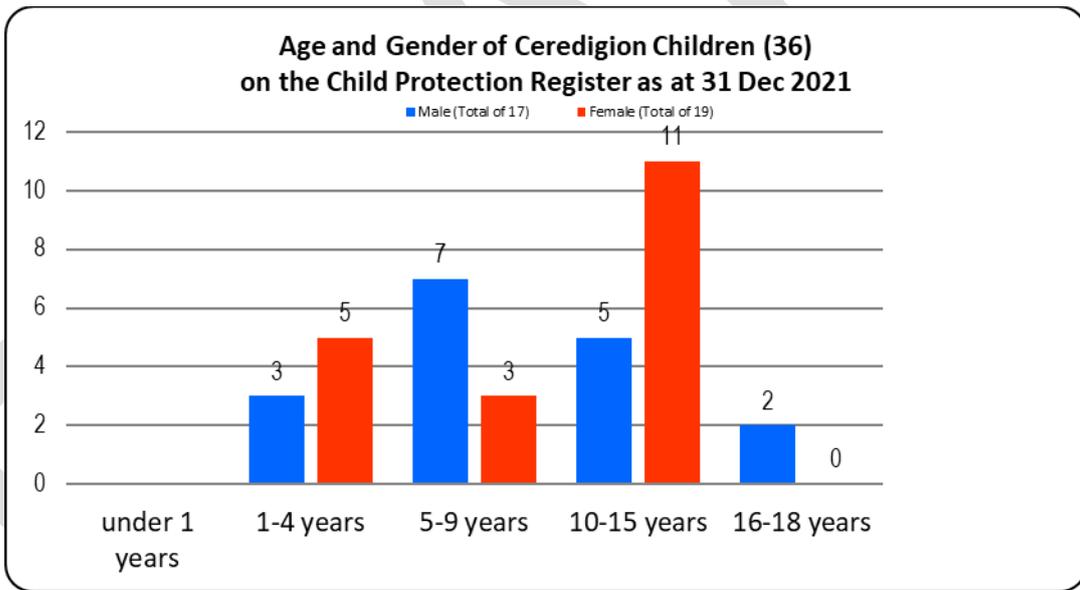
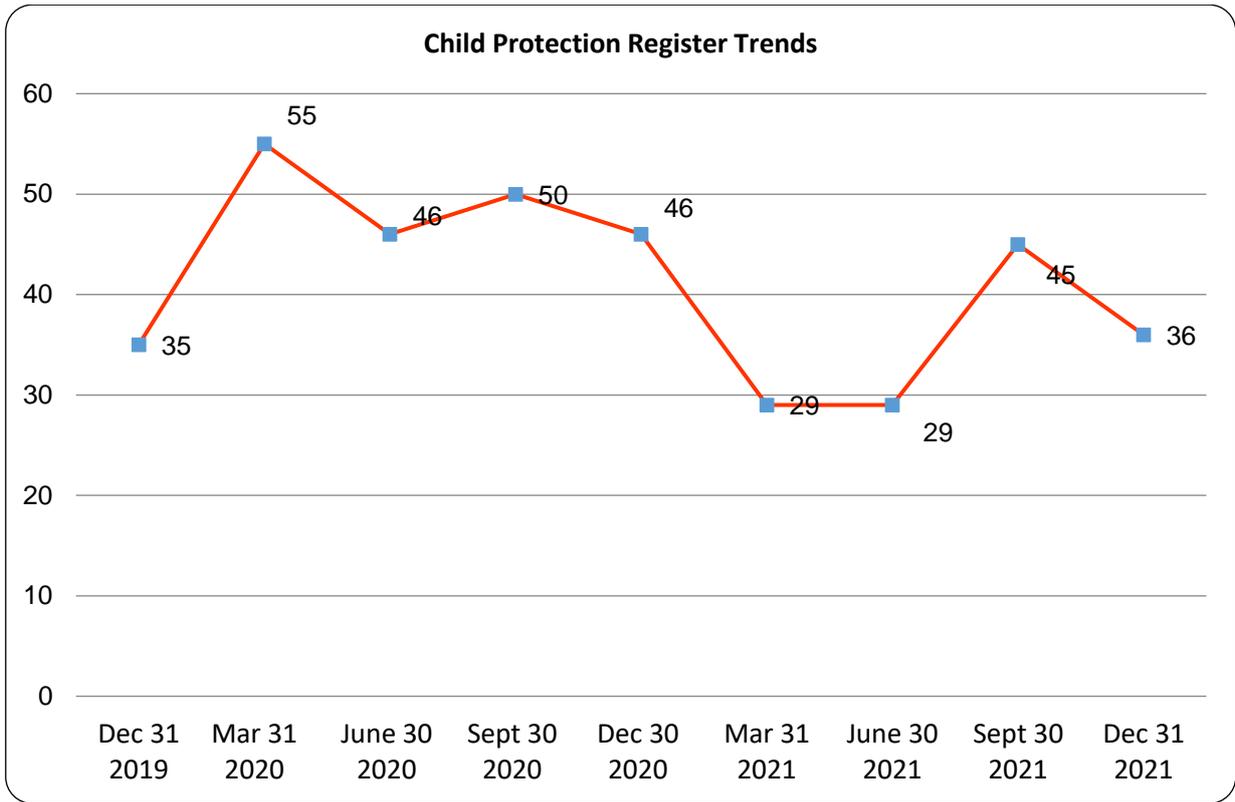
This process will continue until such time that Child Protection Conferences take place on a face to face basis.

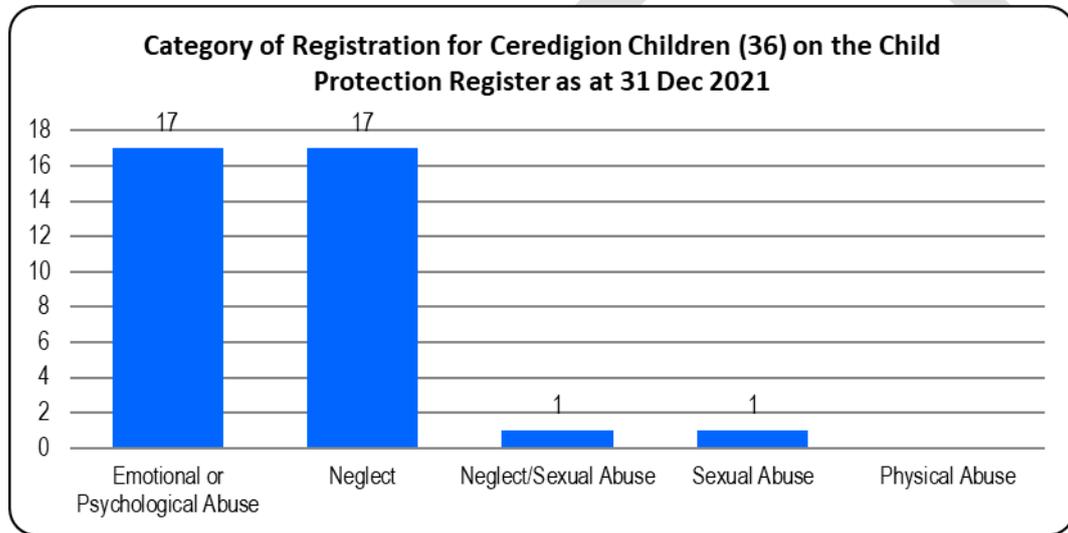
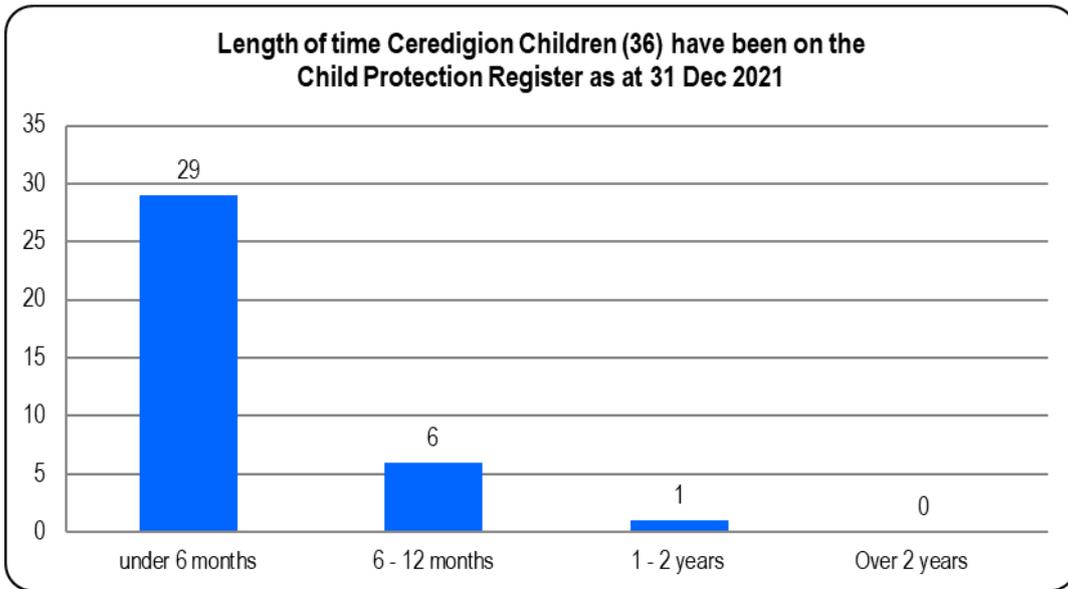
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SECTION 6: Child Protection Register

The following table and chart provides the register data and trends at the end of each quarter commencing with the most recent quarter.

Child Protection Register (CPR)	No of Ceredigion children registered on the CPR	No of Ceredigion Families registered on CPR	No of children temporarily registered on CPR	No of families temporarily registered on CPR	Total no. of all children registered on the CPR	Total no. of all families registered on the CPR	Total no of Ceredigion children on CPR Looked After
Dec 31 st 2021	36	16	10	7	46	23	2
Sept 30 th 2021	45	17	12	10	57	27	0
June 30 th 2021	29	15	13	6	42	21	4
March 31 st 2021	29	16	12	6	41	22	5
Dec 31 st 2020	46	24	7	5	53	29	5
Sept 30 th 2020	50	22	4	3	54	25	1
June 30 th 2020	46	24	4	2	50	26	4
March 31 st 2020	55	26	10	4	65	30	2
Dec 31 st 2019	35	20	12	5	47	25	3
Sept 30 th 2019	52	27	7	3	59	30	4
June 30 th 2019	55	31	10	5	65	36	3
March 31 st 2019	74	40	4	3	78	44	5
Dec 31 st 2018	53	32	2	2	55	34	4





WG Measure 28 - The average length of time for all children who were on the Child Protection Register:

This Measure asks for the average length of time in calendar days on the register for all children who were de-registered during the quarter	Oct-Dec	254.0
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	Oct-Dec 2021	July-Sept 2021	April-June 2021	Jan-Mar 2021	Oct-Dec 2020	July-Sept 2020	April-June 2020	Jan-Mar 2020	Oct-Dec 2019
Rate per 10,000 Children under 18	28	35	23	23	36	39	36	42	27

WG Measure 27 – The number of re-registrations of children on Local Authority Child Protection Registers within the year

Initial Conferences	Oct-Dec 2021	July-Sept 2021	April-June 2021	Jan-Mar 2021	Oct-Dec 2020	July-Sept 2020	April-June 2020	Jan-Mar 2020
Number of Children previously on the register and deregistered within last 12 months	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0

Analysis

The number of children on the Register at the end of this period has decreased substantially from the previous quarter. 16 Children were deregistered, which consisted of 1 family with 6 children but only 5 deregistered, 1 family of 4 children, 1 family of 3 children with 4 further families with one child. However there were 6 Children registered at Initial Child Protection Conferences. The number of children in these families consisted of 2 families with 2 children, 1 family of 3 children but only 1 child registered and 1 further family with 1 child.

The highest category of registration is emotional abuse and neglect which reflects domestic abuse as one of the greatest risk factors.

The majority of children are on the Register for a period of up to 6 months.

The number of girls on the Register remains higher than the number of boys.

The biggest age category of registration remains consistently at 10-15yrs.

SECTION 7: Child Protection Strategy Meetings held under Part 4 and Part 5 of the All Wales Child Protection Procedures

There were 44 children referred and in total there were 53 strategy meetings held in the quarter.

Strategy Meetings were held in relation to 3 Ceredigion Looked After Children and no other Local Authority Looked After Child.

1 Ceredigion Looked After Child placed out of county was reported to be the subject of Child Protection Enquiries within the placement area.

Category of Child Protection Strategy Meeting (Specific Circumstances)	October Meetings held	November Meetings held	December Meetings held	Total number of cases
Risk of child exploitation	2	11	5	18
Concerns regarding neglect	0	3	1	3
Concerns regarding physical abuse	1	4	0	5
Concerns regarding sexually harmful behaviour	3	3	1	6
Concerns regarding a young person going missing from foster care	1	0	0	1
Concerns regarding a young person going missing from home	0	2	1	3
Concerns regarding emotional abuse	0	1	2	3
Concerns regarding sexual abuse	0	0	1	1
Concerns regarding a person in contact with children through their work	1	7	3	9
Total number of meetings	8	31	14	
Total number of cases discussed in this quarter				49

SECTION 8: Multi Agency Child Exploitation Management Meetings

New Case / Review	Exit / Remain in MACE	Male / Female	Age	At home / in care	CPR	Date of meeting	Agency Attendance
R	Remain	F	17	H	N	20.10.21 18.11.21	Safeguarding, Police, Planned Care, YJS, WWHA, PCC, Sub Misuse
R	Exit	F	14	H	N	22.10.21	Safeguarding, Police, YJS, PCC, Education, CAMHS
N	Remain	F	13	H	Y	01.11.21 22.11.21	Safeguarding, Police, Planned Care, Health, Education
N	Remain	F	14	H	Y	05.11.21 19.11.21	Safeguarding, Police, Health, Education YJS, PCC
N	Remain	F	17	H	N	09.11.21 13.12.21	Safeguarding, Police, YJS, Extended Support, Adult Safeguarding
N	Remain	F	15	H	N	12.11.21	Safeguarding, Police, Planned Care, Education, Health, YJS
R	Exit	F	15	H	N	18.11.21	Safeguarding, Police, Education, YJS
N	Exit	M	15	H	N	26.11.21 15.12.21	Safeguarding, Police, Extended Support, Health, Education
R	Exit	M	16	H	N	26.11.21 23.12.21	Safeguarding, Police, Health, Education, YJS, Choices
N	Exit	M	12	H	N	16.12.21	Safeguarding, Police, Health, Education, TAF, PCC

There were 6 new cases that came into MACE in Quarter 3 and 4 review cases. 7 cases were female aged 13 - 17 years, and 3 cases were male aged 12 – 16 years. 2 are on the CP Register, none are Looked After.

SECTION 9: Police Marac Report

Monthly Data Returns - October

Overall number of cases met MARAC criteria	282 cases			
Number of cases reviewed and resulted at MRE (MARAC Repeat/Escalation) review stage.	129 reviewed 75 resulted			
Overall number of cases dealt with at Daily Discussion.	207 discussed 181 resulted			
Cases through to MARAC	26 MARAC			
Percentage of cases	26.5% resulted in MRE 64.1% resulted in DD 9.2% resulted in MARAC			
Divisional breakdown of case numbers	Carmarthenshire - 106 Pembrokeshire - 70 Ceredigion - 36 Powys - 70			
No of children in the household	Carmarthenshire - 75 Pembrokeshire - 111 Ceredigion - 36 Powys - 72			
	Resulted at MRE	Resulted at DD	MARAC	
Carmarthenshire	33	61	12	
Pembrokeshire	22	43	5	
Ceredigion	7	26	3	
Powys	13	51	6	

Monthly Data Returns - November

Overall number of cases met MARAC criteria	327 cases			
Number of cases reviewed and resulted at MRE (MARAC Repeat/Escalation) review stage.	199 reviewed 153 resulted			
Overall number of cases dealt with at Daily Discussion.	174 discussed 152 resulted			
Cases through to MARAC	22 MARAC			
Percentage of cases	46.7% resulted in MRE 46.4% resulted in DD 6.7% resulted in MARAC			

Divisional breakdown of case numbers	Carmarthenshire - 128 Pembrokeshire - 87 Ceredigion - 41 Powys - 71			
No of children in the household	Carmarthenshire - 108 Pembrokeshire - 106 Ceredigion - 39 Powys - 55			
	Resulted at MRE	Resulted at DD	MARAC	
Carmarthenshire	58	58	12	
Pembrokeshire	46	41	0	
Ceredigion	20	17	4	
Powys	29	36	6	

Monthly Data Returns - December

Overall number of cases met MARAC criteria	247			
Number of cases reviewed and resulted at MRE (MARAC Repeat/Escalation) review stage.	115 Cases 84 Resulted			
Overall number of cases dealt with at Daily Discussion.	163 Cases 140 resulted			
Cases through to MARAC	23 Cases			
Percentage of cases	Carmarthenshire 38.4% Ceredigion 12.5% Pembrokeshire 26.7% Powys 22.2%			
Divisional breakdown of case numbers	Carmarthenshire - 95 Ceredigion - 31 Pembrokeshire - 66 Powys - 55			
No of children in the household	Carmarthenshire - 92 Ceredigion - 35 Pembrokeshire - 97 Powys - 54			
	Resulted at MRE	Resulted at DD	MARAC	Time Saved going to MARAC
Carmarthenshire	37	47	11	
Pembrokeshire	25	39	2	

Ceredigion	7	17	7	(*average 10min a case)	
Powys	15	37	3		

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SECTION 10: Learning Services

ADRODDIAD LOG GWASANAETHAU YSGOLION

BWLIAN / BULLYING

Mae data bwlio yn parhau I gael eu gasglu yn dymhorol ym mhob cyfarfod Llywodraethol yr ysgolion. Gweler isod, data a gasgwlyd yn nhyrnor yr Hydref 2021 am ddigwyddiadau bwlio y tymor blaenorol sef tymor yr Haf 2021.

