

## SOCIAL AND HEALTH CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
<b>Report Subject</b>	Safeguarding Adults and Children's Annual Report
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Social Services and Wellbeing
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Social Services)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

To provide Members with information in relation to the Joint Adults and Children's Safeguarding provision within the county boundaries.

In line with the Council's strategy for developing a systematic Performance Management Framework, Social Services routinely collate safeguarding activity for all aspects of safeguarding. This report is to inform Members of key statistical and performance related information about children and adults at risk for whom the Authority has significant safeguarding and corporate safeguarding responsibilities.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1	That Members accept this report as relevant information in relation to Flintshire Safeguarding for the period 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024 and additional information provided.
2	That Members take due regard to the variety of activity across the Safeguarding Unit and the continuing development and improvement in service provision.
3	That the Committee is satisfied that the Safeguarding Process for Adults and Children in Flintshire is robust.

## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE ACTIVITY OF THE SAFEGUARDING UNIT
1.01	<p>The Flintshire Safeguarding Unit has been a single unified team since early 2016. The Safeguarding Unit Service Manager reports directly to the Senior Manager for Safeguarding and Commissioning. The team currently comprises 26 people and is based in County Offices Flint. They have close working relationships with Children and Adult Social Care and key partner agencies both locally and regionally.</p>
1.02	<p>The Safeguarding Unit oversees all aspects of work related to their core responsibilities which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child Protection (CP)</li><li>• Adult Safeguarding (AS)</li><li>• Adults at Risk (AAR)</li><li>• Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS)</li><li>• Children Looked After (CLA)</li></ul> <p>The Safeguarding Unit team are also involved in Regional Safeguarding Board sub-groups including delivery groups, policy and procedures, performance and quality audit groups; delivery of training for both adults and children, child practice review and adult practice reviews when required and investigations.</p> <p>In addition to our own internal case file audits, the team have completed audits to support practice and development of internal teams within Children's Services and Adult Services.</p>
1.03	<p><b>National Safeguarding Procedures</b></p> <p>In November 2019, Wales become the first part of the UK to introduce a single set of safeguarding guidelines to help protect children and adults at risk, with the launch of the new Wales Safeguarding Procedures mobile app.</p> <p>The procedures set out what to do if anyone working with children or adults suspect an individual is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse, neglect, or other kinds of harm.</p> <p>Uniquely there are no printed copies of the procedures. Instead, they are available to everyone online, either via the dedicated Wales Safeguarding Procedures website or a mobile app. This means that there will always be a single up-to-date version available to all practitioners. It will also make finding information quick and easy. A recent update was communicated to the whole of Wales virtually, so version control is easier to manage.</p> <p>'Pointers for practice' are featured throughout both the web and app versions of the procedures and provide simple 'how to' guidance for practitioners. These draw on the latest research and practice developments.</p> <p>Both platforms feature a searchable glossary which makes it easier for people to work in partnership by ensuring that every practitioner is using the same terminology in the same way, irrespective of their sector or professional discipline.</p> <p>Many of the changes within the children's procedures are about practice. The procedures place an emphasis on aspects such as co- production,</p>

	<p>person centered approaches, advocacy, use of reflective practice and practitioner judgement. Importantly, there is a strong focus on the ‘daily lived experience of the child and their carer’ which forms an integral part of information gathering, assessments and recording. The procedures refer to the Social Worker “seeing the child”, not just setting eyes on them.</p> <p>Safeguarding processes remain largely consistent to the previous All Wales Procedures with some key changes. The Regional Safeguarding Board has produced a ‘quick guide’ to the key changes for both adults and children and these can be found in the appendix. Flintshire produced a Practice Directive to ensure changes were understood locally.</p>
1.04	<p><b>Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS)</b></p> <p>The Safeguarding Unit has three full-time Best Interest Assessors (BIAs) who are responsible for undertaking Best Interest Assessments for individuals who meet criteria in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. In October 2022 we secured a second Senior Practitioner who is solely responsible for DOLS and ensuring standards are maintained. The Safeguards apply to people in care homes and hospitals, and the local authority is responsible for assessing Flintshire residents in care homes.</p> <p>A person is deprived of their liberty if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack mental capacity to agree to live in the care home and</li> <li>• Are under continuous supervision and control and</li> <li>• Would be prevented from leaving the care home if they were to try to do so.</li> </ul> <p>Deprivations of Liberty in Flintshire care homes are assessed by a BIA and by a specialist doctor. Numbers of applications have increased year on year from 13 applications in 2013-2014 (before a significant new judgement, known as Cheshire West, widened the scope of DOLS) to the number of applications received in 2023/24 being 606. The number of referrals received means that careful prioritisation is needed to ensure that those most in need receive assessments.</p> <p>The impact of the lockdown was felt in the subsequent months when access to people residing in care homes was restricted or in many cases, not allowed at all. All the applications received in the period came from Care Homes. The majority of people are located in Flintshire homes; however a substantial amount of people can be in placements outside the reporting authority, which made assessments more difficult to obtain after March 2020. Whilst travel was legitimate, access to people in Care Homes was limited.</p> <p>Keeping the person at the centre of the assessment has been a priority and the supervisory body gratefully acknowledges the support of the care homes and our assessors in making sure we have been able to continue to provide this person-centred response.</p> <p>The DOLS process is currently subject to Internal Audit, the findings of which will be available within the next few months.</p>

