MID AND WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING BOARD

Safeguarding Children & Adults

Bwrdd Diogelu Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru • Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board

NATIONAL Safeguarding Week 2026

National Safeguarding Week

9th – 13th November 2026

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

LIVED EXPERIENCE

Lived Experience is the overarching theme for National Safeguarding Week 2026 across Mid and West Wales.

The theme recognises the importance of listening to and learning from people's experiences, and of ensuring that their voices help to shape how we understand risk, respond to harm and improve safeguarding practice.

Throughout the week, our programme will explore lived experience from a range of perspectives, bringing together the voices of children and young people, adults, survivors, practitioners and partners. Events will consider how experience can deepen professional understanding, challenge assumptions and help services respond more effectively to the people and communities they support.

The programme includes learning on ***transitional safeguarding, understanding lived experience drawing on practice reviews, positive masculinity and misogyny, financial abuse, domestic abuse and safeguarding responsibilities, alongside extensive local partner activity and dedicated opportunities for children and young people to share their experiences.*** The week will also include our Regional Safeguarding Conference, with a particular focus on sexual abuse and sexual harm through a lived-experience lens.

Across the week, we invite practitioners to listen, reflect and consider one important question:

What can lived experience teach us about how we safeguard people better?

WEEK AT A GLANCE

EXPLORE EVENTS

STAY CONNECTED

Gwasanaeth Prawf Cenedlaethol National Probation Service · Cyngor Sir Gâr Carmarthenshire County Council · GIG CYMRU NHS WALES Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Hywel Dda University Health Board · Heddlu Police DYFED-POWYS · GIG CYMRU NHS WALES Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales · Powys · GIG CYMRU NHS WALES Bwrdd Iechyd Addysgu Powys Powys Teaching Health Board

MID AND WEST WALES SAFEGUARDING BOARD

Safeguarding Children & Adults

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Morning Sessions

Monday 9th	Tuesday 10th	Wednesday 11th	Thursday 12th	Friday 13th
EVENT: Transitional Safeguarding **TIME:** 9:30am-12:00pm **PRESENTERS:** Professor Michael Preston-Shoot | Dr Nathalie Hueglar | Sarah Atkinson | Emma Taylor – Hill | Wes Cunliffe	**LOCAL EVENTS DAY** Featuring partner events and activities taking place throughout National Safeguarding Week EXPLORE LOCAL EVENTS →	**EVENT:** Positive Masculinity and Challenging Misogyny **TIME:** 9:30am-11:00am **PRESENTERS:** Young People of Pembrokeshire with Leah Walker	**REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE** *Sexual Abuse & Harm* *Learning through lived experience* **Merlin Theatre** Pembrokeshire College	**EVENT:** Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS): Legal Duty to Refer **TIME:** 9:30am-10:30am **PRESENTER:** Owain Rowlands

Afternoon Sessions

Monday 9th	Tuesday 10th	Wednesday 11th	Thursday 12th	Friday 13th
EVENT: Understanding Lived Experience, Drawing on Practice Reviews and Research to Strengthen Safeguarding Practice **TIME:** 2:00pm-4:00pm **PRESENTER:** Paula McCreary	**LOCAL EVENTS DAY** PARTNER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES Learning, participation and awareness-raising activity from organisations across Mid and West Wales EXPLORE EVENTS →	**EVENT:** Financial Abuse (Adults) **TIME:** 2:00pm-4:00pm **PRESENTER:** Dr Martin Vaughan (MEWI)	**REGIONAL SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE** Continues... Keynote presentations and contributions from professional and lived experience perspectives. VIEW CONFERENCE DETAILS →	**EVENT:** Survivors Panel: Lived Experience of Domestic Abuse **TIME:** 1:30pm-3:00pm **PRESENTERS:** The Mid and West Wales Survivor Advisory Panel

EXPLORE EVENTS

Monday 9th November

9:30am – 12:00 pm

Book your place via following LINK

Closing date: Friday 30th October 2026

Transitional Safeguarding

Facilitators:

Professor Michael Preston-Shoot | Dr Nathalie Hueglar | Sarah Atkinson | Emma Taylor – Hill | Wes Cunliffe

About this session

This interactive session will explore the concept of Transitional Safeguarding and will include an overview of the key principles and will draw on learning from safeguarding reviews through a Transition lens. It will also explore some key themes that have emerger from workshops held across Welsh Regional Safeguarding Boards in 2026 and include direct input from someone with Lived Experience.