Bullying data is collected by all schools during Governing Body meetings on a termly basis. Please see below data collected for the Summer term 2021, which was collected during the Autumn term 2021.

Math o Fwlian / Type of Bullying	Haf 2021 / Summer 2021
Gallu / Ability	3
Oedran / Age	0
Edrychiad / Appearance	2
Biffonig / Biphobic	0
Anabledd / Disability	0
Rhyw / Gender	2
Homoffonig / Homophobic	1
Plentyn sy'n derbyn gofal / Looked after Child	0
Di-ddeuaidd / Non-Binary	0
Beichiogrwydd neu Famolaeth / Pregnancy or Maternity	0
Hiliol / Racila	1
Crefydd neu Gred / Religion or Belief	0
Rhywiol / Sexual	1
Trawsffonig / Transphobic	1
Gofalwr Ifanc / Young Carers	0
E Ddiogelwch / E Safety	2
Eraill / Other	0
Cyfanswm / Total	13

HYFFORDDIANT / TRAINING

Mae hyfforddiant Diogelu ac Amddiffyn Plant lefel 1 ar rhaglen e-ddysgu yn unig, dyma'r nifer o staff sydd wedi cwblhau yr hyfforddiant hyn drwy cyfnod chwarter 3. Yn ogystal, mae'r niferoedd o staff sydd wedi cwblhau lefel 2 Amddiffyn Plant yn rhithiol hefyd wedi ei ychwanegu yn ystod y cyfnod hwn.

Level 1 Safeguarding and Child Protection training is only available as an e-learning programme, below is the number of staff who have completed the training during the quarter 3 period. In addition, the number of staff who have completed the level 2 Child Protection training virtually during this period, is also noted below.

Lefel 1 / Level 1	117 mewnol / internal 57 allanol / external 174 cyfanswm
Lefel 2 / Level 2	37 mewnol / internal 35 allanol / external 71 cyfanswm

VAWDASV

Mae yna 48 o staff mewnol ag 15 aelod o staff allanol wedi cwblhau hyfforddiant VAWDASV ar-lein yng nghyfnod cwarter 3.

48 internal staff and 15 members of external staff have completed the online VAWDASV training between the quarter 3 period.

ADDYSG DDEWISOL GARTREF / ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

Nifer o blant yr ydych yn ymwybodol ohonynt sydd yn cael eu haddysgu'n ddewisol gartref / <i>Number of children that you are aware of that are Electively Home Educated (EHE)</i>	Nifer o blant EHE sy'n hysbys i'r Awdurdod Lleol sydd wedi cael cynnig ymweliad blynyddol yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf / <i>Number of EHE children known to the Local Authority that have been offered an annual visit in the last 12 months</i>	Canlyniad / <i>Outcome</i>
224 (an increase of 1 since last quarter)	196 (an increase of 23 since last quarter)	Declined = 59 DNA'D = 57

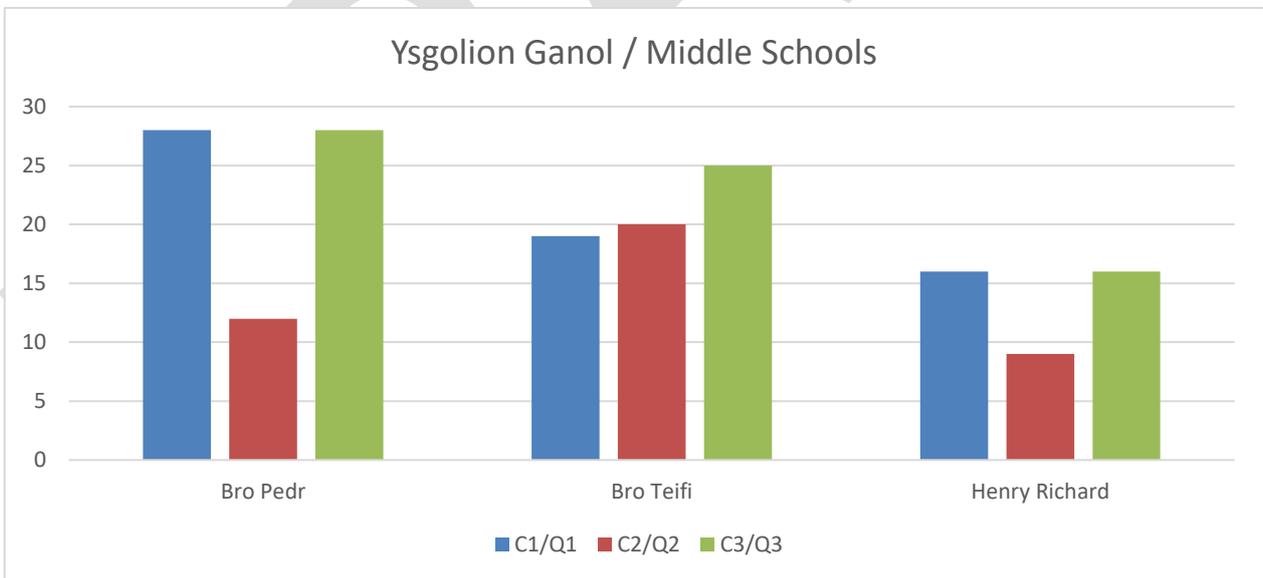
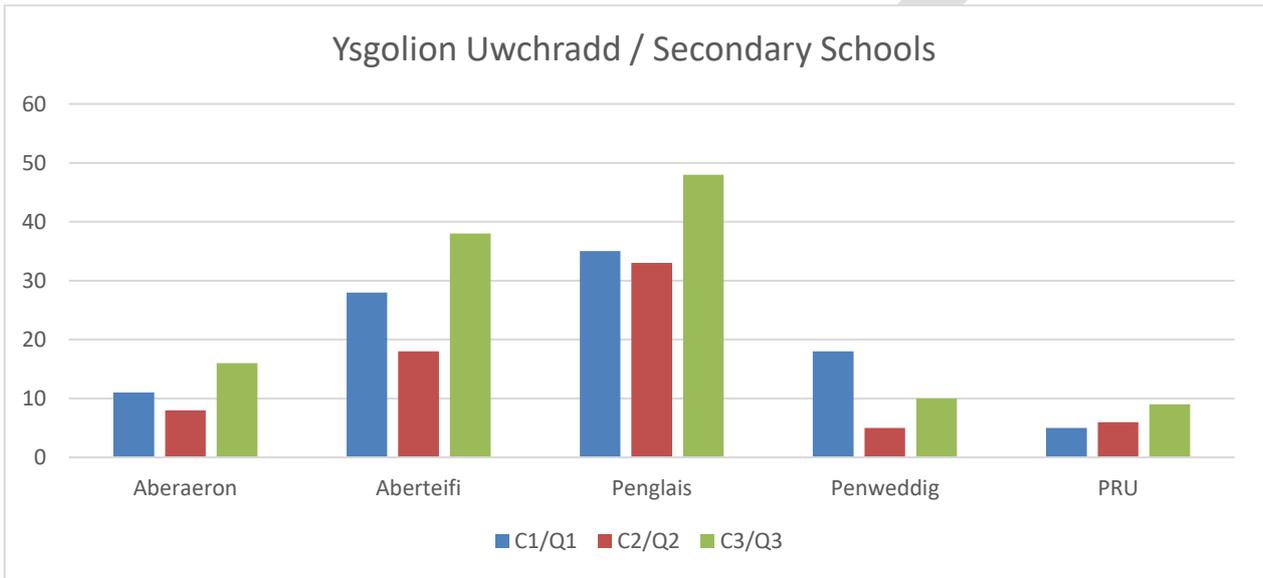
PLANT MEWN GOFAL / LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

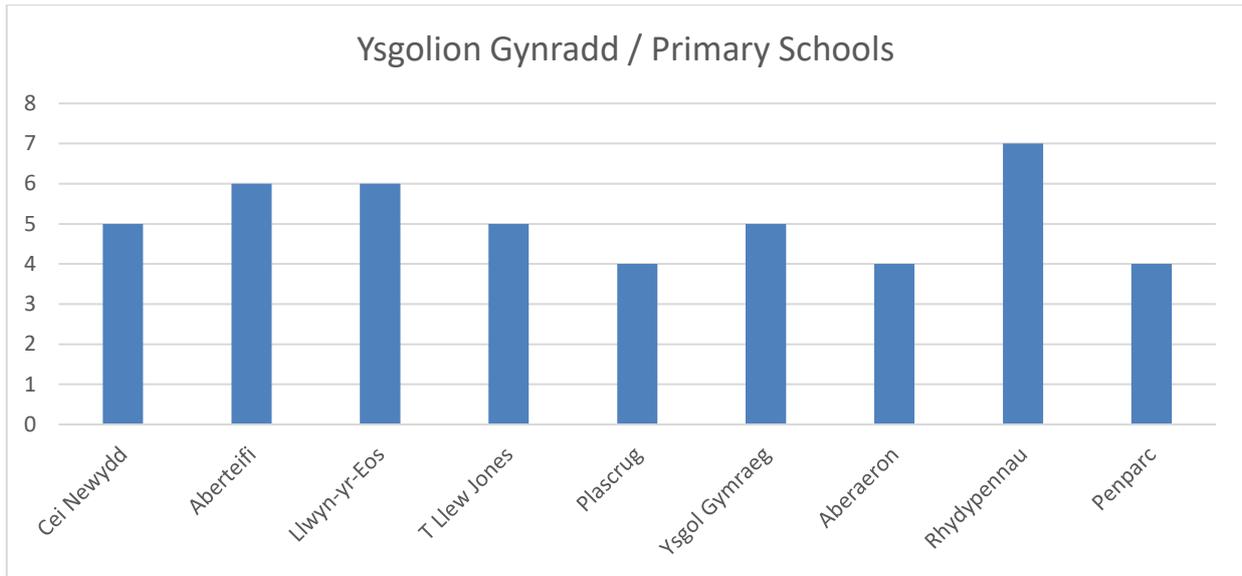
Plant mewn gofal yng Ngheredigion o oedran ysgol statudol / <i>Looked after children in Ceredigion of statutory school age</i>	Hydref / <i>October</i> : 47 Tachwedd / <i>November</i> : 48 Rhagfyr / <i>December</i> : 51
Plant mewn gofal allan o'r Sir o oedran ysgol statudol / <i>Looked after children placed out of County of statutory school age</i>	Hydref / <i>October</i> : 15 Tachwedd / <i>November</i> : 16 Rhagfyr / <i>December</i> : 16
Plant mewn gofal o Siroedd eraill o oedran ysgol statudol / <i>Looked after children from other Local Authorities of statutory school age</i>	Hydref / <i>October</i> : 32 Tachwedd / <i>November</i> : 33 Rhagfyr / <i>December</i> : 33

CYSWLLT YSGOLION / SCHOOL CONTACTS

Gweler isod, y rhifau a natur y cyswllt a dderbyniwyd o ysgolion / sefydliadau dysgu yn ystod cwarter 3.

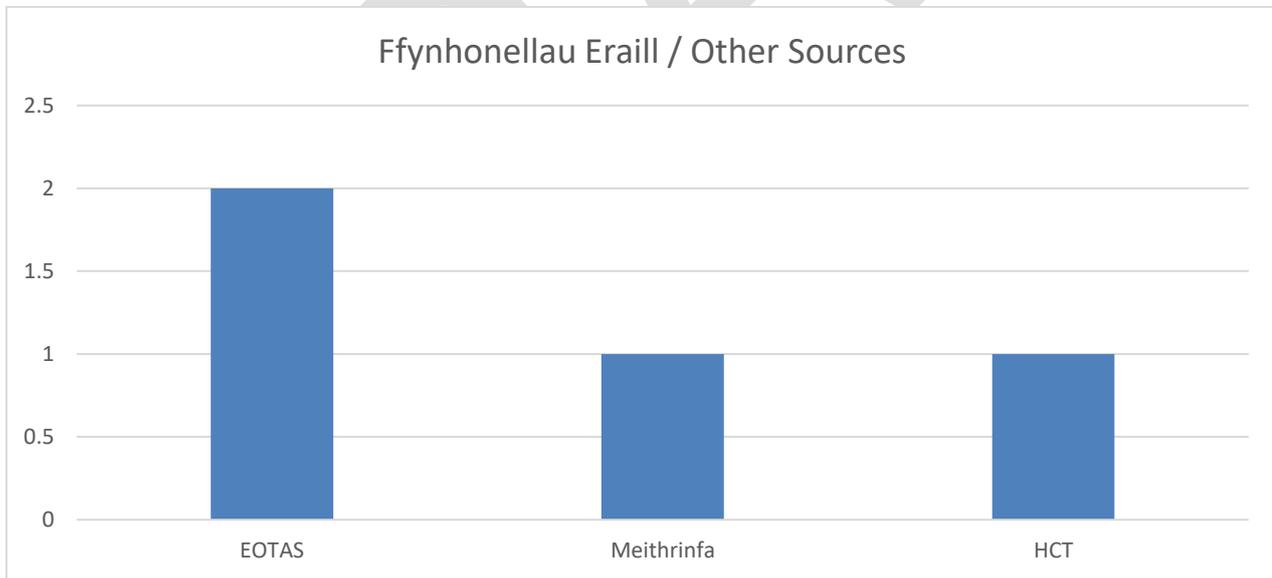
Please see below the number of contacts received from schools/learning establishments and their nature, during the period of quarter 3.

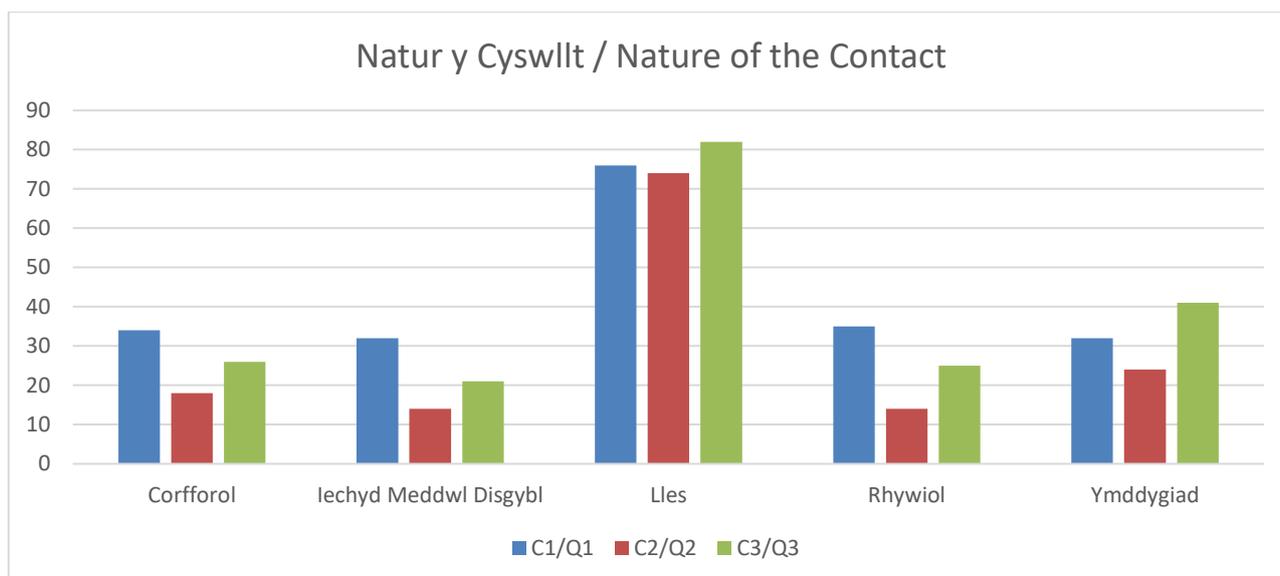




I nodi, fe wnaeth 23 o'r Ysgolion Cynradd gwneud cyswllt yn ystod chwarter 3 (22 chwarter 2). Oherwydd y rhif uchel hyn, nid oedd modd cynnwys pob Ysgol ar y dabl, felly wedi cynnwys yn yr uchod, y rhai wnaeth gysylltu mwy na ddwywaith drwy gydol y cyfnod.

To note, 23 Primary Schools made contact during quarter 3 (22 in quarter 2). Due to this large figure, it wasn't possible to capture all on one table. Therefore the above only highlights the Schools who made contact on more than 2 occasions during the period.



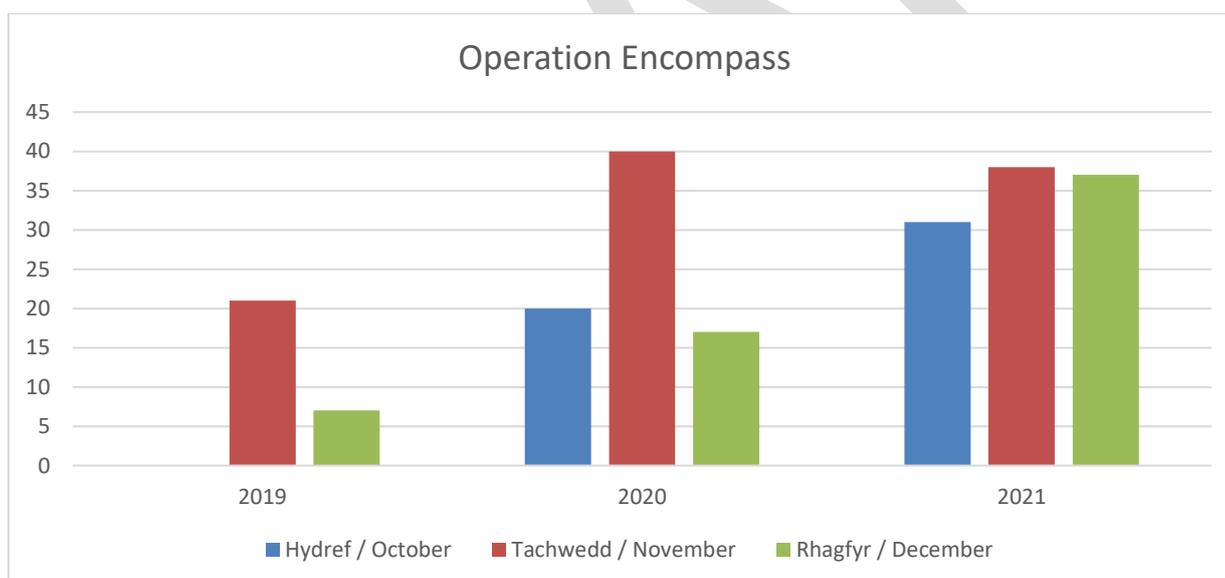


Oherwydd fod niferoedd fawr o rhesymau cyswllt, maen't wedi crynhoi mewn l'r grwpiau isod, er mwyn medru darllen yn fwy glir ar y siart. Yn yr adroddiad yma, dwi wedi ffocysu ar y prif pryderon, er mwyn medru ei cymharu efo'r cwarteru blaenorol y flwyddyn yma.