1.05	<p><b>New Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS)</b></p> <p>It has been recognised nationally for quite some time that DOLS is “not fit for purpose”, as the numbers of people deprived of their liberty exceed the resources available to manage the assessments required. In 2018 the UK Government published a Mental Capacity (Amendment) Bill which became law in April 2019 and was due to be implemented in October 2020. The Bill set out a new model, the Liberty Protection Safeguards, which was due to replace DOLS in England and Wales. The new implementation timescales have been substantially delayed by the pandemic and subsequently. A recent consultation ended on 14 July 2022 and all Local Authorities were notified sometime afterwards that the Government had decided to pause all plans to implement the new LPS model. Latest information suggests that LPS will not be implemented until after the next General Election and then this will very much depend on priorities of the newly formed Government.</p>
1.06	<p>The new Liberty Protection Safeguards were intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover people of sixteen years and over (DOLS applied to people of eighteen and over)</li> <li>• Apply to people living in the community as well as to people in care homes and hospitals</li> <li>• Put more responsibility on the providers and commissioners of care to gather the assessments required and to send them into the responsible body.</li> <li>• Expect the responsible body (which will in many cases be the local authority) either to authorise the deprivation of liberty or, if the person being assessed appears to be objecting to the placement, to arrange for a more in-depth assessment from an Approved Mental Capacity Professional.</li> <li>• Give people the right to appeal to the Court of Protection if they wish to appeal against the deprivation of their liberty.</li> </ul> <p>The LPS scheme applies to community settings, as well as to care homes and hospitals. It also applies to anyone from 16 years old and above, rather than 18 as is the case with DOLS.</p> <p>The Safeguarding Unit continue to work to current DOLS guidance while preparing for the possible implementation of LPS. We have been cited on documentation, models of practice and training modules for some time. In the interim representatives of the Safeguarding Unit regularly attend the Flintshire LPS Project Group who review and monitor any updates in relation to this new model.</p> <p>We now await UK Government legislative change anticipated in the next political cycle.</p>
1.07	<p><b>Adult Safeguarding and Adults at Risk</b></p> <p>The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWBA) expects the Local Authority to undertake relevant enquiries and decide on next steps within 7 working days of receipt of an adult safeguarding report.</p>

Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, **638** adult safeguarding reports that met the threshold for enquiries under Section 126 were completed, with 88% of enquiries being completed within seven days.

