

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

DATE: 11/9/23

LOCATION:

TITLE: CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group
Safeguarding Report
Qtr 4 2022/23

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, 2022/23.

These are multi-agency management reports in relation to safeguarding children and adults in Ceredigion during the period 1st January to 31st March 2023. 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 a decrease in the number of contacts/reports received regarding children/young people compared to Quarter 3-with there being 1112 contacts/reports received in Q3 compared to 1010 contacts/reports received in Q4.
- However, there was an increase in the overall number of contacts/reports which proceeded to actions needing to be taken under Child Protection Procedures, from 193 in Q3 compared with 200 in Q4.
- The percentage of reports that proceeded to a Strategy Discussion in this quarter, was 19.8% compared to 17.3% in Q3.
- In Q3, 7.3% of reports proceeded to a Section 47 Enquiry compared to 8.4% in Q4, in this quarter. In this quarter, 1.6% of reports received needed to proceed to an Initial Child Protection Conference which was the same percentage that proceeded to conference in Quarter 3.
- The total number of children subject to an Initial Child Protection Conference in Quarter 4 was 23, and this compares to 35 in Q3.
- The total number of children placed on the Child Protection Register in quarter 4 following the Initial Child Protection Conference was 20 compared to 31 in Q3.
- The total number of children removed after Review Child Protection Conferences in this quarter were 15 compared to 28 in Quarter 3.
- The total number of Section 47 enquiries undertaken in this quarter were 85 compared to 81 in Quarter 3. 70 of those enquiries were undertaken jointly with the Police and 25 were undertaken as a Social Services Single Agency.
- The main category of abuse which led to a Section 47 enquiry in quarter 4 was Physical Abuse (32), sexual abuse/exploitation (24), other exploitation (11), neglect (9) and emotional abuse (8). This follows the same pattern experienced in Quarter 3.
- There were 52 children on the Child Protection Register as of the end of this quarter, compared to 49 as at the end of Quarter 3. 22 children were registered under the category of emotional/psychological abuse, in this quarter, 26 under the category of neglect and 4 under the category of both neglect and emotional/psychological abuse.
- The main Risk Factors for the 52 children who were on the Children Protection Register as of the 31/03/2023, were domestic abuse, parental mental health, parental substance/alcohol misuse and parental separation.
- In terms of Adult Safeguarding, there has been a significant increase in the number of adults suspected of being at risk of abuse and/or neglect, with there being 190 adults at risk reported in this quarter compared to 142 in Q3.
- The most reported category of abuse this quarter again was emotional/psychological abuse, with 97 reports of adults at risk where this was the main category of abuse. Neglect was the second main category of reported abuse (66), then physical abuse (62), financial abuse (40), and sexual abuse (24). This follows the pattern from the previous quarter.
- From the reports received, in relation to all categories of abuse, women are the highest reported to be most at risk, by a significant margin. However, in relation to concerns about neglect, there were more males (36) affected by this category of abuse than females (30) which has been very different to previous quarters.
- In Quarter 4, as in Quarter 3, the Police were the highest source of reporting (46).

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

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.

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:	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: Audrey Somerton-Edwards
Designation: Corporate Lead Officer: (Children & Families)
Date of Report: 29 June 2023

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