Due to the large amount of reasons given for contact, some have been grouped together as noted below, in order for the information to be presented more clearly on the chart. In this particular report, I have highlighted the main concerns raised, in order to compare with previous quarters from this year.

Arf / <i>Weapon</i>	
Cais am wybodaeth / <i>Request for Information</i>	
Camdrin Domestig / <i>Domestic Abuse</i>	
Corfforol / <i>Physical</i>	
E-ddiogelwch / <i>E-Safety</i>	Gan gynnwys cam ddefnydd ffon symudol/rhynggrwyd. Danfon negeseuon/lluniau/fideo anwedus. / <i>Which also includes misuse of mobile phones/internet. Sending inappropriate messages, photos, videos.</i>
Esgeulustod / <i>Neglect</i>	Gan gynnwys amodau cartref, materion ariannol, goruchwyliaeth. / <i>Which also includes home conditions, financial issues and supervision.</i>
Gofal / <i>Care</i>	
Iechyd a Diogelwch / <i>Health and Safety</i>	
Iechyd Meddwl Disgybl / <i>Pupil Mental Health</i>	Gan gynnwys camdriniaeth emosiynol / <i>Which also includes Emotional abuse.</i>
Iechyd Meddwl Rhiant / <i>Parent Mental Health</i>	
Lles / <i>Wellbeing</i>	Gan gynnwys plant ar goll, presenoldeb, tor perthynas, galar, gofalwyr ifanc, cyswllt cyfnod clo, materion cyswllt rhwng rhieni / <i>Which also includes missings, attendance, relationship breakdown, young carers, contact difficulties during lockdown, contact issues between parents.</i>

Materion Cyfreithlon / <i>Legal Matters</i>	
Prevent	
Rhywiol / <i>Sexual</i>	Gan gynnwys perthnasau amhriodol ag egsbloetio plant yn rhywiol / <i>Which also includes inappropriate relationships and Child Sexual Exploitation.</i>
Sylweddau Disgybl / <i>Pupil Substances</i>	Gan gynnwys cyffuriau ag alcohol / <i>Includes Alcohol and Drugs misuse.</i>
Sylweddau Rhiant / <i>Parent Substances</i>	Gan gynnwys cyffuriau ag alcohol / <i>Includes Alcohol and Drugs misuse.</i>
Materion Traws / <i>Trans Matters</i>	
Ymddygiad Disgybl / <i>Pupil Behaviour</i>	
Ymddygiad Rhiant / <i>Parent Behaviour</i>	Gan gynnwys materion parthed rhieni yn y carchar / <i>Which includes incarceration.</i>
Ymddygiad Staff / <i>Staff Conduct</i>	Gan gynnwys unrhyw gwynion/sylwadau parthed ymddygiad aelodau o staff ysgolion a/neu sydd yn gysylltiedig ag ysgolion Ceredigion. / <i>Which includes any complaints or comments regarding staff behaviour or conduct, who is a member of teaching staff or associated with a Ceredigion school.</i>



SECTION 11: Health

Hywel Dda University Health Board Safeguarding Report to the Local Operational Groups

Qtr 3 2021/22

This report informs the Local Operational Groups of updates on safeguarding developments in Hywel Dda University Health Board during quarter 3 2021/22

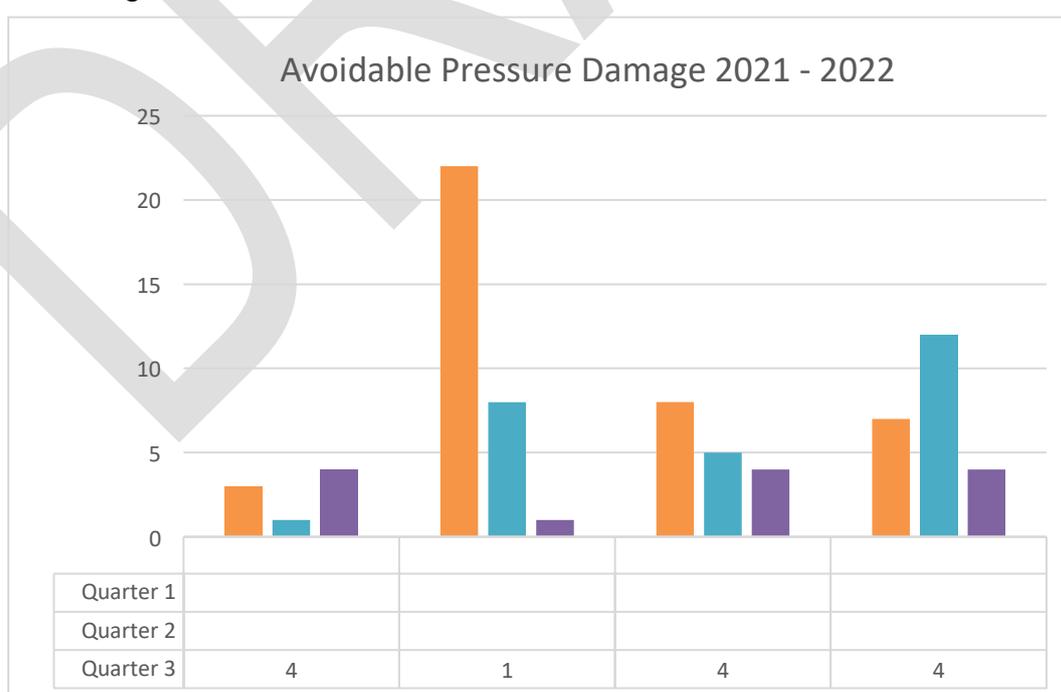
Quarter 3 2021/22 Acute Hospital Avoidable Pressure Damage Audit

There were 13 avoidable cases of pressure damage incidents across all 4 Acute Hospitals in Q3. This was a decrease from 34 cases in quarter 2 2021/22. This decrease in part can be attributed to some postponements of the scrutiny meetings due to service pressures exacerbated by the response to Covid. Relevant cases will be reflected in the data in Q4.

It is important to note, that whilst the scrutiny meetings confirm the avoidable/unavoidable status of the pressure damage and quality assure relevant action plans, a patient specific response is put in place for the individual patient, at the time when pressure damage is identified as a concern.

11 reported cases were grade 1 or 2, these grades would not have been reported to safeguarding prior to the SSWBWA, 2 were recorded as Suspected Deep Tissue Injury (SDTI) and none were unstageable.

It is not uncommon for pressure damage to be reported as SDTI, but within a few days, it is apparent that it is a grade 1 or 2



Safeguarding Adults

Performance Management Report 1/9/21 - 31/12/21

Safeguarding reports related to Health Board Services have consistently been higher than the number for the previous year. Q3 reports for 2020-21 equated to 43, compared with 72 for Q3 2021-22. Whilst the numbers have increased, generally the number of reports related to discharge from Hospital is broadly consistent with the figures from last year which was 15, compared to 16 this year.

VAWDASV

The pilot of IRISi in Carmarthenshire clusters is due to commence in April 2022.

The UHB are progressing a bid for an IDVA role based in an Emergency Department.

Capacity and Workforce

The corporate safeguarding and LAC teams have capacity challenges due to increase in activity across all areas of work. However, the adult safeguarding team are particularly challenged at present which will prevail for at least the next 2 months with some team personnel changes. Plans are in place to appoint to a temporary secondment and enable business continuity.

Mandy Nichols-Davies Head of
Safeguarding 14th March 2022

SECTION 12: S-CAMHS

S-CAMHS Update Report for CYSUR

In line with the Welsh Government document “Admission Guidance”, HDUHB has in place a robust Admission Policy/Pathway outlining the process for admitting any young person into an Adult Mental Health Ward. The Guidance stipulates that the Health Board must have a designated Unit and within HDUHB this is Morlais Ward on the Glangwili Hospital campus.

A new Protocol has been approved to meet this statutory requirement which will ensure compliance against Welsh Government expectations.

Admission to an adult mental health ward can be a frightening experience and every attempt is made to consider the least restrictive alternative for admission. In the majority of cases a young person is admitted to the designated unit on Cilgerran Ward supported by staff from the mental health unit.

In line with the guidance, the staff have received additional training in safeguarding young people and in addition the staff on Morlais ward have all undertaken the following:

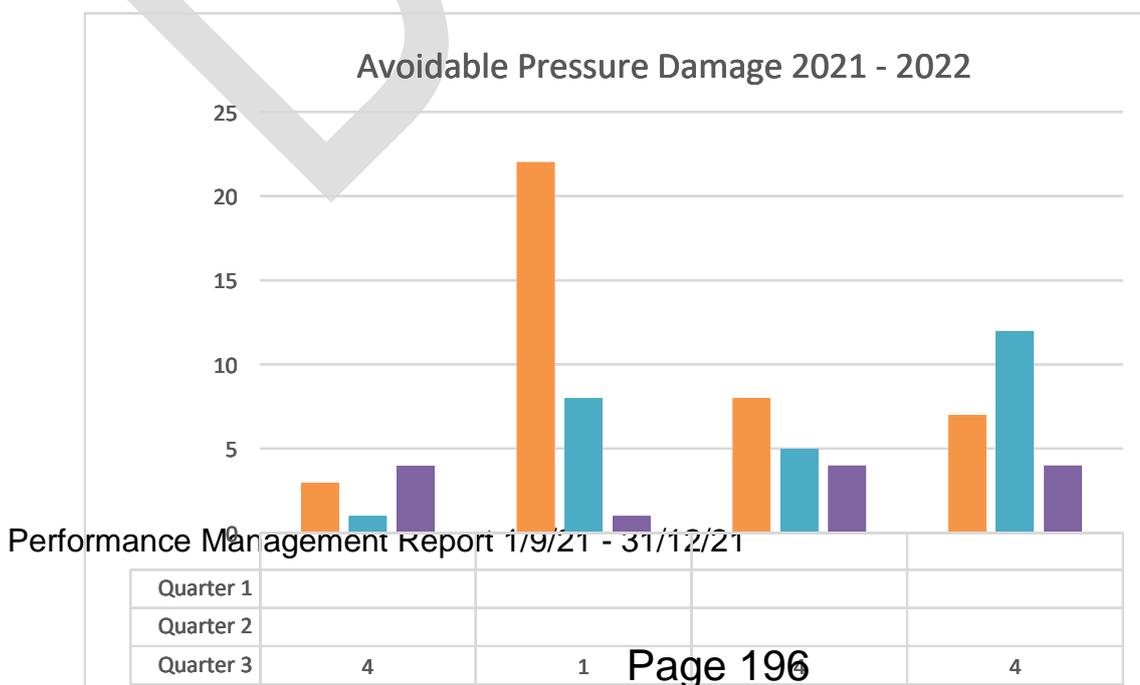
Safeguarding Children Level 3 Training

Have a valid Enhanced DBS in place

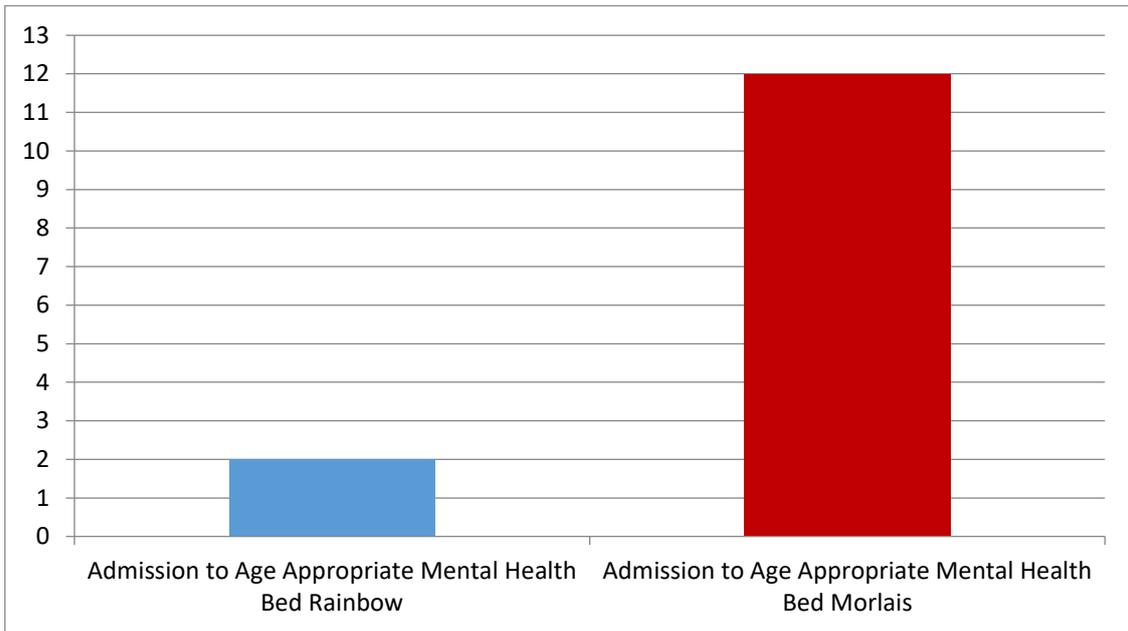
Undertaken specific training on the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people

Training on the Mental Health Act and Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014

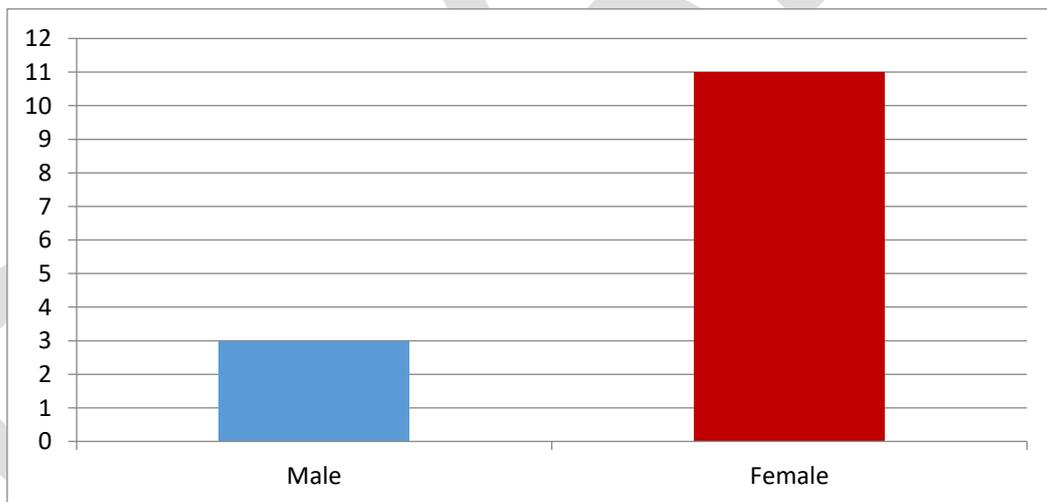
All admissions to the mental health bed must be reported, initially internally as a DATIX, and followed by a Serious Untoward Incident report to the Delivery Unit in line with the Welsh Government’s Admission Guidance Document.



Q3 Admissions to the age appropriate bed on the Rainbow bed and Morlais Adult Mental Health Ward Glangwili Hospital site:



Q3 Admission to Age Appropriate Mental Health Bed Rainbow / Morlais Bed by gender:



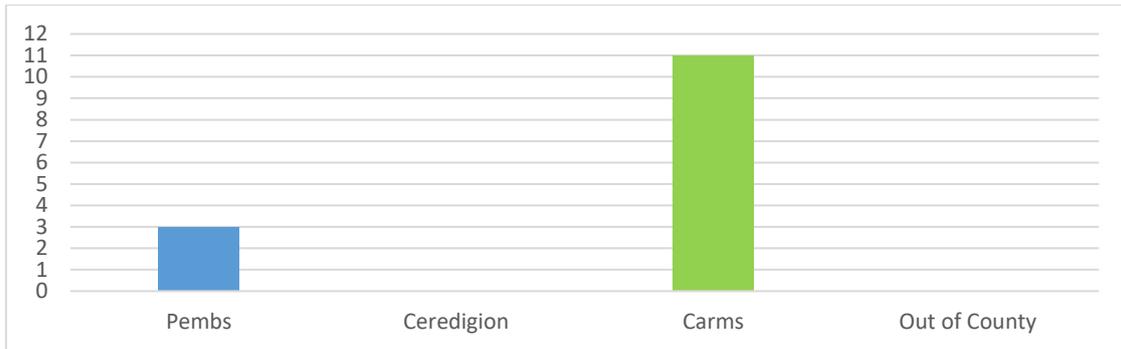
To note, during the period of Oct-Dec there were 3 females that were admitted on more than one occasion.