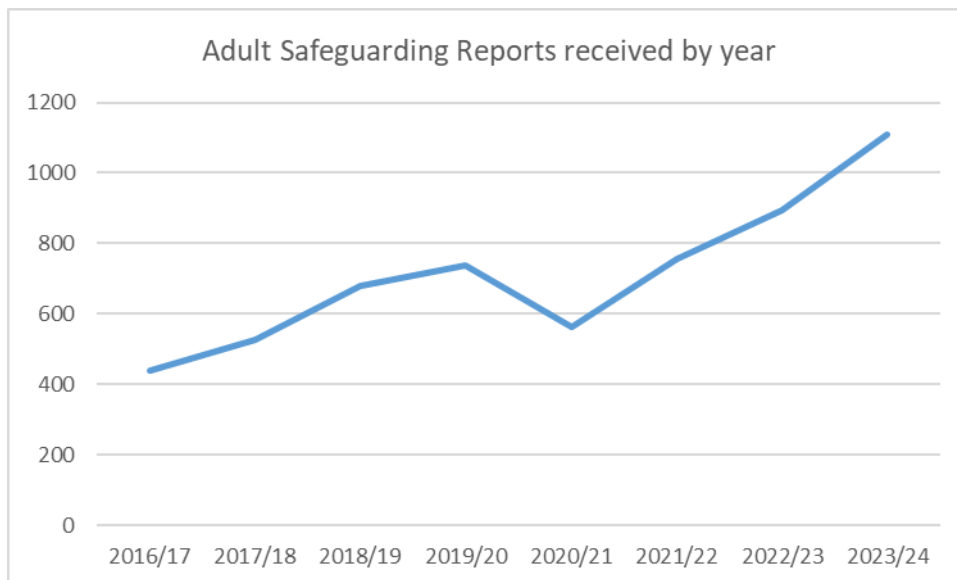
Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, **667** adult safeguarding reports that met the threshold for enquiries under Section 126 were completed, with 90% of enquiries being completed within seven days.

This reflects an increase in demand year on year, with the same amount of resource within Safeguarding.

Over the last 12 months, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, **1,109** reports have been received at the Single Point of Access (SPOA), reflecting an expected level of activity for the period. Many of those referrals come to Adult Safeguarding for advice and consultation before they are processed so the volume coming into the Local Authority impacts on both teams substantially.

Most of these referrals have involved Neglect and Physical Abuse.

Referrals are becoming more complex and financial abuse is an increasing trend within Adult Safeguarding. The number of Adult Safeguarding reports have continued to increase putting pressure on the team to screen initial referrals and undertake our duty to enquire. Year on year the number of safeguarding referrals has increased from 440 in 2016/17, 526 in 2017/18, 679 in 2018/19, 736 2019/20, 562 in 2020/21 and 755 in 2021/22. 895 in 2022/23 and 1109 in 2023/24.



1.08

The Adult Safeguarding Team have convened 246 strategy meetings between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

The Adult Safeguarding Team undertake internal audits on a regular basis to identify areas for development and ensure consistency of approach.

Flintshire employs an Adult Safeguarding Social Worker whose role is to enquire and investigate referrals as required and to work closely with families and individuals to keep them informed of the process, the actions being undertaken and the outcomes. As a result of this work we have

	<p>noticed that very few individual or families ask to be involved with Case Conferences as they have already been a part of the process and fully engaged. Our numbers for adult safeguarding conferences remain low. The team are continuing to promoting the use of advocates to allow those with no voice to be engaged in the process. The role of advocates is integral to a number of areas of work within safeguarding. Advocacy Services are used as Relevant Person's Representatives (RPRs) when undertaking DOLS assessments. When Adult Safeguarding reports are received, consideration is always given to the subject of the referral and whether they require independent advocacy services to ensure their needs are met and their voice is heard. This was an area picked up in the recent inspection and work is being undertaken to improve the recording of advocacy offers across all areas of work.</p> <p>The Adults at Risk team work closely with a variety of partner agencies including housing, police and health particularly in relation to Self-Neglect and Hoarding Cases. Until recently the Adults at Risk Team have held cases of complex need where there is an identified Neurodevelopmental issue. A new post has been developed within the Disability Service, to work with 16 – 18 years olds transitioning into adulthood and adults with neurodevelopment diagnosis. This will allow the Adults at Risk Team to focus their resource into shorter terms pieces of work.</p> <p>Other work undertaken by the Adult Safeguarding and Adults at Risk team includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attending various internal team meetings and third sector organisations to ensure safeguarding processes are understood, differences between adult safeguarding and adults at risk pathways are clear</li> <li>• Collaborative working with Flintshire SPOA to strengthen links with the front door and provide advice and assistance where required</li> <li>• Identifying themes for inappropriate referrals and working with organisations to improve their submissions</li> <li>• Providing in house learning events in conjunction with Adult Social Care colleagues, following an Adult Practice Review outcome, to ensure key messages were communicated to operational staff</li> <li>• Working with Police colleagues to improve communication and enable more timely strategy discussions when required. A Teams chat has been enabled by IT, along with colleagues from Children's Social Care which has ensured referrals are assessed holistically</li> <li>• Attendance at MARAC, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking MARAC, MAPPA</li> <li>• Chairing and decision making around Section 5 processes, allegations against professionals</li> </ul>
1.09	<p><b>Children's Safeguarding and the Child Protection Register</b></p> <p>The purpose of the Child Protection Register (CPR) is to keep a confidential list of all children in Flintshire who have been identified as being at risk of significant harm in accordance with the categories of abuse within the All Wales Child Protection Procedures (AWCPP) 2008. The same categories are reflected in the new Wales Safeguarding Procedures. The Safeguarding Unit are responsible for maintaining the CPR, providing information to</p>

