

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

DATE: 26 September 2022

LOCATION:
TITLE: CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group
Safeguarding Report
Qtr 4 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 4, 2021/22.

These are multi-agency management reports in relation to safeguarding children and adults in Ceredigion during the period 1st January to 31st March 2022. 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:

- In Quarter 4, there was an increase in the number of referrals leading to action being undertaken under Child protection Procedures, i.e. leading to Strategy Discussions/Strategy Meetings, from 122 in Quarter 3 to 154 in Quarter 4.
- Overall there was an increase in the overall number of contacts/reports/referrals in relation to children in this quarter, from 897 in Q3 to 1010 in Quarter 4.
- Of all the contacts/reports/referrals received in Quarter 4, 21.8% proceeded to strategy discussion stage compared to 14% in Quarter 3, 6.49% proceeded to Section 47 enquiry compared to 5% in Quarter 3, and 0.99% proceeded to Initial Child protection Conference compared to 1% in Quarter 3.
- The total number of children placed on the Child protection Register in this quarter following conference was 21.
- The total number of children removed from the register was 12.
- The total number of Section 47 enquiries undertaken in this quarter was 65, 64 of those were done jointly with the Police. In Q3 the number of Section 47 enquiries undertaken was 40 and 45 were undertaken with the Police.
- The main category of abuse that led to a Section 47 enquiry in quarter 4 was Sexual Abuse/exploitation (29) and then physical abuse (22), compared to Q3 where physical abuse (22) was the main category with sexual abuse/exploitation (12) being second.
- The main Risk Factors for the 45 children who were on the Children Protection Register as of the 31/3/2022, were Domestic Abuse (39), Parental Mental Health (30), Adult Offences of Violence (29) and parental substance misuse/alcohol misuse (27), parental non-co-operation with the CP Plan (20).
- In terms of Adult Safeguarding, there has been a decrease in the number of adults suspected being at risk of abuse and/or neglect with there being 118 in Q3 and 108 in Q4, with the actual reports received being 137 in Quarter 4 and 139 in Quarter 3. Therefore there was a very slight decrease on the number of reports received in this quarter but there were considerably less on the number of people who were the subject of repeat referrals.
- The most reported category of abuse this quarter was emotional/psychological abuse where there 61 reports of this compared to 48 in Q3. Physical abuse was the highest category in Q3 (59) but this has decreased in Quarter 4 (48). There was a decrease in the number of reports of concerns about neglect (41) in Q4 compared to (52) in Quarter 3. Reports of sexual and financial abuse remained similar in figures.

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

No

Summary:

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:

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: 30 June 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