1 Female admitted twice within the month of October and then was re-admitted in November.

1 Female admitted twice within the month of November.

1 Female admitted in November and then re-admitted twice within the month of December.

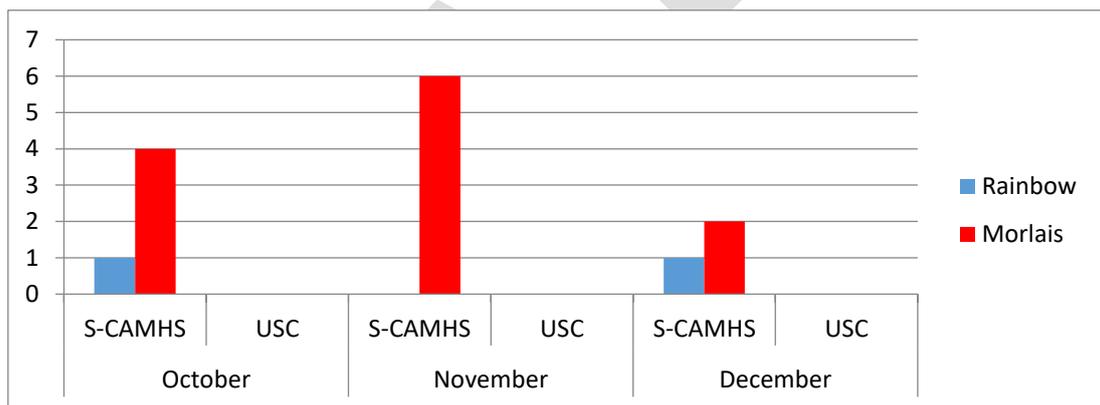
Q3 Admissions to Rainbow / Morlais Bed according to Locality:



Admissions to Paediatric Age Appropriate Bed (Rainbow Unit, Non reportable)

Specialist CAMHS records for Quarter 3 are outlined above with 14 Admissions in total, with 2 Admissions to the Paediatric bed and 12 Admissions to the Adult Mental Health Ward (Morlais).

Q3 Admissions to Rainbow / Morlais split by admitting team:



Mental Health Act Status

Performance Management Report 1/9/21 - 31/12/21

There were 5 x S136 cases of under 18s during this period. This involved 3 individuals.

There were 2 individuals subject to section 2 of the Mental Health Act during this reporting period.

Admission Outcomes

	Discharged Home	Onward Admission	Remains on Ward
Rainbow	2	0	0
Morlais	12	0	0

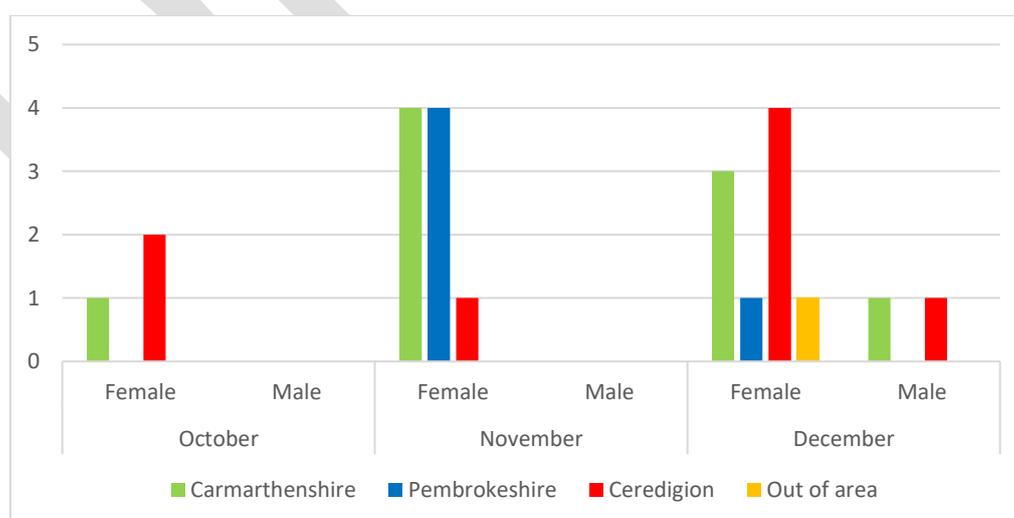
Admissions relating to Self-Harm

Within HDUHB there are robust systems in place for S-CAMHS to provide a mental health assessment, following referral from the Paediatric ward where any young person is admitted following an episode of self harm. The reason for admission is generally following an overdose but, on occasions, it can be following deliberate cutting or an attempted hanging.

All overdose/self harm admissions receive a follow up appointment within three working days to monitor risk and provide support. There is a robust Pathway in place along with Guidance for admission of all young people who present following self harm in order that a comprehensive mental health assessment and risk management plan can be agreed. Where appropriate, referral to the Safeguarding team and/or Social Services may be considered.

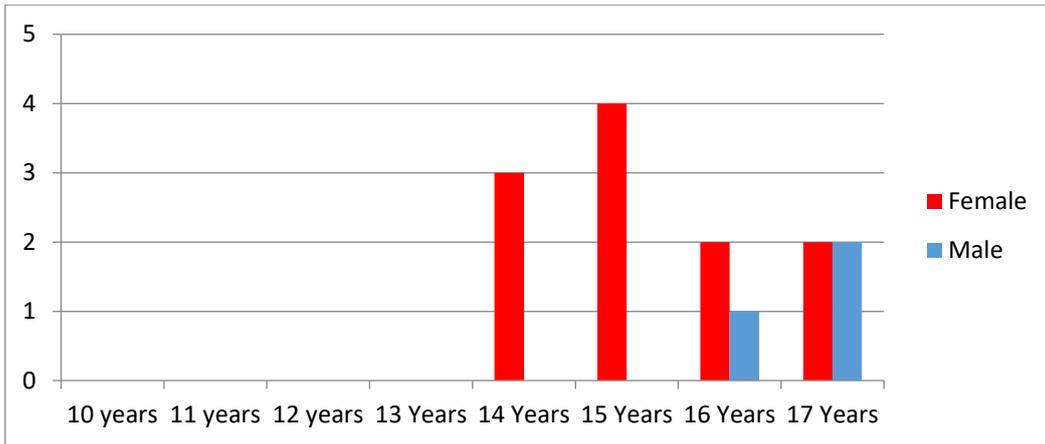
The following table details the numbers of admissions following Deliberate Self Harm (DSH) Quarter 3 2021-2022 for the 3 Local Authority Areas:

Q3 Self-harm / Overdose Admission Statistics split by gender and locality:

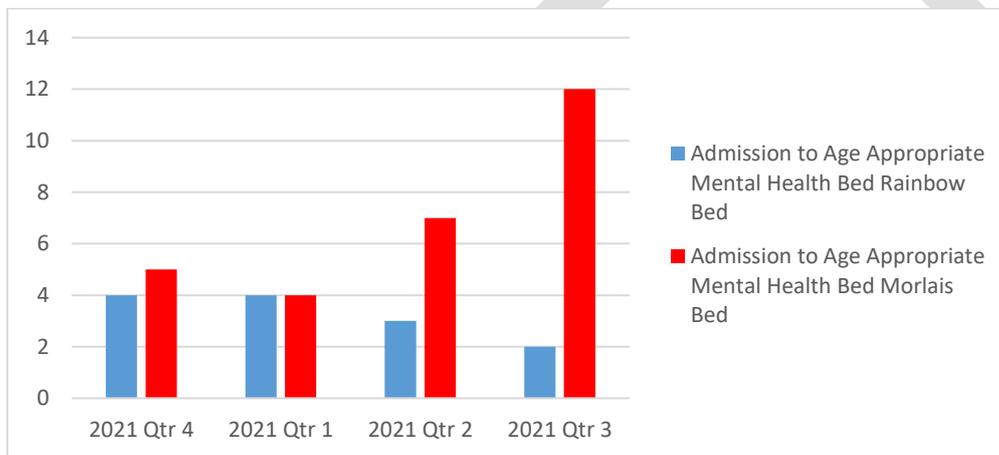


Q3 Self-harm / Overdose Admission Statistics split by gender and age profile:

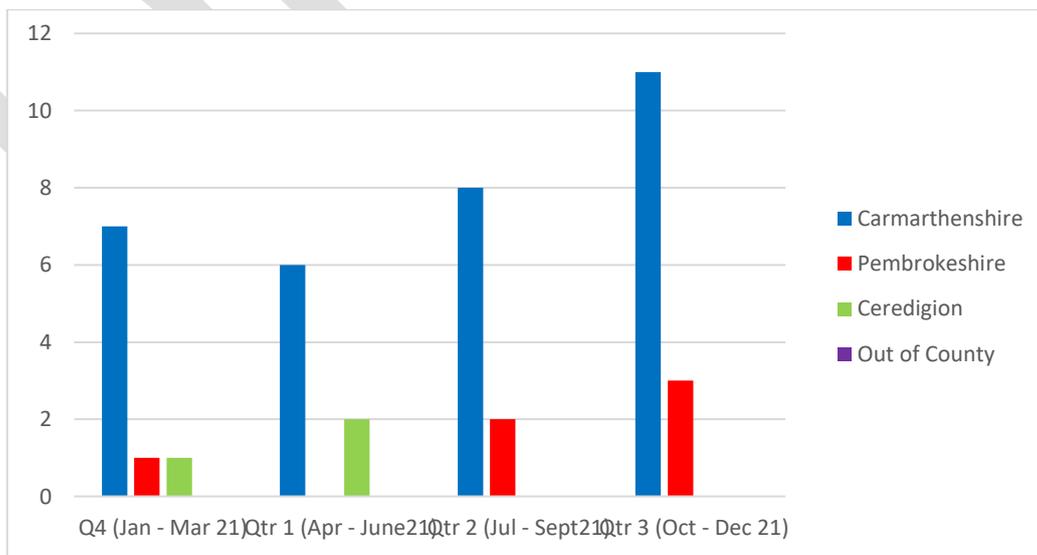
Performance Management Report 1/9/21 - 31/12/21



Comparison Data (last 12 months) - Age Appropriate Bed



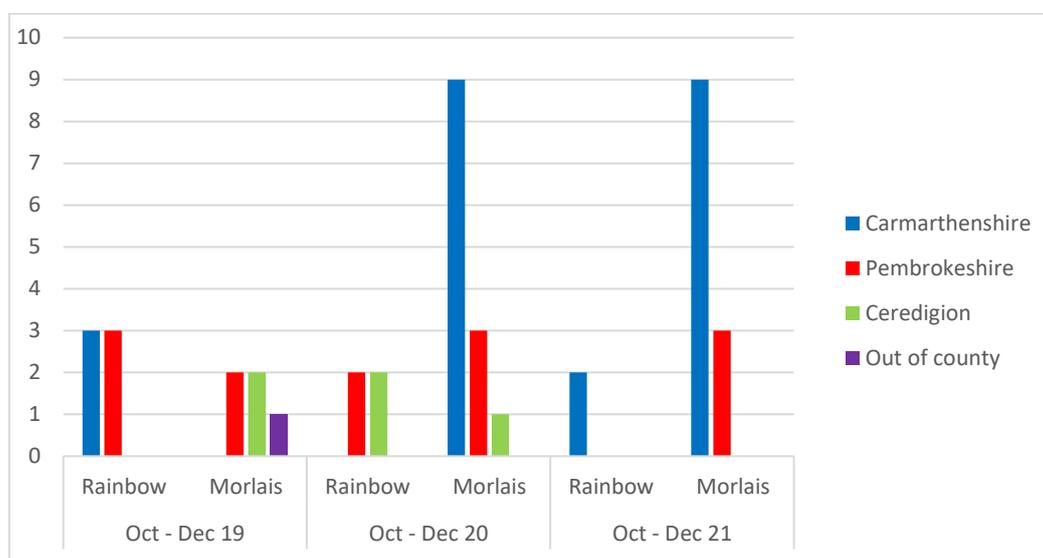
Admission Trend comparison by locality (last 12 months)



Annual Admission Comparison by locality

Performance Management Report 1/9/21 - 31/12/21

The following graph compares the numbers of admissions for Quarter 3 2021/2022 against the number of admissions for the same quarter of 2020/2021 and 2019/2020, further defined by locality.



Advocacy

In line with the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2012, Health Boards are expected to ensure that access to Advocacy Services is in place, as per Part 4 of the Measure, for any individual admitted into hospital. All young people admitted to Morlais Ward are asked on admission if they would like access to an Independent Mental Health Advocate. The expected performance target is that 100% of clients are offered this and this information is recorded and reported via our Information Analyst.

On Cilgerran Ward, information is provided to young people on admission on the availability of access to the Advocacy Service. However, the above performance standard is not applicable therefore data is not routinely

Angela Lodwick Head S-CAMHS – October 2021

CEREDIGION

CWMPAS LOCAL OPERATIONAL GROUP

Performance Management Report – Safeguarding Adults

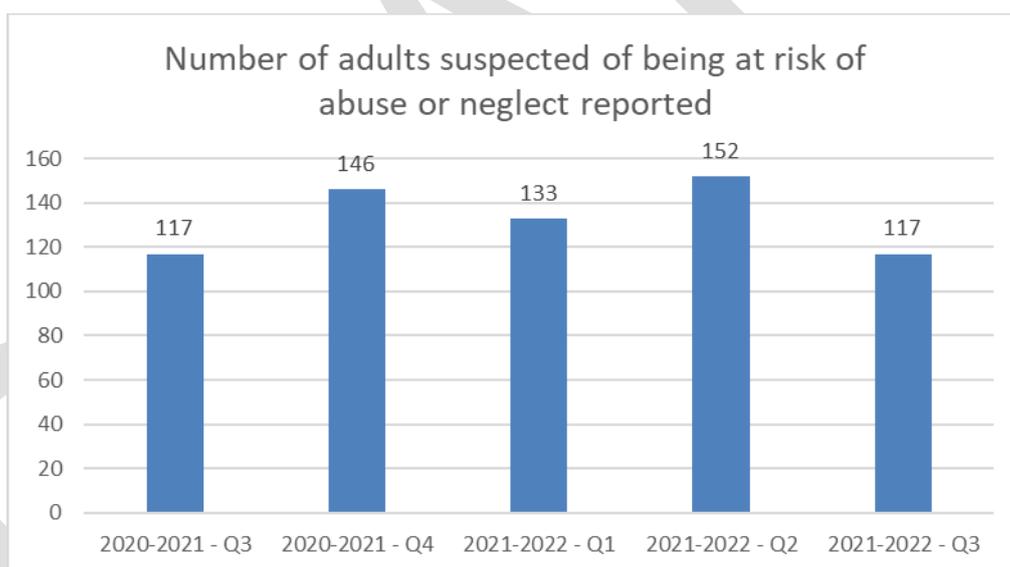
Quarter: 3

1/09/21 – 31/12/21

**Number of adults suspected of being at risk of
abuse or neglect reported**

2020-2021 - Q3	117
2020-2021 - Q4	146
2021-2022 - Q1	133
2021-2022 - Q2	152
2021-2022 - Q3	117

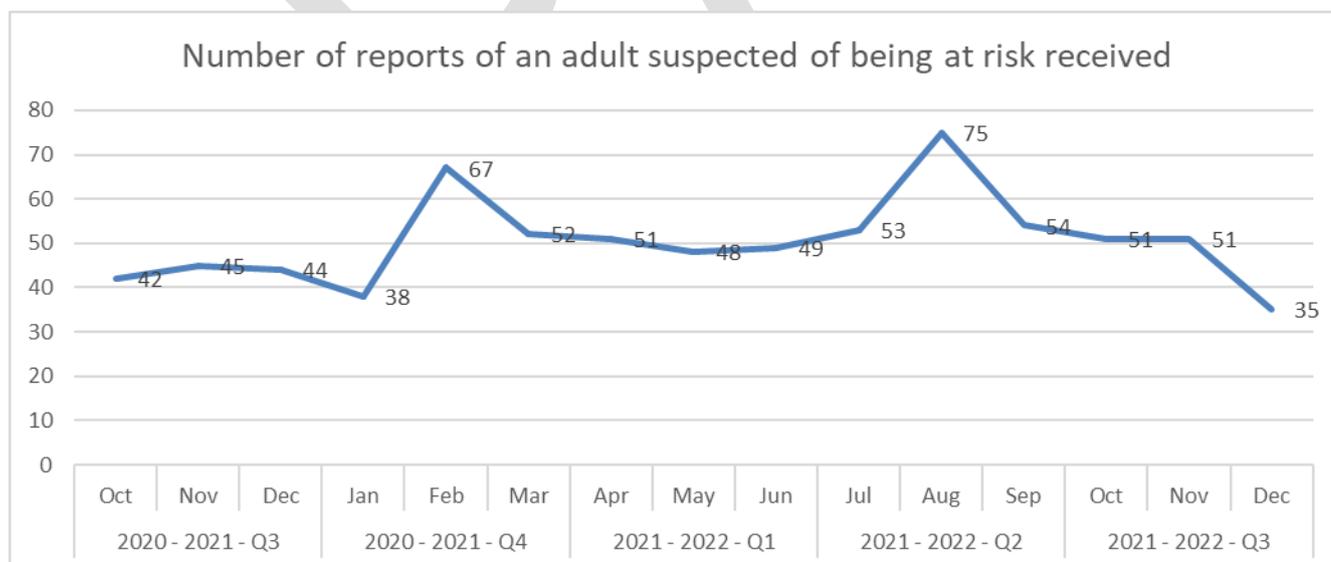
Number of Adult at Risk Reported



There is a marked decrease in the number of adults suspected of being at risk of abuse or neglect in this quarter compared to Q2 but the figure is comparable to Q3 last year.

