



National Independent Safeguarding Board Meeting NISB

Meeting Minutes

Date: 25th June 2026 **Time:** 09.30am Teams meeting

Attendees:

Tony Young (NISB Chair)
Lin Slater (NISB Vice Chair)
Desmond Mannion (Board Member)
Artie Meakin (Board Member)
Dave Street (Board Member)
John Williams (Board Member)
Emma Logan (NISB Secretariat)

1. Welcome and Apologies: The meeting commenced with greetings and confirmation of attendance.

2. Conflict of Interest Declarations: The Board declared no conflicts of interest.

3. Minutes & Actions of Previous Meeting: The minutes from the previous meeting were recirculated and a request was made to notify the secretariat of approval as a true record. Actions from the previous meeting were discussed and acknowledged.

1. Ministerial Meeting

Members noted confirmation of an introductory meeting between the Minister and the NISB Chair and Vice-Chair on 13 July 2026 at 12.30pm. The meeting will provide an opportunity to establish relationships and discuss future engagement arrangements. Members noted that the governance review remains under ministerial consideration and agreed that advance information would be helpful to enable informed discussion before the meeting with the Minister.

2. Governance Review

An update was also provided on the governance review. Members were advised that discussions are ongoing within Welsh Government with Ministers and that a further session involving Welsh Government Officials is being explored to provide a detailed briefing on the review upon Deputy Minister making an announcement.

3. NISB Annual Report - Current and Future Structure

Strong support was expressed for a shorter, more focused and impactful annual report. Members broadly supported retaining the five safeguarding questions as a key framework and agreed that greater emphasis should be placed on future priorities, strategic direction and impact rather than purely retrospective reporting. The Board noted that the annual report must be submitted to Welsh Ministers by 31 October, include information on support provided to Regional Safeguarding Boards, assess safeguarding arrangements across Wales, identify learning and good practice, and make recommendations to Welsh Ministers. The report must be published by 31 December. Members agreed that the annual report should become more strategic, concise and forward-looking, with a revised structure and template to be developed and circulated for comment. Members also supported a collaborative drafting approach.

3. Procedures Board Update

The Chair provided feedback from attendance at the Safeguarding Procedures Board. Members noted the significant volume of procedural and practice guidance being issued nationally and the need for clarity regarding NISB's role in development and oversight. Questions were raised regarding ownership, dissemination, implementation and impact measurement of national guidance, and members expressed concern about the complexity practitioners may face when navigating multiple sources of guidance. Members agreed that greater understanding is required of governance arrangements underpinning national procedures, the relationship between national and regional guidance, monitoring and evaluation of practice guidance, and how practitioners are expected to apply guidance consistently.

4. Research Programme and Future Priorities

The Board considered potential future work with Manchester Metropolitan University. Areas discussed included whether to commission a further Adult Practice Review thematic analysis, a potential review of Regional Safeguarding Board annual reports across Wales, the impact and effectiveness of NISB recommendations, development of a national safeguarding dataset, and examination of Welsh Government responses to safeguarding recommendations. Members agreed that discussions with the research team should continue before final decisions are taken regarding future commissions.

5. NISB Safeguarding Conference 2026

Members received an update on planning for the NISB Safeguarding Conference scheduled for 4 November 2026. The proposed programme includes opening remarks from the Chair, a ministerial contribution subject to confirmation, an adult safeguarding user perspective,

developments relating to DoLS and best interests, Adult Protection Medical Examination developments, a contribution from the Older People's Commissioner, and potential academic and research presentations. Members welcomed the proposed programme. Alternative speakers will be identified as contingency, and the forthcoming ministerial meeting will provide an opportunity to extend an invitation to the Minister.

6. CPR Roundtable and Data Roundtable

Members noted that the CPR Roundtable is planned for 15 September 2026 and the Data Roundtable is planned for 17 September 2026. Discussion continued regarding the development of a national safeguarding dataset, the need for consistent data collection across Wales, ongoing discussions with Welsh Government and partner organisations, and the importance of maintaining momentum whilst recognising that implementation sits primarily with Welsh Government.

7. Stakeholder Engagement Review

The Chair outlined plans to review stakeholder engagement arrangements. Members agreed that engagement activity should be purpose-driven, stakeholder relationships should be prioritised according to strategic importance, Regional Safeguarding Boards should remain key stakeholders, and the review should identify expected outcomes from engagement activity.

8. Communications and Website Development

The Secretariat provided an update on work being undertaken to update Board membership information, publish outstanding minutes, improve accessibility and usability, and refresh website content and messaging. Members agreed that the website should act as a safeguarding resource hub, support practitioners, stakeholders and members of the public, provide clearer routes to safeguarding advice and services, and showcase NISB activity, publications and learning. Members also discussed the need for all Board members to contribute to communications activity and future website content.

9. Chair's Engagement Activity

The Chair reported on introductory meetings held with key stakeholders, including Welsh Government officials. Positive discussions have been held with senior Welsh Government representatives, and the governance review was viewed as an opportunity to reset the relationship between NISB and Welsh Government. Members highlighted the importance of maintaining NISB's independence, and agreement was reached for more regular engagement with senior Welsh Government officials.