Participants will be encouraged to reflect on what enables effective multi-agency practice, where barriers remain, and how learning from safeguarding reviews can help strengthen approaches to transition across services.

Who should attend?

Relevant Social Work Practitioners and Managers (Children and Adult Services), Transition Teams, Leaving Care Services, Police Officers, Relevant Health Professionals, Probation Officers, Relevant Education Professionals, IRO's, Youth Justice Practitioners and Youth Services, Third Sector and Relevant Community Based Organisations.

2:00 - 4:00 pm

Book your place via following **LINK.**

Closing date: Friday 30th October 2026

Understanding Lived Experience, Drawing on Practice Reviews and Research to Strengthen Safeguarding Practice

Facilitator:

Paula McCreary

Session Aims:

Learn from practice reviews — explore key themes from Child and Adult Practice Reviews and consider what they highlight for safeguarding practice.
Understand lived experience — consider how a person's experiences may be expressed through words, behaviour, presentation, silence, relationships and environment.
See the whole person — use research and practice evidence to look beyond diagnosis, disability or presenting issues, and understand identity, history, strengths, wishes and context.
Work alongside people and families — consider how research and practice evidence can support conversations, relationships and shared understanding with individuals, children, families, carers and professionals.
Develop a shared picture — explore how information, analysis and reflective supervision can help identify patterns, escalation and cumulative risk.
Use research to strengthen practice — consider how research can support direct work, recording, decision-making and multi-agency planning, turning learning into more informed safeguarding practice.
Practical focus: Understanding the person's world • Meaningful lived experience • Embedding Professional Curiosity and reflective practice.

Who should attend?

Relevant Social Work Practitioners and Managers (Children and Adult Services), Police Officers, Relevant Health Professionals, Probation Officers, Fire & Rescue Officers, Third Sector and Relevant Community Based Organisations

Tuesday 10th November – Local Event and Activities

Carmarthenshire Local Authority

1. Signs and Indicators of Child Sexual Abuse

Who should attend?

Professionals working with children

Date: 11/11/26
Time: 09:00 - 10:30
Venue: Online webinar
Booking Link / Email: Carms staff via Thinqi, External staff via own L&D Team who will be sent the link

This session will introduce professionals to the Signs and Indicators Template and give an opportunity to use it in practice.

2. Speaking to Children About Sexual Abuse

Professionals

Date: 11/11/26
Time: 11:00 - 12:30
Venue: Online webinar
Booking Link / Email: Carms staff via Thinqi, External staff via own L&D Team who will be sent the link
Target Audience: Professionals

This webinar aims to help give professionals the knowledge and confidence to act, using the CSA Centre's Communicating with Children Guide.

3. Lived Experience of Domestic Abuse

Physical Empowerment CIC

Date: 10/11/26
Time: 2:30 - 4:30
Venue: Parc Dewi Sant, SA31 3HB
Booking Link / Email: Thinqi/Carms L&D web page for External applicants

A talk about lived experience and training on how to work effectively with those who have lived experience (especially of VAWDASV).

4. Mentoring a Young Person

Professionals/under 18s/ Carers

Date: 11/11/26
Time: 12:30pm-1:30pm
Venue: Online webinar
Booking Link / Email Thinqi/Carms L&D web page for External applicants

A bitesize presentation on Mentoring and being Mentored.

5. Dad's Project and Young Parents Project

All Professionals, 3rd Sector, Independent Sector

Date: 10/11/26
Time: 10:00-11:30
Presented by: Dewi Sant
Venue: Online webinar
Booking Link / Email Thinqi/Carms L&D web page.
Professionals can also contract their Local L&D Team

A short presentation on supporting Dads who have children under 16 and the Young Parents Project

Ceredigion Local Authority

09/11/26

All Ceredigion Schools will promote National Safeguarding Week through school assemblies and pastoral programmes.

School Services

10/11/26

Safeguarding Training, Child Sexual and Criminal Exploitation VR headsets.

This training explores the organised crime networks operating in the UK and how we need to be aware of these safeguarding issues that that drive wedges between parents and carers when they try to protect their children and young people.

Learning and Development

10/11/26

Ceredigion Team News- Promoting Safeguarding Week.