DRAFT

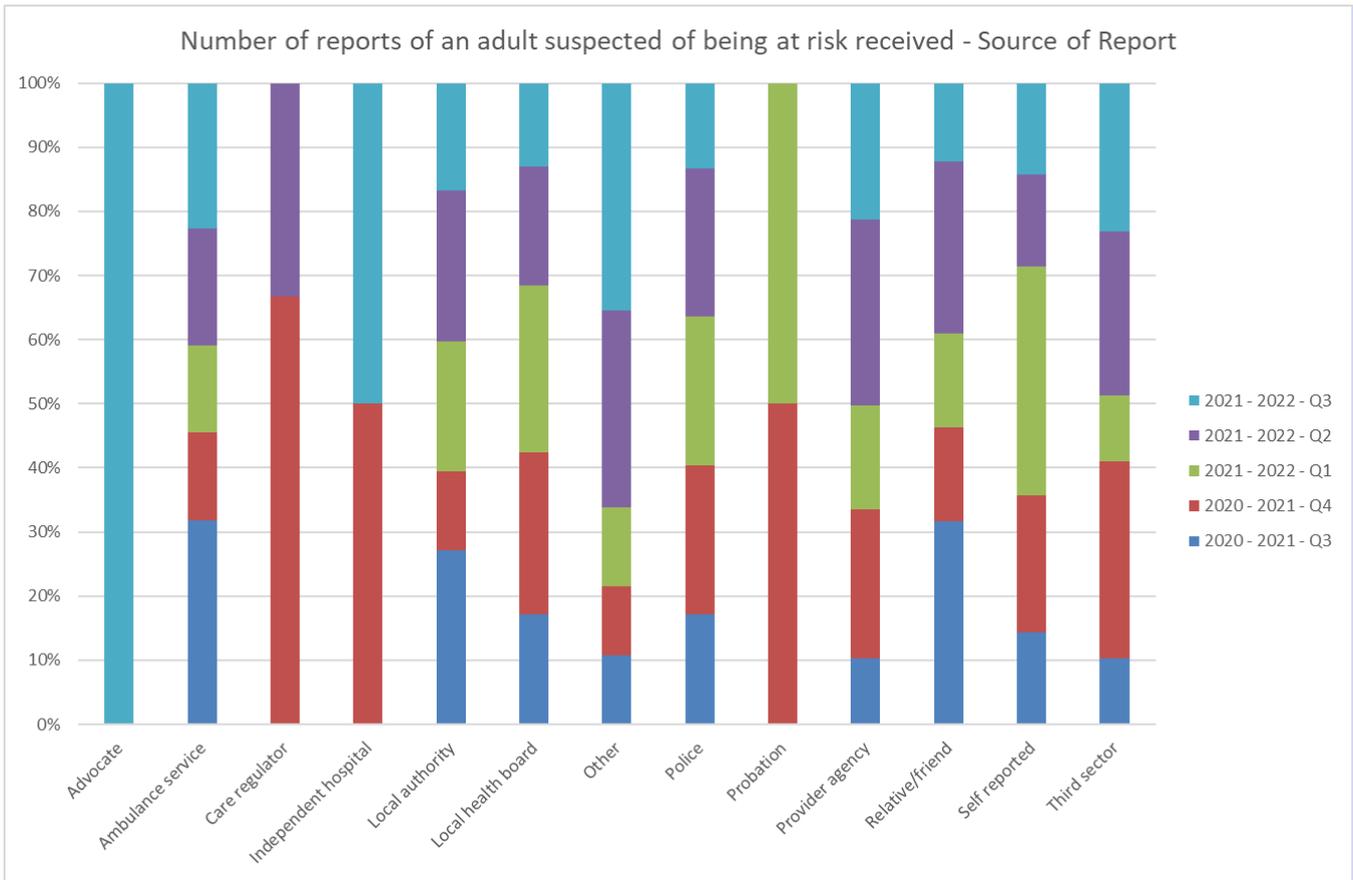
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received	
Reports - Month	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q3	131
Oct	42
Nov	45
Dec	44
2020 - 2021 - Q4	157
Jan	38
Feb	67
Mar	52
2021 - 2022 - Q1	148
Apr	51
May	48
Jun	49
2021 - 2022 - Q2	182
Jul	53
Aug	75
Sep	54
2021 - 2022 - Q3	137
Oct	51
Nov	51
Dec	35
Grand Total	755



There has been a marked decrease in the number of reports received in this quarter compared to quarter 2.

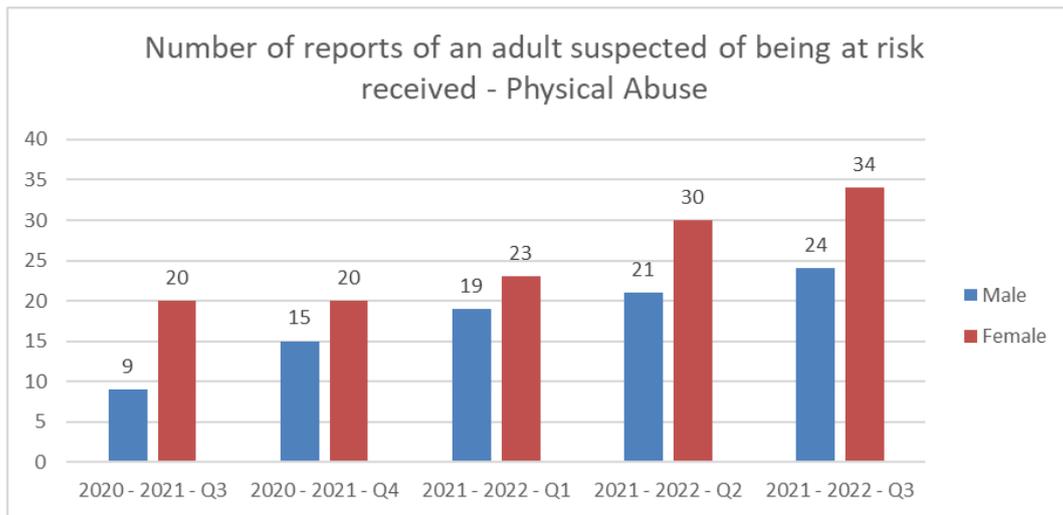
DRAFT

Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received - Source of Reports						
Reports - Month						
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels					
Row Labels	2020 - 2021 - Q3	2020 - 2021 - Q4	2021 - 2022 - Q1	2021 - 2022 - Q2	2021 - 2022 - Q3	Grand Total
Advocate					1	1
Ambulance service	7	3	3	4	5	22
Care regulator		2		1		3
Independent hospital		1			1	2
Local authority	31	14	23	27	19	114
Local health board	25	37	38	27	19	146
Other	7	7	8	20	23	65
Police	26	35	35	35	20	151
Probation		1	1			2
Provider agency	16	36	25	45	33	155
Relative/friend	13	6	6	11	5	41
Self reported	2	3	5	2	2	14
Third sector	4	12	4	10	9	39
Grand Total	131	157	148	182	137	755



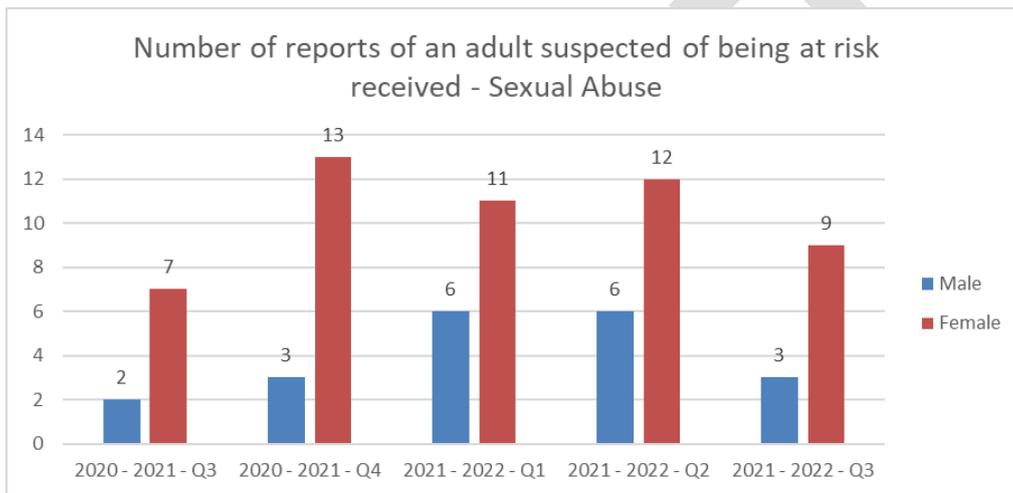
The Provider agencies have been the largest source of referral in this quarter as in Quarter 2.

Physical Abuse			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk Received - Physical Abuse			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q3	9	20	29
2020 - 2021 - Q4	15	20	35
2021 - 2022 - Q1	19	23	42
2021 - 2022 - Q2	21	30	51
2021 - 2022 - Q3	24	34	58
Grand Total	88	127	215



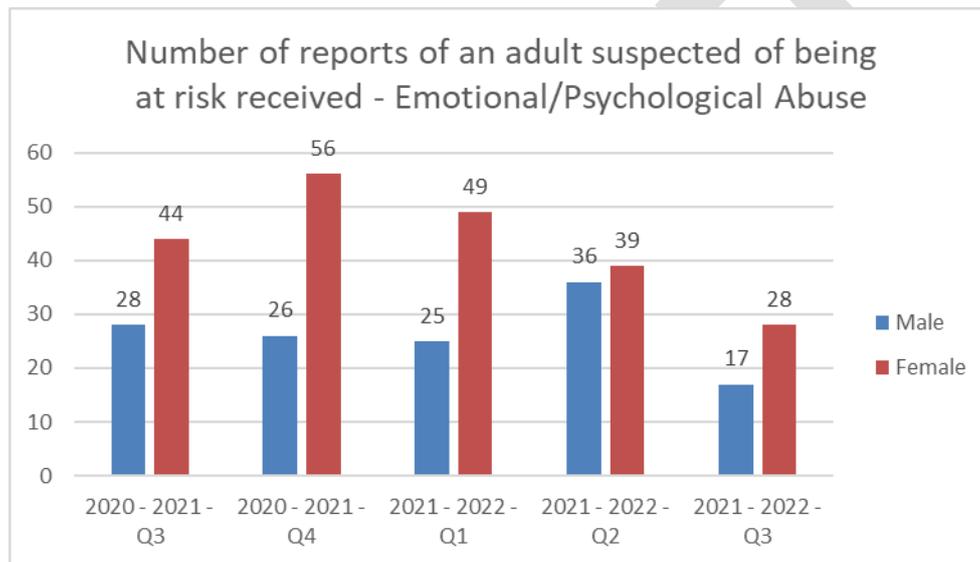
There is an increase during this quarter of the number of reports received where physical abuse is the category of abuse. Physical abuse is the highest category of alleged abuse reported in this quarter which is different to previous quarters where emotional/psychological abuse was the main category of abuse.

Sexual Abuse			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received – Sexual Abuse			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q3	2	7	9
2020 - 2021 - Q4	3	13	16
2021 - 2022 - Q1	6	11	17
2021 - 2022 - Q2	6	12	18
2021 - 2022 - Q3	3	9	12
Grand Total	20	52	72



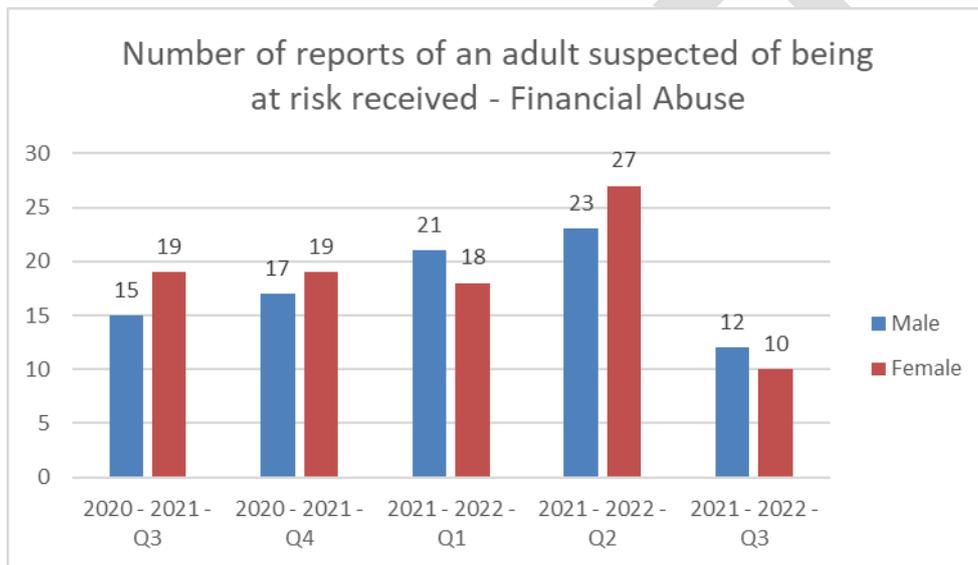
There is a decrease in the number of reports received where sexual abuse is the type of abuse alleged.

Emotional / Psychological Abuse			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received - Emotional/Psychological			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q3	28	44	72
2020 - 2021 - Q4	26	56	82
2021 - 2022 - Q1	25	49	74
2021 - 2022 - Q2	36	39	75
2021 - 2022 - Q3	17	28	45
Grand Total	132	216	348



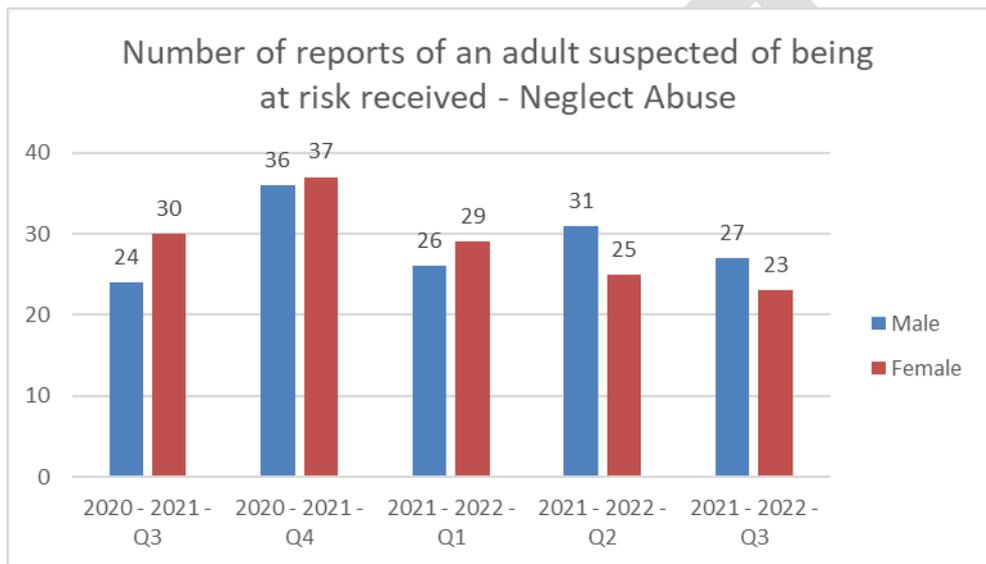
There is a marked decrease in this quarter, in the number of reports received where emotional/psychological abuse is the type of abuse alleged. This is a change from previous quarters where it has been the main category of abuse reported. In this quarter, physical abuse has been the main category of abuse.

Financial Abuse			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received – Financial Abuse			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q3	15	19	34
2020 - 2021 - Q4	17	19	36
2021 - 2022 - Q1	21	18	39
2021 - 2022 - Q2	23	27	50
2021 - 2022 - Q3	12	10	22
Grand Total	88	93	181



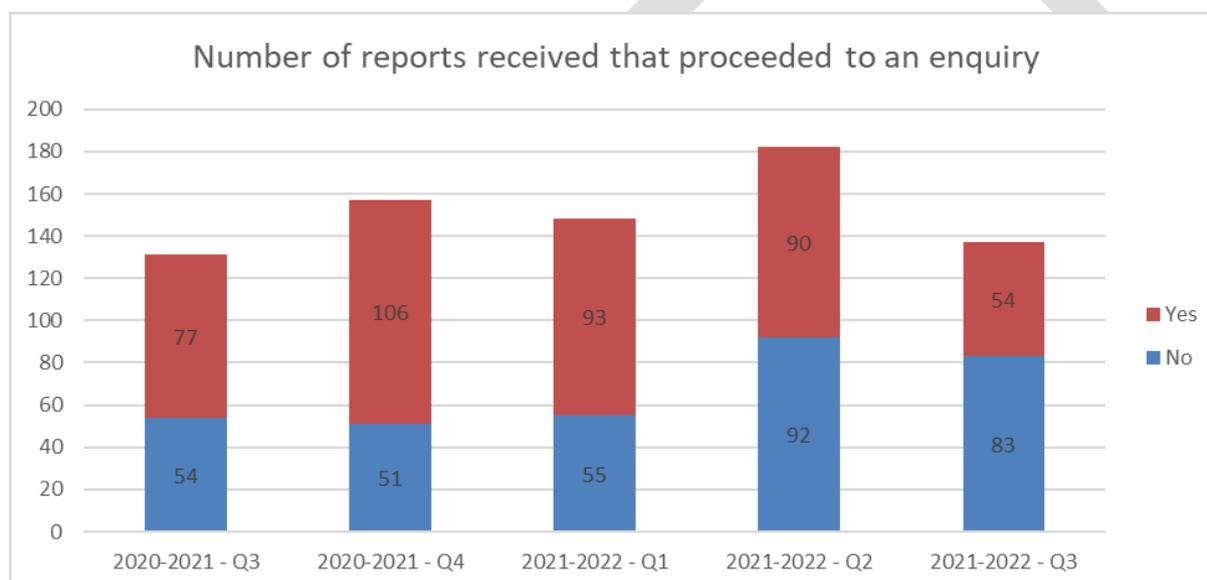
There is a decrease in this quarter in the number of reports where financial abuse is the alleged category of abuse.

