



Adult Safeguarding Conference

17th November 2021

Agenda and biographies

Morning Agenda:

- 10:00 Introduction
Jane Randall, Chair, National Independent Safeguarding Board
- 10:05 Recorded message from the Deputy Minister for Social Services
- 10:10 Abuse of older people – how we can improve awareness and understanding, prevention and support
Helena Herklots, Older People's Commissioner
- 10:55 Adult Safeguarding and Self Neglect
Professor Suzy Braye, University of Sussex
- 11:40 National Plan to prevent the abuse of older people
Sarah Cooper & Phil Mulraney, Welsh Government
- 12:25 Q & A Panel
- 12:30 End of morning session

Afternoon Agenda:

- 13:30 Introduction
Jane Randall, Chair, National Independent Safeguarding Board
- 13:35 Findings from a thematic analysis of Adult Practice Reviews (APRs) in Wales
Dr Alyson Rees & Dr Tom Slater, Cardiff University, School of Social Sciences
- 14:20 Care Inspectorate Wales Perspective and Learning
Vicky Poole, Care Inspectorate Wales
- 15:05 Safeguarding & Violence Prevention
Jon Drake & Lara Snowdon, Wales Violence Prevention Unit
- 15:50 Q & A Panel & closing remarks
- 16:00 End

Jane Randall

Chair, National Independent Safeguarding Board Wales

Jane brings to the National Board a track record as a highly experienced clinical leader in health and multi-disciplinary safeguarding and public protection as a former Head of Safeguarding in a Welsh health board. A skilled and effective communicator, she is able to provide expert specialist advice and knowledge and make decisions on complex issues.

Heléna Herklots CBE

Older People's Commissioner

Heléna is the Older People's Commissioner for Wales – an independent statutory role established in law to protect and promote older people's rights. She took up post in 2018 after over 30 years working on ageing and older people's issues. Starting her career working directly with older people and their families in day centres and care homes, she has influenced public policy, campaigned for change and developed and provided support services for older people.

Prior to her appointment as Older People's Commissioner, Heléna was Chief Executive of Carers UK, the national membership charity for unpaid carers. Experience before that includes as Services Director at Age UK, Head of Policy at Age Concern England and Corporate Strategy Manager at Anchor.

Heléna has led and contributed to a number of UK Government advisory groups covering topics including care and support, housing, dementia and carers. She also spent a year on secondment working on older people's issues at the Department of Health. Heléna is Chair of the UK Industrial Strategy Healthy Ageing Challenge Advisory Group and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. In 2017 Heléna was awarded a CBE for services to carers.

Professor Suzy Bray

Emerita Professor of Social Work, University of Sussex

Suzy Bray is Emerita Professor of Social Work, University of Sussex. Her professional background is in social work and the management of local authority social services. Her academic work, which includes research and publications on legal literacy, adult social care, adult safeguarding and self-neglect, has been influential on the development of law, policy and practice in the adult safeguarding field in England. She now practises as an independent consultant and researcher in adult safeguarding and acts as an independent reviewer in safeguarding adult reviews.

Sarah Cooper and Phil Mulraney

Welsh Government

Sarah Cooper and Phil Mulraney work within the Safeguarding and Advocacy Team, Enabling People Division, Social Services and Integration Directorate, Welsh Government. The Team has responsibility for Safeguarding and Advocacy for children, young people and adults in Wales.

Sarah has held a number of roles across Welsh Government over the last 26 years, moving to the post of Head of Safeguarding and Advocacy in December 2019.

Phil has worked in a number of roles within Welsh Government and The National Assembly for Wales including legislation development over 30 years. Phil leads on Adult Safeguarding and held a key role in developing the regulations and guidance which underpin the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

Dr Alyson Rees

Cardiff University

Dr Alyson Rees is a Reader at the School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University and is Assistant Director of CASCADE Research Centre. Alyson has undertaken a wide range of research relating to Social Work and social care including children looked after, domestic abuse and criminal justice.

Dr Tom Slater

Cardiff University

Tom is a senior lecturer at Cardiff University with an interest in suicide prevention and safeguarding. As a member of the Children's Social Care Research and Development Centre (CASCADE), Tom has undertaken research on a range of sensitive topics, including practitioner perspectives of adolescent suicide groups, safeguarding in home education and parental alienation.

Vicky Poole

Deputy Chief Inspector of Care Inspectorate Wales

Vicky Poole was appointed as Deputy Chief Inspector of Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) on 1 November 2018, having joined the Welsh Government in 2014 as CSSIW's Regional Director for north Wales.

Vicky began her career as a mental health nurse from where she moved to work in social services first in Leeds before moving to north Wales in 1990. Vicky has held a number of roles in health and social care services including as a care home manager and as commissioning and strategic planning manager.

Vicky has a Master's degree in Managing Partnerships in Health and Social Care and has held joint positions across health and social care services, as well as working collaboratively with local authorities in north Wales. She also worked as improvement manager for Social Services Improvement Agency. Originally from Stoke on Trent, Vicky lives with her partner in Denbigh.

Jon Drake

Director, Wales Violence Prevention Unit

Jon is a former Police Officer, having served for more than 30 years in Staffordshire and latterly South Wales Police where he was Assistant Chief Constable. Whilst in South Wales Police, Jon had responsibility for serious organised crime and protecting vulnerable people, and was the Wales police lead for serious violence. He was the National Police Chiefs Council Lead for intelligence, which included areas such as analysis. In December 2019, Jon was appointed as the Director of the Wales Violence Prevention Unit, which seeks to prevent violence in Wales through a public health approach.

Lara Snowdon

Violence Prevention Programme Lead, Public Health Wales

Lara joined the World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre at Public Health Wales in 2019 as Violence Prevention Programme Lead. In this role, Lara was one of the founding members of the Wales Violence Prevention Unit, and now leads the Unit's public health activity and strategic approach. Her role involves research, evaluation, strategic leadership, advocacy for a public health approach to violence prevention, and the management of a multi-agency team of researchers and public health specialists. She holds two Master's degrees in public health and international relations, and has undertaken a mentorship with the World Health Organisation in violence prevention. She has recently started a PhD in Public Health with Liverpool John Moores University exploring the primary prevention of interpersonal violence.

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