Article sent to all Ceredigion Staff, highlighting this event and promoting **Cysur's Corporate Safeguarding Good Practice Guide.**

People and Organisation

11/11/26

Knife Crime Awareness VR enabled

Our Knife Crime Awareness presentation uses immersive VR experiences to facilitate a meaningful understanding of young people's experiences in their communities.

Objectives:

- Explore what we know about knife crime, who carries knives and why.
- Understanding the underlying causes and risk factors associated with knife crime, as this will be crucial for any effective intervention.
- How young men are being radicalised by social media.
- Explore effective prevention strategies that can help in reducing knife crime and promoting community safety.
- Building connections with young people to support them in building emotional intelligence, self-awareness, and trust in their instincts, empowering them to navigate conflict and make safe, informed choices.
- Look at successful community initiatives that have been implemented to reduce knife crime and foster a safer environment for all.

Please email dysgu@ceredigion.gov.uk to book a space.

Learning and Development

12/11/26	**Dementia Awareness VR enabled.** This course has been designed to support and inform carers, social workers and support staff in caring for an adult with Dementia. Using Virtual Reality headsets, the session will explore the person's experience of Dementia, and its impact, as well as the implication for their care and support needs. There will also be an opportunity to consider and share good practice and reflect on contextual issues for people living in Ceredigion and in Wales.	Learning and Development
13/11/26	**The lived experience of Carers**, understanding their experiences as carers and how we can better understand the life of a child to meet their needs.	Fostering Service
14/11/26	**Voices from Care** Care experienced children will be coming together for a day of fun activities and opportunity to share their experiences of being in care through creative art and play. This will then be shared with Ceredigion Corporate Parenting Group.	CLA Activities Co-ordinator

Dyfed Powys Police

- **Llamau**
  (10:00-11:00 - Police and partner agencies)

Join the sessions HERE.
An online input to be delivered by Emma Evans (Llamau Head of Service) - external link available:

Presentation will include:

- The Llamau Missing Children Debrief and Mediation Service.
- Understanding the vulnerabilities and experiences of missing young people.
- Recognising key risk indicators and warning signs.
- Exploring how agencies can work together effectively to improve safeguarding outcomes for young people.

- **Tarian TOEX input**
  (11:00-12:00 – Police input only)

- TOEX input to be provided by DI Matthew Griffiths. Tuesday 10th November 11:00-12:00

- **Child Centred Policing and Trauma Informed Approaches**
  (11:30-13:00 - Police and partner agencies):

Join the session HERE.
An online input to be delivered by our new Trauma Informed Trainer, Tom Joyce.

The session will include:

- Awareness of Basic Trauma Informed Approaches.
- Child Centred Policing Approaches and benefits of this approach when working with children and YP.
- Video to include lived experience of YP detailing their experience of exploitation.

- **Online awareness input to be delivered regarding COM networks**
  (14:00-15:00 - Police and partner agencies)

Join the session HERE.
An online input to be delivered by our colleagues from Prevent.

The session will include:

- Introduction to Com group offending
- Victim and offender characteristics
- Indicators of potential Com group activity
- Multi- agency response and safeguarding

- **Prevent Training (Wednesday 11th November) - (10:00 – 11:30 am -Police input only)**

CTP Wales Prevent team will be running a session during National Safeguarding week. This session will provide an overview of the Prevent Programme and the process for making a Prevent referral. It will explore when referrals should be made, how they are submitted and what happens afterwards. The session will also examine the key principles of Prevent, including referral thresholds for individuals displaying a fascination with extreme violence and mass casualty attacks. A recent Prevent success story will be used to illustrate how the programme supports early intervention and safeguarding.

Throughout NSW week the Police will also be completing the following:

- Deploying Neighbourhood officers into the local communities to raise awareness around recognising and reporting the signs of exploitation, in line with OP Makesafe
- School Liaison officers deliver training / awareness inputs in local schools around lived experiences
- Vulnerability HUB DCI and DIs visiting PVP team

Hywel Dda University Health Board

1. Recovery College Session

11:00 (45 mins)

Teams' session about the implementation of the Recovery College in Hywel Dda UHB along with the Peer Support Worker role. A Recovery College is an educational model / approach to mental health wellbeing support which is accessible to everyone in the local community including mental health service-users, carers, professionals and those who have no history of mental health challenges/service use. All courses are co-produced and co-delivered between those with lived experience (known as a Peer Trainer) and a practitioner

Join the session HERE.