Neglect			
Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received - Neglect			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Male	Female	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q3	24	30	54
2020 - 2021 - Q4	36	37	73
2021 - 2022 - Q1	26	29	55
2021 - 2022 - Q2	31	25	56
2021 - 2022 - Q3	27	23	50
Grand Total	144	144	288



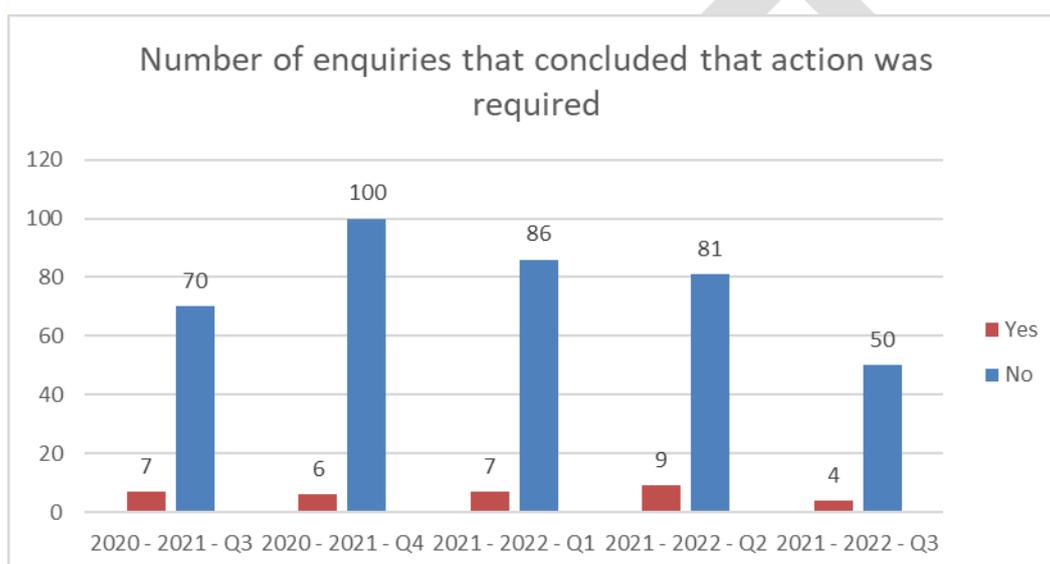
There is a decrease in this quarter, in the number of reports received where neglect is the cause of concern.

Number of reports that proceeded to an enquiry					
Reports that led to Enquiries					
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels				
Row Labels	No - Other (please comment)	No - The individual refused to participate in enquiry	No - The individual was not an adult at risk	Yes - Proceeded to enquiry	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q3	33	4	17	77	131
2020 - 2021 - Q4	21	2	28	106	157
2021 - 2022 - Q1	25	3	27	93	148
2021 - 2022 - Q2	50	10	32	90	182
2021 - 2022 - Q3	63	1	19	54	137
Grand Total	192	20	123	420	755



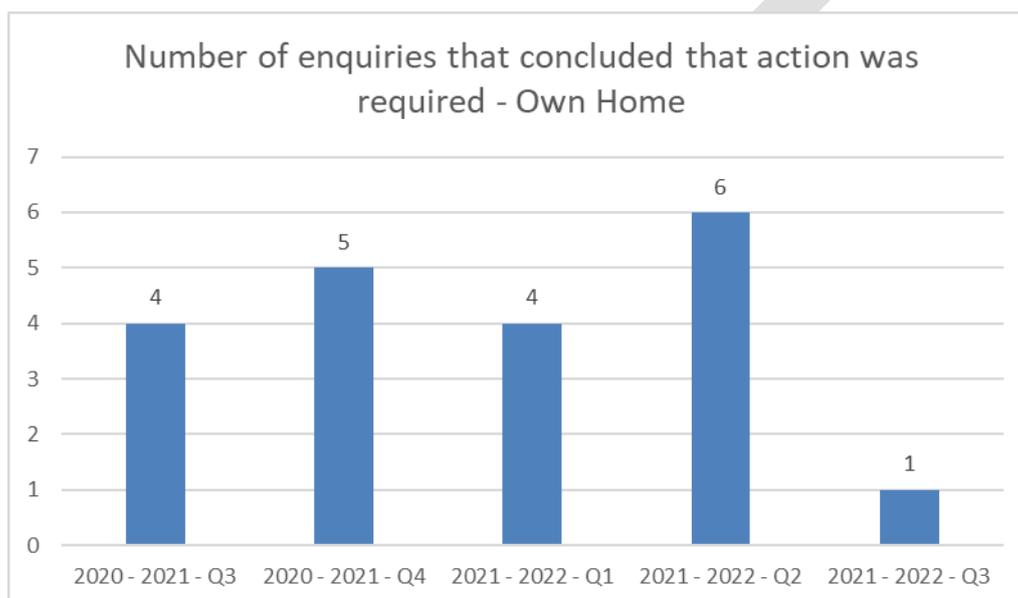
Only 54 reports proceed to an enquiry in this quarter.

Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required			
Count of Assessment ID	Column Labels		
Row Labels	Yes	No	Grand Total
2020 - 2021 - Q3	7	70	77
2020 - 2021 - Q4	6	100	106
2021 - 2022 - Q1	7	86	93
2021 - 2022 - Q2	9	81	90
2021 - 2022 - Q3	4	50	54
Grand Total	33	387	420

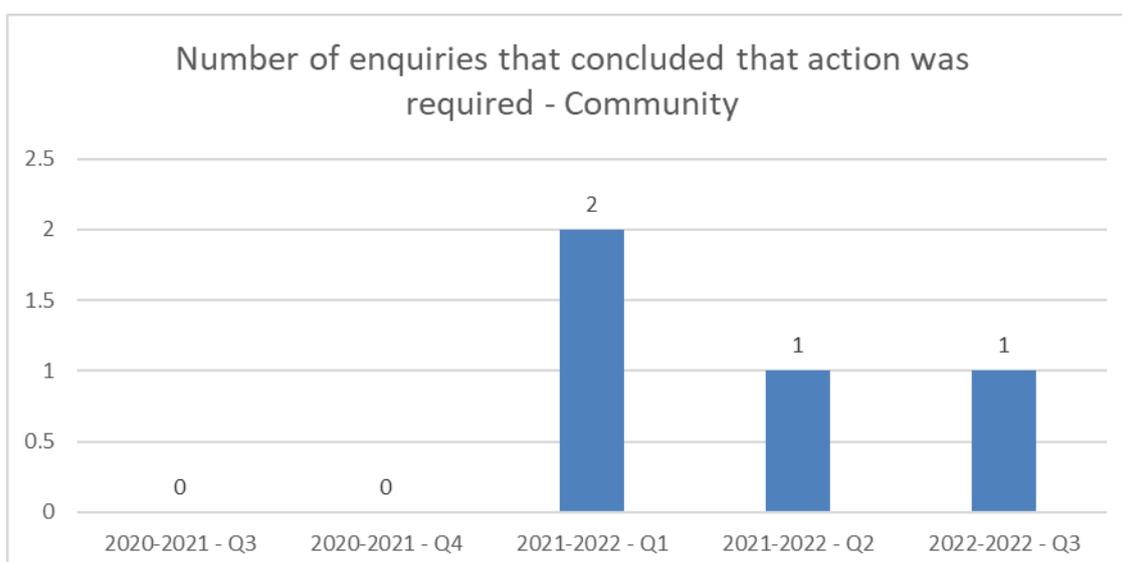


This is the number of enquiries that proceeded for further action under the Safeguarding Procedures, Strategy meetings, and further investigations. In the majority of situations, the enquiry process resolved the issues that were of concern in relation to adults who may have been at risk.

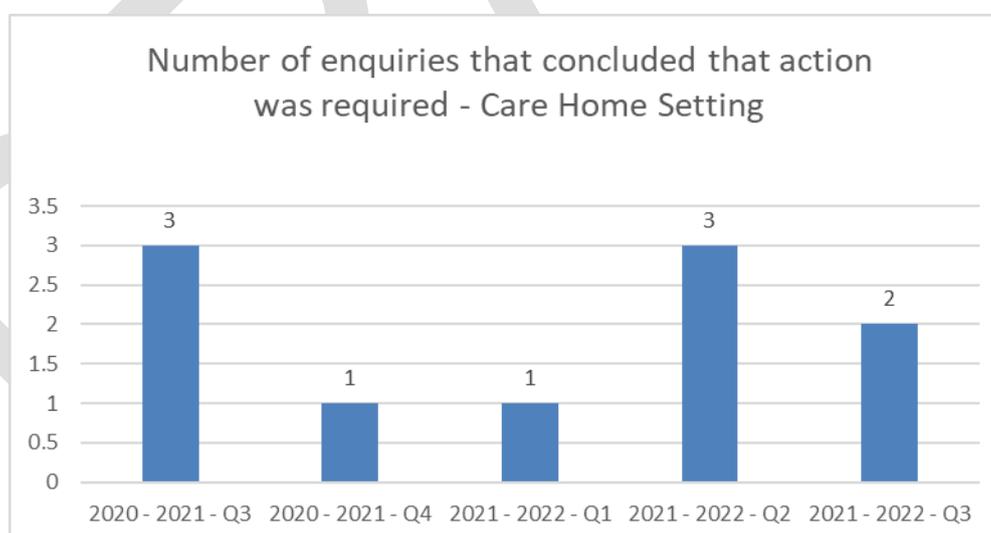
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Own Home	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q3	4
2020 - 2021 - Q4	5
2021 - 2022 - Q1	4
2021 - 2022 - Q2	6
2021 - 2022 - Q3	1
Grand Total	20



Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Community	
Row Labels	Place - Community
2021 - 2022 - Q1	2
2021 - 2022 - Q2	1
2021 - 2022 - Q3	1
Grand Total	4



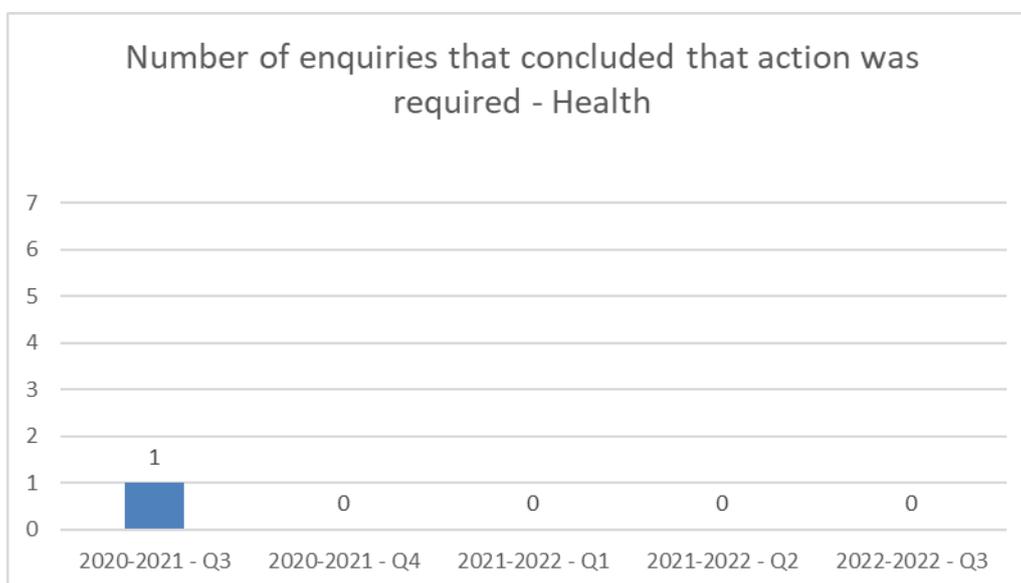
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Care Home Setting	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q3	3
2020 - 2021 - Q4	1
2021 - 2022 - Q1	1
2021 - 2022 - Q2	3
2021 - 2022 - Q3	2
Grand Total	10



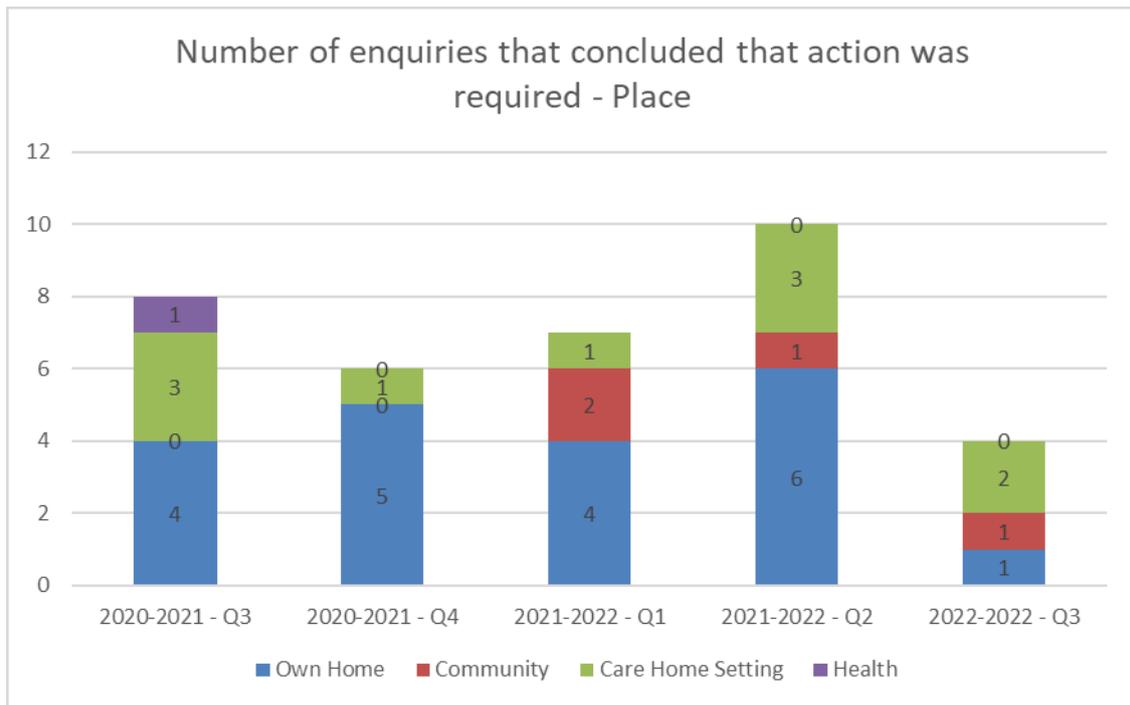
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Health	
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2020 - 2021 - Q3	1
2020 - 2021 - Q4	0
2021 - 2022 - Q1	0

2021 - 2022 - Q2	0
2021 - 2022 - Q3	0
Grand Total	1

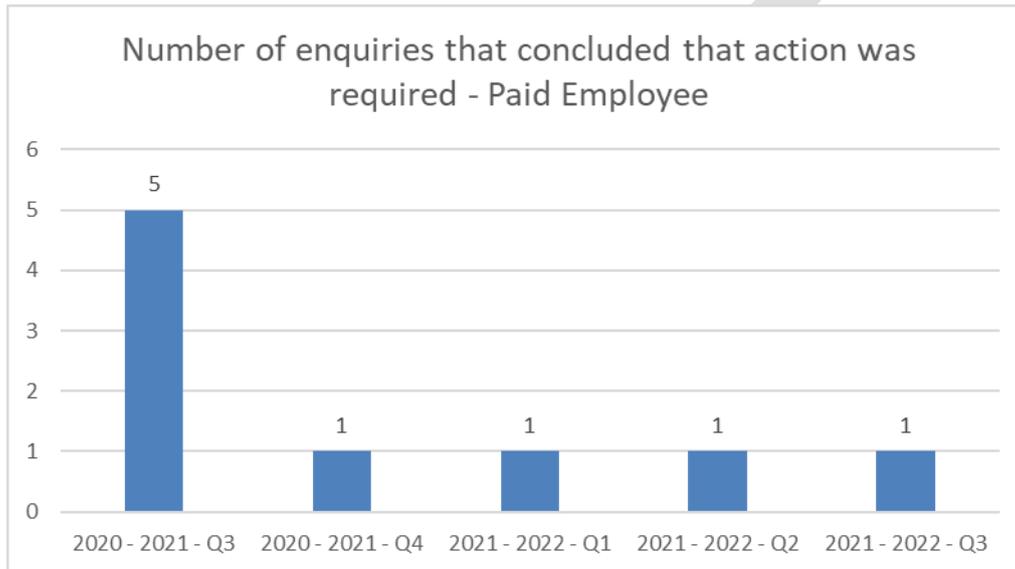


Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Place				
Period	Own Home	Community	Care Home Setting	Health
2020-2021 - Q3	4	0	3	1
2020-2021 - Q4	5	0	1	0
2021-2022 - Q1	4	2	1	0
2021-2022 - Q2	6	1	3	0
2022-2022 - Q3	1	1	2	0

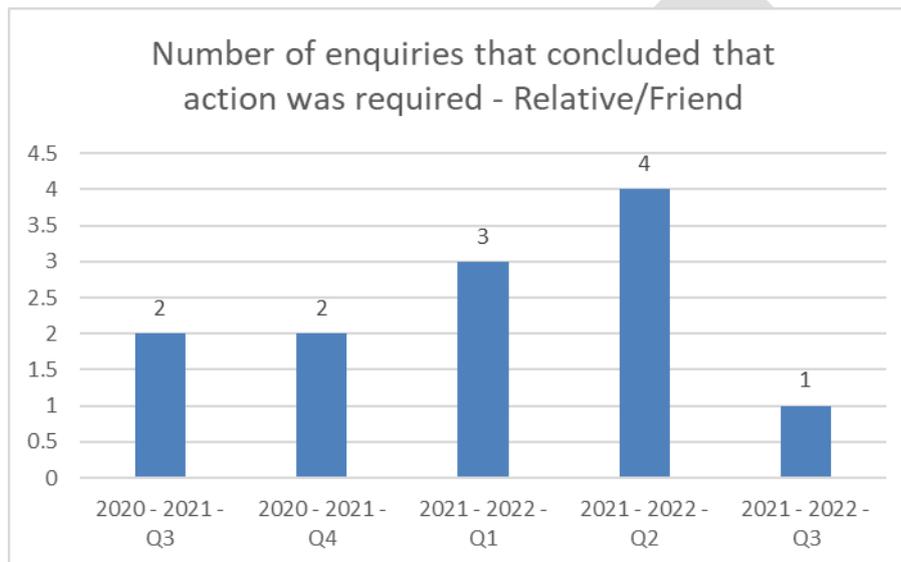


Further safeguarding processes needed to take place where abuse occurred in a care home setting as opposed to any other setting in this quarter.