	<p>relevant partner agencies about children on the register and ensuring that Child Protection plans are formally reviewed in accordance with the Wales Safeguarding Procedures.</p>
1.10	<p><b>Number on the Register</b></p> <p>Numbers on the register fluctuate as cases progress through the system. If risk reduces, children may be removed from the register and supported through more informal means. If risk increases, cases can progress into court proceedings and children can be taken into care.</p> <p>The Safeguarding Unit have no control over the number of referrals into First Contact nor do they have influence over which cases come to conference. A decision to place a child on the register is a multi-agency decision which again cannot be influenced by the Safeguarding Unit chairperson. A recent inspection identified the fact that in some cases, the threshold for significant harm was not always met when considering removing a child from the register. This is sometimes linked to a lack of understanding from partner agencies in terms of risk and harm. This is being addressed through training and dissemination of relevant information.</p> <p>At the end of March 2019 there were 131 children on the register.  At the end of March 2020 there were 201 children on the register.  At the end of March 2021 there were 146 children on the register.  At the end of March 2022 there were 131 children on the register.  At the end of March 2023 there were 216 children on the register.  At the end of March 2024 there were 170 children on the register.</p> <p>At the time of writing, we currently have 187 children on the register with 173 of those being Flintshire Children and 14 being temporary registrations. They are children registered in another Local Authority area who are currently resident within Flintshire. These children could be on holiday or could be in the process of relocating permanently.</p> <p>It should be noted that other areas in North Wales have experienced similarly high levels of registered children. An internal audit was undertaken last year to determine whether there were any trends or reasons for the high numbers. Over the past 12 months we have had large numbers of multiple sibling families which has increased the overall total. The audit did not identify any concerns in practice.</p>
1.11	<p><b>Categories of Risk</b></p> <p>For the past two years the highest category has been emotional abuse as a single category with the next highest being Physical and Emotional abuse. This year the highest category remains Emotional Abuse and Neglect. Emotional Abuse unfortunately continues to be linked with high levels of reported Domestic Abuse, usually linked to alcohol and/or drug misuse.</p>
1.12	<p><b>Length of Time on the Register</b></p> <p>Children on the register are reviewed in line with AWCPP guidelines. Initially at three months and thereafter within six months.</p>

	<p>Children reaching their 3<sup>rd</sup> review are automatically reviewed under Public Law Outline and are subject to a Legal Advice Meeting (LAM) to identify whether the case should be moving into court proceedings. The LA have developed a toolkit in relation to the PLO process and this was identified as good practice in the recent inspection. Provision of a PLO Buddy for children and young people ensures that the voice of children is heard throughout proceedings. A Conference Buddy is allocated for all young people coming to conference to ensure their journey through the child protection process is documented.</p> <p>Children’s Safeguarding Managers regularly review cases that have been on the register for 12 months or more. The findings are reported to Senior Managers and discussed within Regional Safeguarding Delivery Groups.</p> <p>Current information shows 57 young people from 23 families had been on the CPR for more than 12 months.</p> <p>There are processes in place with Children’s Services Service Managers to ensure such cases are reviewed within Legal Advice Meetings and Senior Managers meetings to ensure there is no drift.</p> <p>All cases of re-registration within 12 months of de-registration are audited on behalf of the Safeguarding Board each year.</p> <p>During the period 01/04/2023 to 31/3/2024 there were 13 children registered from seven families to the Child Protection Register within 12 months of their previous registration.</p>
<p>1.13</p>	<p><b>Number of Child Protection Case Conferences Held</b></p> <p>The breakdown for the number of case conferences held is given below. Up to 8 conferences a week are chaired and minuted by the Safeguarding Unit. Initial case conferences are convened within 15 working days of the strategy decision to come to conference and reviews are held as stated in above.</p> <p>From April 2023 to March 2024, 89% of initial child protection conferences and 98% of review conferences were carried out within statutory timescales.</p> <p>Any conferences that have to go outside timescales are agreed with the Service Manager for Social Care and Safeguarding. In the interim, Children’s Social Services ensure immediate safeguarding issues are managed with relevant partner agencies and Safety Plans are put in place.</p> <p>725 Child Protection Conferences were held between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.</p> <p>Other work undertaken by the Children’s Safeguarding Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of training to Designated Safeguarding Person (DSP) Level 3 Education Training Programme. This enable the Child protection Chairs to meet with head teachers to ensure they are able to embed their training in line with Flintshire processes</li> <li>• Relaunching the Case Conference and Core Group multi agency training which provides attendees with a comprehensive overview of</li> </ul>