2. Lived Experience in relation to FGM Workshop

13:00 (45 mins)

Educate not Mutilate. Teams session/workshop – Working to end FGM through survivor-led education workshops.

Join the session HERE.

3.Lived Experience of Carers

15:00 (45 mins)

Session to be facilitated by Mandy Dean Carer Support Group - Credu Connecting Carers. She will present the stories of 2 carers and explore how we can work alongside carers. Happy for this to be opened out to external participants.

Join the session HERE.

4. Child Protection Medicals on Cilgerran Ward

Wednesday 11th November: 10:00 (30 mins)

Session to be facilitated by Sian Wilson, Hywel Dda UHB - Registered Nurse Paediatrics.

Join the session HERE.

5. The experience of being a Child Looked After (CLA) from a care leaver's perspective

Wednesday 11th November: 11:00 (45 mins)

Session to be delivered by Zach Nelmes-Palmer and Nerys-Wyn Morgan. Zach will take part in an interview-style session alongside Nerys-Wyn Morgan, Hywel Dda Lead Nurse for Children Looked After. Together, they will explore Zach's experiences as a looked-after child, reflecting on what worked well, the challenges he encountered, and what could have been done differently to improve his experience.

Join the session HERE.

Pembrokeshire Local Authority

Pembrokeshire will be hosting dedicated events for both adults and children, centred on recognising and celebrating the value of lived experience. Taking place within community venues, these events will provide opportunities for local practitioners to come together, reflect on learning, and strengthen understanding of safeguarding through the voices and experiences of those they support.

By highlighting personal experiences and promoting shared learning, the events aim to inspire positive practice and reinforce a community-wide commitment to safeguarding.

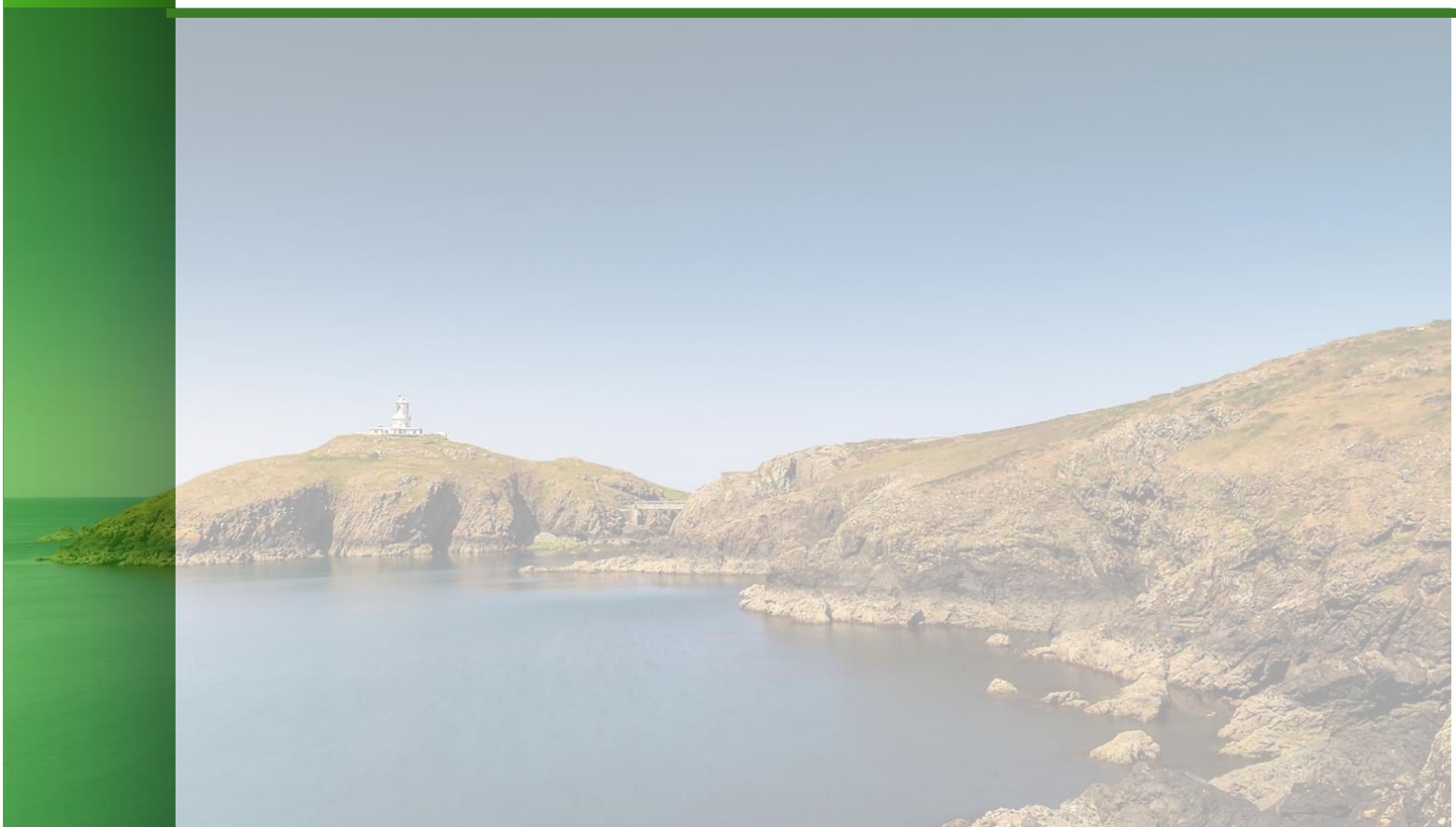
10.11.2026 Theme - Celebration of the good practice taking place across Children's Services in Pembrokeshire