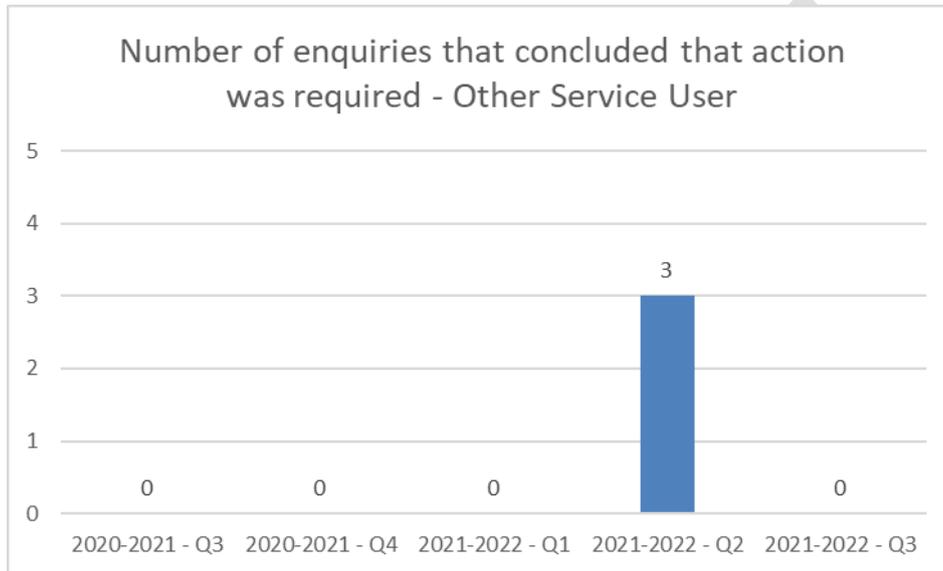
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required – Personal responsible - Paid Employee	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q3	5
2020 - 2021 - Q4	1
2021 - 2022 - Q1	1
2021 - 2022 - Q2	1
2021 - 2022 - Q3	1
Grand Total	9



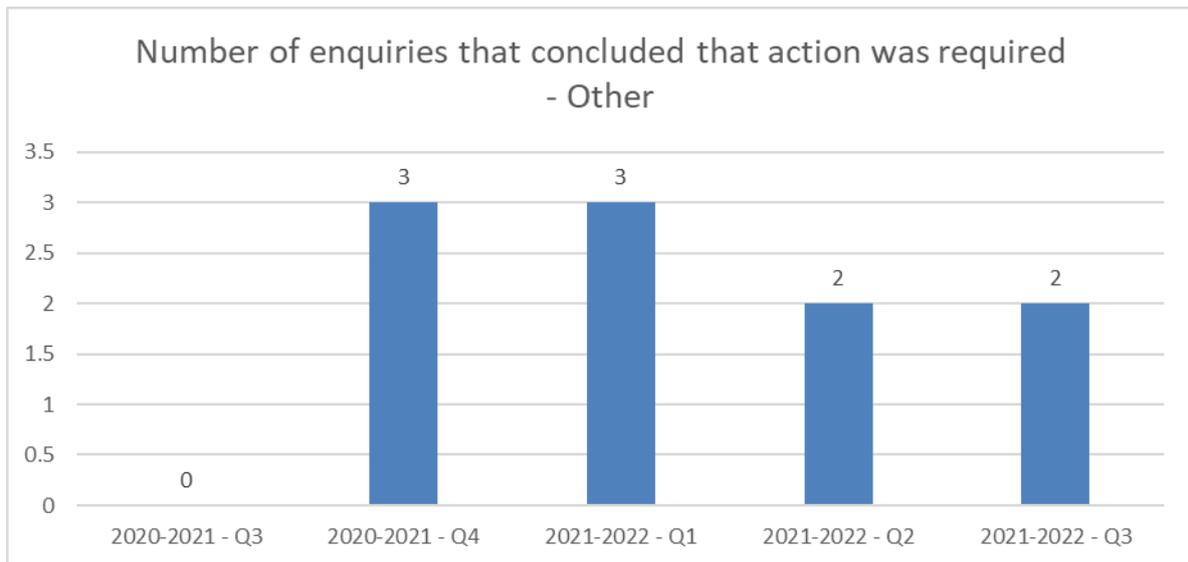
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required – person responsible – Relative / Friend	
Person - Relative Friend	
Row Labels	Count of Assessment ID
2020 - 2021 - Q3	2
2020 - 2021 - Q4	2
2021 - 2022 - Q1	3
2021 - 2022 - Q2	4
2021 - 2022 - Q3	1
Grand Total	12



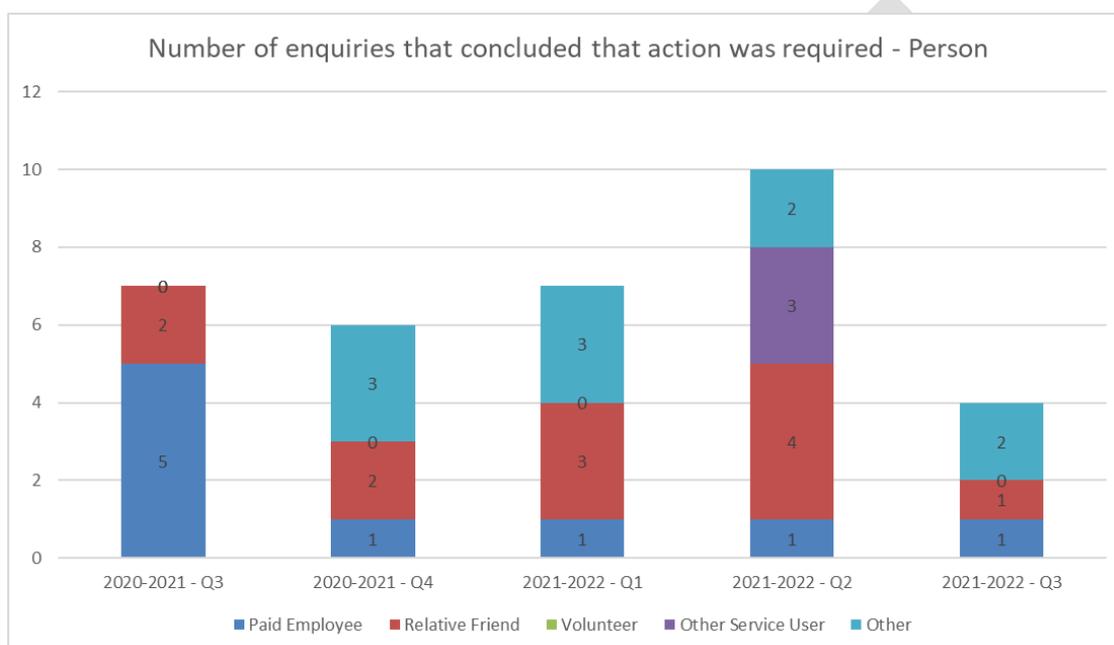
Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required – Person Responsible – Other Service User	
2020-2021 - Q3	0
2020-2021 - Q4	0
2021-2022 - Q1	0
2021-2022 - Q2	3
2021-2022 – Q3	0



Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required – person responsible - Other	
Person - Other	
2020 - 2021 - Q4	3
2021 - 2022 - Q1	3
2021 - 2022 - Q2	2
2021 - 2022 - Q3	2
Grand Total	10



Number of enquiries that concluded that action was required - Person					
Period	Paid Employee	Relative Friend	Volunteer	Other Service User	Other
2020-2021 - Q2	5	2	0	0	0
2020-2021 - Q3	1	2	0	0	3
2020-2021 - Q4	1	3	0	0	3
2021-2022 - Q1	1	4	0	3	2
2021-2022 - Q2	1	1	0	0	2



Where further safeguarding actions were required, this related mostly to actions undertaken by others.

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

DATE: 15 June 2022

LOCATION: ZOOM

TITLE: Report on Covid-19 Gold Command Decisions log

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To provide information on the decisions of the Covid-19 Leadership Group ('Gold Command') for the meetings held between the 1st of January 2022 and 31st of March 2022

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: Not requested

BACKGROUND:

On 25th March 2020, the Leader granted temporary delegated powers to the Council's Chief Executive and the Gold Command Leadership Group, to make decisions relating to the Council's COVID-19 response.

(available at: <https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/resident/coronavirus-covid-19/governance/>).

The Temporary Executive function transfer of powers expired on 31st August 2021. From 1st September 2021 to date, Gold Command has been making operational decisions under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/36/contents>).

The Decision Log was first published on the Council website on 5th of November 2020 (for decisions made up to the 30th of September 2020).

Reports on the Decision Log have been presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 20th of January 2021, 16th of June 2021, 1st of December 2021 and 10 February 2022.

(see Reports at

http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpd/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/Coord%20agenda%20pack%20200121%20FINAL%20English%20v2.pdf,

<https://council.ceredigion.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MIId=195&Ver=4&LLL=0>

<https://council.ceredigion.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MIId=226&Ver=4&LLL=0> and

<https://council.ceredigion.gov.uk/documents/s2637/Report%20to%20OSCC%20on%20Gold%20Command%20Decision%20Log%201.9.2021%20to%2031.12.2021.pdf?LLL=0>

CURRENT POSITION

The Decision Log for decisions made during Gold Command meetings between the 1st of January 2022 and the 31st of March 2022 has also now been prepared (see **Appendices 1-3** attached).

The Decision Log for decisions between 1st January 2022 and 31st January 2022 was published on the Council's website on 18th March 2022, the Decision Log for decisions between 1st February 2022 and 28th February 2022 was published on the Council's website on 23rd March 2022, and the Decision Log for decisions between 1st March 2022 and 31st March 2022 was published on the Council's website on 13th May 2022 (at <https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/resident/coronavirus-covid-19/governance/>).

The 1st March 2022 – 31st March 2022 is the last log produced for the 2021-2022 period and Gold Command has now ceased to operate, therefore no further Logs shall be presented to the Committee.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? No

If, not, please state why

Summary: This report is provided on for information purposes and does not represent a change in policy or strategy.

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:

Long term:

The Decisions Log is a record of decisions made by Gold Command with the aim of balancing short term need with long term planning for the future in light of the pandemic

Integration:

The Decisions Log is a record of decisions made by Gold Command with the aim of a positive impact on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three in light of the pandemic

Collaboration:

The Decisions Log refers to decisions made by Gold Command working together with other partners to delivery

Involvement:

The Decisions Log refers to decisions involving those with an interest and seeking their views, and incorporating stakeholder engagement and consultative approaches

Prevention:

The Decisions Log refers to decisions made by Gold Command whereby resources are used to prevent or manage problems due to the ongoing pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION(S): To note the contents of the Gold Command Covid-19 meetings Decisions Log for the period 1st January 2022 to 31st March 2022 (**Appendices 1-3**)

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S): Monitoring of the governance of the Council's adapting decision-making arrangements

Contact Name: Elin Prysor

Designation: Corporate Lead Officer: Legal & Governance (& Monitoring Officer)

Date of Report: 12/05/2022

Acronyms: N/A

Appendices: **Appendix 1** – Gold Command Decisions Log (decisions between 1st January 2022 and 31st January 2022)
Appendix 2 – Gold Command Decisions Log (decisions between 1st February 2022 and 28th February 2022)
Appendix 3 – Gold Command Decisions Log (decisions between 1st March 2022 and 31st March 2022)

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Gold Command Decision Log – Decisions made in meetings held between 1 January 2022 and 31 January 2022

263	04.01.22	To agree to recommend that vaccines of 5-11 years olds in at risk groups and 5-11 year olds who are household contacts of the immunosuppressed are undertaken at their GP surgery due to familiarity for the children and reducing the movement around the county.
		To agree to continue with the month on month agreement for the lease of Cwmcou Mass Vaccination Centre facility to the Health Board.
		To agree to issue a press release noting that the Council is targeting mid to late January 2022 for the reopening of Lampeter and Plascrug Leisure Centres, whilst highlighting the current high Covid numbers in the County.
264	06.01.22	To agree in principle to both options that were presented for flexible support to Care Homes over the next few weeks in maintaining staffing support.
		To agree that the testing advice to Staff from across Social Care, Care Homes, Additional Learning Needs Units and the volunteers from the schools service should be that they should go for a Polymerase Chain Reaction ('PCR') test following a positive Lateral Flow Device ('LFD') test.
		To agree to follow the legislation/guidelines for frontline services who will not be able to manage if they stipulate that Staff must work from home and self-isolate if they come from a Covid-19 positive household.
		To recommend that, in the interest of good governance, the item on Experimental Road Traffic Orders at Tuesday's Cabinet meeting is withdrawn, the suggested amendments are incorporated in the report and brought back to the next Cabinet meeting.
		To endorse the Welsh Government Local Authority Emergency NDR Grant scheme offer letter and agree that the scheme is administered.
		To agree that all Staff who work in close contact with Service users who are immunosuppressed and/or clinically extremely vulnerable are required to continue with the usual daily LFD tests and weekly PCR testing programme.
		To agree that all Staff LFD tests in relation to Council work should be logged and reported on the relevant GOV.UK website page.
		To agree that there is no change to the arrangements for those Staff who are not fully vaccinated who are required to complete a traveller locator form, undertake a PCR test on the second day of their return to the UK, to self-isolate for up to 10 days and take a PCR test at day 8. Staff who are not fully vaccinated will be required to take either annual leave or unpaid leave for any work days during the 10 days self-isolation period.

265	11.01.22	To agree that the CLO Schools and Culture are to monitor any joint Estyn and CIW inspection visits as regards to any potential inspection to a setting, which is based within a school building.
266	13.01.22	To agree to the proposal that certain Staff with a contracted work base of two care homes to return to office based working in order to support Managers/Deputy Mangers and free up other Staff during the current wave of Covid-19.
		To agree that the Council's Astro Turf facilities could be used in line with Welsh Government's announcement of when outdoor sporting events could increase their maximum capacity to 500.
267	18.01.22	To agree in principle to the proposed changes to easing of restrictions in Ceredigion libraries from the 31 st January 2022 with the caveat that the decision will be confirmed next week, after consideration of the latest infection rates.
268	20.01.22	To support the RAG-rating and risk informed responses for statutory cases in the Through-Age and Wellbeing Services for implementation subject to adding additional clarity to the coordinated approach to the contact being made to adult and children cases.
269	25.01.22	To agree to resume focussed provision e.g. alternative curriculum, targeted activities. Essential visitors to school sites must conduct a daily LFD test e.g. advisory Staff, mentors, youth workers etc schools from 31 st January 2022.
		To agree to allow inter school sport activities for years 11-13 solely for the purposes of collating evidence for external examinations.
		To agree to re-open Leisure facilities on the 31 st January 2022.
		To agree to resume the usage of the Fitness suites, recommencement of classes (e.g. spin), swimming, National Exercise Referral Scheme ('NERS') and Walking for Wellbeing from 31 st January 2022.
		To agree that use of the Sports Halls is limited to non-contact activities such as badminton and club training sessions for the time being and contact sports such as competitive games, e.g. 5 a side football, are undertaken on outside facilities.
		To confirm agreement to the proposed changes to easing of restrictions in Ceredigion libraries from 31 st January 2022 with the caveat that browsing time is up to 30mins rather than 1 hour.
270	27.01.22	To agree that, at the current time, the Council's simultaneous translation equipment is not available for hire as the Council's offices are currently closed.

Gold Command Decision Log – Decisions made in meetings held between 1 February 2022 and 28 February 2022		
271	01.02.22	To agree that, as Wales is at Alert Level 0 and most services have now re-opened, that Gold Command would meet once a week, on a Thursday, from now on.
272	03.02.22	To endorse the proposed approach by the Economic Adjustment Silver Command to the Experimental Traffic Orders ('ETROs) and Outdoor Trading.
		To continue the arrangements for Emergency Administrative Support for residential Care Homes and that further reviews will be carried out by the CLO Porth Gofal Targeted Intervention & CLO Democratic Services.
273	10.02.22	To agree in principle the need for Team Teach Level 1 Training for Head teachers, School leadership teams and service managers with the caveat that alternative options to all schools attending Felinfach for the training, must be considered.
		To agree to the proposal for schools to revert to a local decision making framework from Half Term.
		To agree to the request for 3 face to face meetings for managers from Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire equipment stores in each county.
		To agree that rooms 5, 6 & 7 can be used to carry out in-person registrations from the 14 th March 2022 onwards.
		To agree to accept the offer of a week long trail of a 26 Tonne Electric Refuse Collection Vehicle.
		To agree to allow 3 Staff Members to attend a testing centre in Aberystwyth for a touch screen test, in order to obtain required qualifications.
		To agree that Staff Members can attend the same manual handling training, strictly observing the control measures included in the risk assessment.
274	17.02.22	To agree that the preparatory work for the return of school swimming sessions can be undertaken.
		To agree for additional 2 managers to support delivery of services.
		To agree to only have critical Staff in Canolfan Rheidol 18/02/2022. Post Room will be closed.
		To endorse the timetabling of the Library Workshops.
		To reject the proposal for a face to face meeting of a Project Stakeholder Board. Support could be made available if necessary to help facilitate a virtual meeting if required.
275	28.02.22	To agree that no Gold Command meeting is be scheduled next week. Items by exception only could be dealt with following the Leadership Group meeting on Wednesday.
		To agree that continued use of facemasks for the public in all Council settings that are not explicitly named in the Health Protection legislation would be strongly advised.