	<p>their role in a case conference. This is also linked to the Child protection Rapid Review Action plan where it was identified that work was needed to improve outcomes from Core Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertaking a Core Group audit along with colleagues from Performance and Children’s Social Care</li> </ul>
<p>1.14</p>	<p><b>Children Looked After</b></p> <p>The number of Children Looked After (CLA) has previously remained relatively steady but has been increasing both locally, regionally and nationally. In part the number has increased due to the number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children we are asked to accommodate and support. Currently 9.9% of our CLA population are UASC.</p> <p>At the end of March 2024 there were 241 children being looked after by the Local Authority, 63 with Flintshire Foster Carers and 77 living with their parents or with relatives under connected person arrangements. Three Special Guardianship Orders have been made so far this year since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.</p> <p>Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, 91 children started to be looked after, 95 have left care and there have been 81 placement moves.</p> <p>Children can leave care for a number of reasons, either going home to their families, becoming adopted or reaching 18 years of age where they no longer need to be reviewed under looked after procedures. Children can receive support and services up to the age of 19 from transition services. Young people can also be supported through Pathway Plans up until they are 24 years old should they need this input.</p> <p>There are 4 Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs), within the Safeguarding Unit who review Care Plans and ensure placements are appropriately supporting the children.</p> <p>Flintshire Children are in the main located with Flintshire Foster Carers or at home under Placement with Parents regulations. However, IROs do have cases as far as South Coast of England, North of England and Ireland and they are expected to travel to the placement address to hold their reviews. This has an evident impact on available resources. IROs hold a number of reviews virtually or face to face meetings and travel across the UK to visit their cases when required.</p>
<p>1.15</p>	<p><b>Links to the Regional Safeguarding Board</b></p> <p>The Strategic shared priorities of the Board are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To respond effectively to the learning identified from Practice reviews / Regulatory Inspections and other reviews. (NWSB)</li> <li>2. Effective engagement and communication: To improve engagement and consultation with children and adults at risk, vulnerable groups, professionals, and partnerships (NWSB)</li> </ol>

	<p>3. To continue to ensure a robust, resilient, and consistent approach to emerging safeguarding themes (NWSB)</p> <p>The North Wales Safeguarding Annual Report provides a detailed narrative around the previous priorities. Members of the Safeguarding Unit support the work of the Board by attending Policy and Procedure subgroups, Audit groups, Task and Finish groups and Section 5 meetings.</p>
1.16	<p><b>Learning from Child Practice Review (CPR), Adult Practice Reviews (APR) and Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR)</b></p> <p>In accordance with the Safeguarding Boards (Functions and Procedures) (Wales) Regulations 2015 (which came into force 6 April 2016), Safeguarding Boards have a statutory responsibility to undertake multi-agency practice reviews in circumstances of a significant incident where abuse or neglect of an adult at risk is known or suspected and the adult or child has died, sustained potentially life threatening injury or serious and permanent impairment of health or development.</p> <p>Practice guidance for completing practice reviews has been issued under section 145 Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014. The purpose of practice reviews is to learn lessons, to inform and improve practice. The outcome of a review is intended to generate professional and organisational learning and promote improvement in future inter agency protection guidance.</p> <p>Practice reviews do not seek to apportion blame.</p> <p>There are two types of review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concise Practice Reviews – when the person was not referred to services for protection within 6 months of the incident or death</li> <li>• Extended Practice Reviews – when the person was referred to services in the 6 months prior to the incident or death</li> </ul> <p>If the criteria for the above is not met, a decision can be made to hold a Multi-Agency Professional Forum (MAPF) which is a learning event that sits outside the Regional Safeguarding Board APR/CPR review sub group. MAPF utilise case information, findings from audits, inspections and reviews to develop and disseminate learning to improve local knowledge and practice and also inform the Safeguarding Board’s future audit and training priorities.</p> <p>Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis under section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004). This provision came into force on 13th April 2011. Community Safety Partnerships are required to undertake them. The Community Safety Partnership then monitors the action plan. The purpose of a DHR is to examine the circumstances that led to a reported death and review the contact that organisations had with the victim and offender also identifying lessons to be learnt.</p>