		To agree that Staff working in Council buildings would continue to be required to wear facemasks until at least the end of March 2022.
		To agreed that certain Staff will be taken through a supportive process that will take account of the announcements made by Welsh Government on Friday in relation to the proposed Contact Tracing arrangements in future.

Gold Command Decision Log – Decisions made in meetings held between 1 March 2022 and 31 March 2022		
276	03.03.22	To approve access to Penmorfa for a Staff member of to assist with Deeds scanning: half day per week (Tuesday mornings) with effect from 8/3/22.
		To agree to the relaxation of numbers of Staff to enter Canolfan Rheidol & Penmorfa in order to allow for the clearing of desks to initiate the with the New Ways Of Working proposals.
		To agree that the delivery of school swimming can recommence from the 14 th of March 2022 and that each school will be permitted a maximum of 30 pupils per swimming lesson.
		To agree that attendance at any out of county meetings, training and events need to be requested by exception and presented to the Corporate Directors for approval.
277	10.03.22	To agree the revised maximum of Staff numbers for Canolfan Rheidol and Penmorfa.
		To agree even though the Covid case figures are increasing at the moment, Gold Command will adopt a monitoring role and not take further mitigating actions at present.
		To agree to allow certain Staff to attend statutory Courses subject to the conditions in the proposal.
		To agree to the proposal in principle (relating to the use of volunteers carrying out a range of tasks in the Ceredigion Museum) but implementation should be delayed until we are over the current spike of Covid-19 cases.
		To agree to implement the Public Health Wales guidance for visiting at Care Homes, except for those under control measures. The provisions that apply to residents leaving the homes on day visits should be delayed until the current upward spike in cases begins to show a downward trend.
		To agree to the Porth Cymorth Cynnar Adjustment Phase proposals from the 10 th March 2022 to the 30 th April 2022.
		To agree that frontline operational Staff who are working face to face can undertake their annual Staff appraisals in a face to face meeting.
278	17.03.22	No decisions
279	24.03.22	No decisions
280	31.03.22	To agree that Staff working in Council buildings would be required to continue to wear facemasks until the 25 th of April 2022 with the caveat that they could remove them whilst sitting alone at their desks.
		To agree that the weekly Staff email contains a section confirming the required process for employees to follow if they have symptoms or test positive for Covid-19.

		To agree to the proposal of a phased return to full library service by the 25 th of April 2022 onwards as detailed in the relevant risk assessments.
		To agree to the reintroduction of the Garden Waste and Bulky Waste Collection Services from the 25 th of April 2022.
		To agree to rescind the decision made early on in the Pandemic, which prevented Porth Gofal Staff working in more than one setting (decision of Meeting 28 on 17 th April 2020 that Staff should not be working in both childcare settings and residential care homes due to the risk of spreading the disease).

Minutes of the Meeting of OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE held at the held remotely via video-conference on Thursday, 10 February 2022

PRESENT; Councillor Rowland Rees-Evans (Chair), Councillors Bryan Davies, Lyndon Lloyd MBE, Ivor Williams, Wyn Thomas and Marc Davies.
(Councillor Elizabeth Evans – Observer in her role as Audit Chair).

Also in attendance: Councillor Ellen ap Gwynn, (Leader of the Council), Councillors Catherine Hughes, Ray Quant, (Deputy Leader of the Council) Alun Williams, Dafydd Edwards, Rhodri Evans, Gareth Lloyd, Catrin Miles. (Cabinet Members).

Councillor Ceredig Davies (non-Committee Member).

Officers in attendance: Eifion Evans, Chief Executive; Barry Rees Corporate Director; James Starbuck, Corporate Director; Stephen Johnson, Corporate Lead Officer; Finance and Procurement; Elin Prysor, Monitoring Officer and Corporate Lead Officer; Justin Davies, Corporate Manager, Core Finance, Finance and Procurement; Duncan Hall, Corporate Manager Service Finance & Accounts, Finance and Procurement; Geraint Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer, People and Organisation; Nia Jones, Corporate Manager, Democratic Services, Lisa Evans, Standards and Scrutiny Officer and Dwynwen Jones, Overview and Scrutiny Officer; Carwyn Williams and Rhidian Jones, Translators.

(2.00 - 3.17 pm)

48 Apologies

Councillors Elaine Evans, Dan Potter and Mark Strong apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

Lowri Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer, Democratic Services, apologised for her inability to attend the meeting.

49 Disclosures of personal interest (including whipping declarations) Members are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. In addition, Members must declare any prohibited party whip which the Member has been given in relation to the meeting as per the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011

There were no disclosures of personal or prejudicial interests.

50 Draft budget for 2022/23

Councillor Rowland Rees-Evans, Committee Chair, outlined the meeting procedure and welcomed the Leader of the Council, Councillor Ellen ap Gwynn, Cabinet Members and Officers to the meeting.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Ellen ap Gwynn, presented the report on the draft budget for 2022/2023 including the three year capital programme, explaining that this is a provisional settlement, and that the final settlement is due on the 1st March, 2022. The total revenue settlement, known as the Aggregate External Finance (AEF) allocated to Ceredigion for 2022/23 is £119.419m. This compares with 2021/22 allocation of £110.006m (adjusted for transfers), and is an increase of 8.6%. Wales as a whole has seen an average increase of 9.4% with Ceredigion ranked at 19th. The Leader advised Committee Members that since her appointment in 2012, £50 million savings had been made.

Ceredigion's Settlement reflects a range of less financially favourable re-distributional movements seen in population and Secondary School pupil number indicators. Standard Spending Assessments (SSA) are notional calculations of what each Council needs to spend to provide a standard level of service. The SSA for 2022/23 is £166.372m which is a 7.2% increase from the previous year (2021/22 £155.153m). The most significant service increase being personal social services at 12.2%.

The budget model has been drafted to include the adjustments with regard to the provisional settlement. Any adjustments required that arise in the final settlement will require consideration and appropriate incorporation into the budget.

The detailed assessment work carried out to identify the unavoidable cost pressures faced by Services has been finalised and identified a net total amount of £13.1m, which is summarised in Appendix 1 of the agenda papers. This amount is almost double the previous years and is £3.8m more than the increased sum available in the settlement and this would equate to the need to increase Council Tax by close to 8%, however some savings are available to the budget setting process.

The Rising costs of Care alone totals £7m, including:

- UK £9.90 Real Living Wage and 1.25% Employers National Insurance – impacts on most if not all Care related Commissioned Services (results in provisional inflation factors of 8.87% for Domiciliary Care / Supported Living, 9.13% for Residential Care and 11.15% for Direct Payments);
- Residential Homes – Fees setting review currently in progress;
- Direct Payments;
- Looked after Children; and;
- Domiciliary Care.

The Leader also advised the Committee that the provision for pay inflation is a significant factor estimated at £3.4m and that there is no formal agreement yet on the main 2021/22 pay award. After taking into account the potential funding available, a balanced budget is achievable.

A Corporate approach has been taken to dealing with the Covid-19 net costs and losses, as opposed to each service having to incur sums attributable to relevant services. This approach has ensured that financial management of the 2021/22 budgets and business as usual activity remained strong. Total hardship costs and lost income are currently forecast at a gross total of just under £7m with as much as possible being recovered and reclaimed through Welsh Government (WG) grants/funding.

Additional Covid-19 costs and some lost income will continue into the 2022/23 year and beyond. A corporate budget of £750k is therefore required in the Leadership Group budget, as well as utilising the earmarked contingency including Covid-19 Reserve estimated at £1.25m. No grant claims are due next year as the Hardship Fund will close and the Settlement now allows for this. WG have also committed to continue to supply free PPE for Health and Social Care for as long as it is required and to continue to provide funding for Test, Trace & Protect.

Council Tax needs to increase to fund fully the Budget position and a 6% increase would be ideal. An extra 4.75% of Council Tax raises a gross £2.1m, which equates to a net £1.8m after allowing for the additional budget requirement placed on the Council Tax Reduction scheme. The Council's income and cost recovery policy means that services are continuing to recover their inflationary costs relevant to chargeable services from service users, although the current issue in the near term is ensuring the recovery of income streams to pre Covid-19 levels.

Members were advised to raise concerns regarding specific service areas at the relevant Scrutiny Committee meetings next week.

The Leader explained that as this is a draft budget proposal, based on the Provisional settlement, and subject to any adjustments that may be required once the Final Settlement is known. Any necessary adjustments would be made in accordance with the following:

1. the value of any specific grants transferred into RSG will be passported through to the relevant Service's budget;
2. any other specific changes to be directly targeted to the affected Service(s), if appropriate; and;
3. any other change to the RSG will be dealt with by an adjustment to the Leadership Group Corporate revenue budget.

The Fire Authority Levy is subject to formal confirmation and is anticipated to result in a £104k cost pressure, which will require top slice funding.

The Leader concluded her presentation with a summary of cost pressures across all/most services and re-iterated that this budget report deals with the provisional settlement announcement with a recommendation to Council on the level of Council Tax for 2022/23. Council is due to consider the final budget on the 3rd March 2022 following scrutiny of the budget papers and draft proposals.

Committee Members were then given the opportunity to ask questions which were answered in turn by the Leader and/or Officers. Main points which arose are:

1. In response to a question regarding the rising cost of National Insurance and whether the Local Authority need to cover these costs, it was confirmed that they would be covered nationally;
2. That the new WG Social Care staff payment for care just announced would not impact on the budget setting process for next year and should be covered via grant funding;
3. In response to a question regarding funding Corporate Joint Committees, it was confirmed that the funding has not been finalised between Powys and Ceredigion as yet;
4. In response to a question whether Growing Mid Wales are part of the Corporate Joint Committee it was confirmed that it is currently separate;
5. A question was asked regarding Cost Pressures, whether they are included within the balanced Budget? It was confirmed that if a 5% increase of Council Tax is agreed then this would cover the existing cost pressures. If, 4.75% is agreed, then further funds would need to be allocated;
6. It was confirmed that the Leadership Group Budget has responsibility for the emergency Covid-19 fund, the cost of Out of County Care Placements and a contingency for potential Pay awards being higher than the 2.5% being allocated to Services;
7. A question was raised regarding costs associated with the temporary morgues, which were established during the first wave of the pandemic. It was confirmed that 100% of the costs have been recovered;
8. A question was raised regarding empty properties in villages, particularly schools and when these will be sold. It was confirmed that the Assets Panel have a process to follow in such cases and only offer surplus properties on the open market when it is deemed appropriate to do so. It was confirmed that all empty School sales monies are ring-fenced to support the 21st Century School Programme;
9. In response to a question in relation to the sale of the former Bodlondeb Residential Home, Penparcau, Aberystwyth, it was confirmed that the property will be available for purchase on the open market in the next few weeks; and;
10. It was suggested that sales of Social Care assets should be treated the same way as School assets, the receipts of which are ring-fenced for the 21st Century School Programme. It was agreed this would be discussed and considered further post-election.

Following discussion, Members agreed to consider the overall budget position as shown in the budget report to Cabinet, to assist with the preparation of a balanced budget for next year.

The Chairman thanked the Leader of the Council for presenting the information and thanked Stephen Johnson, Duncan Hall and Justin Davies

and their team of Officers for their hard work in preparing the reports for the Committee's consideration at this afternoon's meeting.

51 CONTEST - The UK Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy

The Chairman advised the Committee that the report would no longer be considered due to Officers availability. It was agreed that this would be considered during the next term of office.

52 Report on Covid-19 Gold Command Decisions log

Elin Prysor attended to present a report on Covid-19 Gold Command decisions log. The previous reports were presented on 20th January 2021, 16th June 2021 and 1st December 2021. The Decision Log for decisions made between 1st September 2021 and 31st December 2021 were included in this report and had been published on the Council Website.

Following discussion, Members agreed to note the content of the Gold Command Covid-19 Leadership Group Meetings Decisions Log to monitor the governance for the Council's adapting decision-making arrangements. The Chairman thanked Elin Prysor for the report.

Elin Prysor attended to present a report on Covid-19 Gold Command decisions log. The previous reports were presented on 20th January 2021, 16th June 2021 and 1st December 2021. The Decision Log for decisions made between 1st September 2021 and 31st December 2021 were included in this report and had been published on the Council Website.

Following discussion, Members agreed to note the content of the Gold Command Covid-19 Leadership Group Meetings Decisions Log to monitor the governance for the Council's adapting decision-making arrangements. The Chairman thanked Elin Prysor for the report.

53 To confirm minutes of the Coordinating meeting held on 1 December 2021 and to consider any matters arising from those minutes

The minutes of the Coordinating meeting held on the 1st December 2021 were confirmed as a true record of proceedings and there were no matters arising from those minutes.

Councillor Rowland Rees-Evans, Chair, advised Members that this was the last Coordinating Committee meeting for this term of office. He took the opportunity to thank the Committee Members for their support during the past 2 years whilst he has been Chair. He thanked the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members. He also thanked Lisa Evans, Standards and Scrutiny Officer and Dwynwen Jones, Overview and Scrutiny Officer, for their support during this period. He also thanked the Monitoring Officer, Elin Prysor, Carwyn Williams and Rhidian Jones, Translators, and all Officers involved for ensuring the smooth running of the meetings during this period.

**Confirmed at the Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating
Committee held on 15 June 2022**

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO:	Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee
DATE:	15 June 2022
LOCATION:	Council Chamber, Penmorfa
TITLE:	Draft Forward Work Programmes 2022/23
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	Review the current work programme of the Committee
REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION:	The forward work programme of the Committee is reviewed and updated at each meeting

BACKGROUND:

Overview and Scrutiny Committees oversee the work of the Council to make sure that it delivers services in the best way and for the benefit of the local community.

The role of Overview and Scrutiny is to look at the services and issues that affect people in Ceredigion. The process provides the opportunity for Councillors to examine the various functions of the council, to ask questions on how decisions have been made, to consider whether service improvements can be put in place and to make recommendations to this effect.

Scrutiny plays an essential role in promoting accountability, efficiency and effectiveness in the Council's decision making process and the way in which it delivers services.

The main roles of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

- Holding the cabinet and officers as decision-makers to account
- Being a 'critical friend', through questioning how decisions have been made to provide a 'check and balance' to decision makers, adding legitimacy to the decision making process
- Undertaking reviews of council services and policy
- Undertaking reviews to develop council services and policies
- Considering any other matter that affects the county
- Ensuring that Ceredigion is performing to the best of its ability and delivering high quality services to its citizens
- Assessing the impact of the Council's policies on local communities and recommending improvement
- Engaging with the public to develop citizen centred policies and services

Effective Overview and Scrutiny can lead to:

- Better decision making
- Improved Service Delivery and Performance
- Robust Policy Development arising from public consultation and input of independent expertise
- Enhanced Democracy, Inclusiveness, Community Leadership and Engagement
- Adds a clear dimension of transparency and accountability to the political workings of the Council
- Provides an opportunity for all Members to develop specialist skills and knowledge that can benefit future policy making and performance monitoring processes
- Creates a culture of evidence based self-challenge

CURRENT SITUATION:

Questions to consider when choosing topics

- Is there a clear objective for examining this topic?
- Are you likely to achieve a desired outcome?
- What are the likely benefits to the Council and the citizens of Ceredigion?
- Is the issue significant?
- Are there links to the Corporate Strategy
- Is it a key issue to the public?
- Have the issues been raised by external audit?
- Is it a poor performing service?

Choosing topics

Overview and Scrutiny Committees should consider information from the Corporate Strategy, Improvement Plan, Strategic Plan, Service Plans, the Corporate Risk Register, budget savings – proposals and impact, Quarterly Corporate Performance Management panel meetings and departmental input in choosing topics and designing their Forward Work Programmes, as well as any continuing work.

RECOMMENDATION (S):

To review and update the current Forward Work Programme.

Contact Name:	Lisa Evans
Designation:	Scrutiny and Standards Officer
Date of Report:	6/6/2020
Acronyms:	FWP – Forward Work Programme

Overview and Scrutiny Draft Forward Work Programme 2022/23

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
Coordinating			
15 June 2022	CONTEST Performance Management PSB minutes CYSUR/CWMPAS Gold command Decision Log		
7 September 2022	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report		
23 November 2022	RIPA		
18 January 2023			
9 February 2023	Budget preparation		
22 March 2023			

Future meetings	Update on Cylch Caron		
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Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
Learning Communities			
30 June 2022	Presentation on services Update on Dyffryn Aeron School School Service self-evaluation and quality improvement processes A Curriculum for Wales update		
29 September 2022	GCSE and A Level results		
8 December 2022			
16 February 2023 1.30pm	Budget preparation		
30 March 2023			
Future meetings	Child Sufficiency Assessment Play Sufficiency Assessment		

Workstreams	Standards and Schools ALN, Inclusion & Wellbeing Porth Cymorth Cynnar, Community Wellbeing & Learning		
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Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
Thriving Communities			
27 July 2022			
19 October 2022			
7 December 2022			
17 February 2023 9.30am	Budget preparation		
5 April 2023			
Future meetings			

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
Corporate Resources			
21 June 2022			
3 October 2022			
19 December 2022			
17 February 2023 1.30pm	Budget preparation		
13 March 2023			
Future meetings	Update on Clic June 2022 Update on SMART towns in the future Coroner Report October 2022 Update on Digital Connectivity when new Officer in role.		

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
Healthier Communities			
28 July 2022			
27 October 2022			
16 February 2022 9.30am	Budget preparation		
13 April 2022			
Future Items	<p>Update regarding Dementia Services – Hafan Deg, Awel Deg and Residential Homes in general</p> <p>Update on Fostering following 6 October 2021 discussions</p> <p>Update on Domiciliary Care following 6 October 2021 discussions</p>		

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