<p>1.17</p>	<p><b>Flintshire Adult Practice Reviews (APRs), Child Practice Reviews (CPRs) and Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)</b></p> <p>When cases come to the attention of safeguarding, consideration is always given to whether a case should be recommended for APR or MAPF (Multi Agency Professionals Forum). This consideration is also part of the safeguarding audit tool. Adult Locality teams can also refer cases to the APR subgroup as can any agency. Consideration for a CPR is usually determined within a PRUDIC (Procedural Response for Unexplained Death in Children) meeting however, again any agency can refer to the CPR subgroup.</p> <p><b>CPRs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently in Flintshire a CPR recently concluded and the report was published last December 2023. There has already been a learning event for staff and agencies involved in the case. All staff, across all agencies, are offered emotional support following such cases.</li> <li>• An extended review was also recently commissioned by the Regional Board in September 2023 and is due to commence shortly.</li> <li>• Another CPR commissioned 2 years ago has been officially paused until the outcome of the criminal investigation. Staff involved in this case have been provided with full support and advice.</li> </ul> <p><b>APRs</b></p> <p>There are currently no active Flintshire APRs awaiting sign off or allocation.</p> <p>The North Wales Region has been adhering to the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act (SSWBA) by actively considering cases that would fit the criteria for APR/CPR. This has a resource impact on all agencies and there has been an issue with delays in commencing reviews due to scarcity of trained reviewers, however, the Board is addressing this issue through training.</p> <p><b>DHRs</b></p> <p>A DHR was commissioned following a death in Shotton in 2021. This report has been with the Home Office for over 6 months awaiting approval and feedback.</p>
<p>1.18</p>	<p><b>Learning from CPRs and APRs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When relevant CPRs are published nationally, Practice Directives are drafted by Flintshire’s Children’s Services Team Managers with summaries of the key issues and these are shared with all teams</li> <li>• The Regional Safeguarding Board send out weekly bulletins highlighting published CPRs and APRs regionally</li> <li>• Learning events are held following CPRs and APRs where practitioners meet to discuss key themes and lessons from the investigations.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action Plans emanating from CPRs and APRs are monitored locally and regionally through the Safeguarding Board and through the Flintshire &amp; Wrexham Children’s Delivery Group and the Flintshire &amp; Wrexham Adult Delivery Group, subgroups of the Children’s and Adults Regional Boards</li> <li>Specific recommendations from other Local Authority CPRs/APRs can come from other agencies for action within Social Services.</li> </ul> <p>All CPR and APR Final Reports are published on the Welsh Government website and North Wales APR and CPR Reports are also published on the North Wales Safeguarding Board website for a short period of time.</p> <p>Social Services managers and staff are acutely aware that the key messages from National, Regional and Local APRs/CPRs are usually about lack of information sharing and poor communication between partner agencies.</p> <p>Flintshire Social Services are well informed about current themes and trends in outcomes of APRs/CPRs. Case file audits, supervision, legal advice meetings, multi-agency case management meetings, learning and training workshops, access to online research and case discussion are all tools to ensure outcomes from APRs/CPRs are at the forefront of the work that is undertaken in Flintshire to safeguard children, adults and families.</p> <p>The Business Systems Team has recently assisted in building a platform within the client information system to record, monitor and review all CPRs and APRs. Provision of a central database will support better communication of learning outcomes across the Local Authority.</p>
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<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	<p><b>Revenue:</b> there are no implications for the approved revenue budget for this service for either the current financial year.</p> <p><b>Human Resources:</b> there are no implications for additional capacity or for any change to current workforce structures or roles.</p>

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	This report is for information only.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	N/A

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	<p><b>Wales National Safeguarding Procedures</b>  <a href="http://www.safeguarding.wales/">http://www.safeguarding.wales/</a>  <a href="http://www.diogelu.cymru/">http://www.diogelu.cymru/</a></p> <p><b>Wales National Safeguarding Procedures FAQs</b>  <a href="https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Wales-Safeguarding-Procedures-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf">https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Wales-Safeguarding-Procedures-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.bwrdddiogelugogleddcymru.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Cwestiynau-Cyffredin-am-Weithdrefnau-Diogelu-Cymru.pdf">https://www.bwrdddiogelugogleddcymru.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Cwestiynau-Cyffredin-am-Weithdrefnau-Diogelu-Cymru.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Wales National Safeguarding Procedures What has changed Adults</b>  <a href="https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Whats-Changed-Adults-Eng.pdf">https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Whats-Changed-Adults-Eng.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.bwrdddiogelugogleddcymru.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Beth-syn-Wahanol-Diogelu-Oedolion.pdf">https://www.bwrdddiogelugogleddcymru.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Beth-syn-Wahanol-Diogelu-Oedolion.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Wales National Safeguarding Procedures What has changed Adults</b>  <a href="https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Whats-Changed-Children-Eng.pdf">https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Whats-Changed-Children-Eng.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.bwrdddiogelugogleddcymru.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Beth-syn-Wahanol-Diogelu-Plant.pdf">https://www.bwrdddiogelugogleddcymru.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Beth-syn-Wahanol-Diogelu-Plant.pdf</a></p> <p><b>North Wales Safeguarding Board Strategic Plan 2024/25</b>  <a href="https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/NWSB-Annual-Plan-2024-25-Final.pdf">https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/NWSB-Annual-Plan-2024-25-Final.pdf</a></p> <p><b>North Wales Safeguarding Board Annual Report 2022/23</b>  <a href="https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/NWSB-Annual-Report-2022-23-Final.-docx-1.pdf">https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/NWSB-Annual-Report-2022-23-Final.-docx-1.pdf</a></p>

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	N/A

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Jayne Belton Safeguarding Unit Service Manager  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702600  <b>E-mail:</b> jayne.belton@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p data-bbox="320 255 655 293"><b>(1) Looked After Child</b></p> <p data-bbox="320 331 1385 551">Looked after children are children and young people who are in public care and looked after by the state. This includes those who are subject to a care order or temporarily classed as looked after on a planned basis for short breaks or respite care. The term is also used to describe ‘accommodated’ children and young people who are looked after on a voluntary basis at the request of, or by agreement with, their parents.</p> <p data-bbox="320 589 735 627"><b>(2) Section 47 Investigation</b></p> <p data-bbox="320 665 1382 987">Where information gathered during a Referral or an Assessment, results in the social worker suspecting that the child is suffering or likely to suffer Significant Harm, a Strategy Discussion Meeting should be held to decide whether to initiate enquiries under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989. Strategy Discussions/Meetings should be held as soon as possible, bearing in mind the needs of the child. A Section 47 Enquiry will decide whether and what type of action is required to safeguard and promote the welfare of a child who is suspected of, or likely to be, suffering significant harm.</p> <p data-bbox="320 1025 676 1064"><b>(3) Section 126 Enquiry</b></p> <p data-bbox="320 1102 1361 1211">Section 126 (2) of the SSWBA sets out that ‘if a local authority has reasonable cause to suspect that a person within its area (whether or not ordinarily resident there) is an adult at risk, it must:</p> <ol data-bbox="320 1249 1374 1397" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Make (or cause to be made) whatever enquiries it thinks necessary to enable it to decide whether any action should be taken (whether under the Act or otherwise) and if so, what, and by whom; and</li> <li>b) Decide whether any such action should be taken.’</li> </ol> <p data-bbox="320 1435 847 1473"><b>(4) Liberty Protection Safeguards</b></p> <p data-bbox="320 1512 1305 1576">The Liberty Protection Safeguards will replace DoLS and is due to be implemented in October 2020. LPS will:</p> <ul data-bbox="344 1615 1385 2049" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover people of sixteen years and over (DoLS applied to people of eighteen and over)</li> <li>• Apply to people living in the community as well as to people in care homes and hospitals</li> <li>• Put more responsibility on the providers and commissioners of care to gather together the assessments required and to send them into the responsible body.</li> <li>• Expect the responsible body (which will in many cases be the local authority) either to authorise the deprivation of liberty or, if the person being assessed appears to be objecting to the placement, to arrange for a more in-depth assessment from an Approved Mental Capacity Professional.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Give people the right to appeal to the Court of Protection if they wish to appeal against the deprivation of their liberty.</li></ul> |
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