The last year has involved a great deal of hard work across the service. This event is an opportunity to pause, recognise that work, share learning and celebrate the difference our collective efforts make for children, young people and families in Pembrokeshire. It is a chance to step back from the day-to-day pressures, hear about good practice, recognise the contribution of colleagues and reflect together on our progress as a service.

They are also pleased to confirm that Pene Turnell will be joining us in person from Australia, providing a valuable opportunity to reflect on our practice reset journey and the practice developing across our service. Andy Bilson, our research lead, will also be joining us to share the outcomes of his work in Pembrokeshire. His research has helped inform and shape our direction of travel over the last 12 months, and this will be an important opportunity to hear about that work and reflect on what it means for our continued development.

10.11.2026 Theme - Celebration of collaborative communication and strengths-based practice in Adult safeguarding

Content - to include a mix of facilitated table discussions of case study discussion, presentations and positive examples of where this approach has been used and how it has supported better outcomes for individuals. Open to Pembrokeshire County Council Adult Services staff only.



Powys Local Authority/ Powys Teaching Health Board

SmashLife UK - Lived Experience

Title: *The Lifelong Impact of Childhood Trauma: A Lived Experience Perspective*

Date: Tuesday 10 November 2026

Duration: 2 hours, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Session Content:

Sharing lived experience of childhood neglect, entering care, and abuse experienced from those entrusted with care. To explore the long-term impact of trauma on one's mental health, relationships, self-worth, offending behaviour, debt, substance use, and wellbeing as adults. The session will consider how childhood experiences can shape adult vulnerability, resilience, recovery and engagement with services.

Learning outcomes:

- *Understand the lifelong impact of childhood trauma and adverse experiences.*
- *Recognise how unmet needs in childhood can present in adulthood.*
- *Explore the links between safeguarding children and safeguarding adults.*
- *Consider the importance of hearing and understanding lived experience.*
- *Reflect on the role professionals play in supporting recovery and resilience.*
- *Identify how safeguarding practice can remain person-centred throughout an individual's life.*

This is a multi-agency webinar, open to the full MAWWSB region.

Join the session **HERE.**

Wednesday 11th November

9:30 – 11:00 am

Positive Masculinity and Challenging Misogyny

Facilitators:

We Know our journey (Young People of Pembrokeshire with Leah Walker)

Book your place via following LINK.

The session will explore the learning behind the development of the toolkit and how we can support practitioners working with young people to promote positive masculinity and challenge harmful gender expectations.

The session will include:

- ➢ An overview of the youth project We Know Our Journey, what we have learnt from our work with boys, including common conversations around identity, relationships, mental health, peer pressure, emotions and gender expectations.
- ➢ An introduction to the Positive Masculinity Toolkit, including its aims, themes and practical use.
- ➢ Reflection and discussion time.

Who should attend?

Relevant Social Work Practitioners and Managers (Children Services), Police Officers, Relevant Education Professionals, IRO's, Youth Justice Practitioners and Youth Services, Relevant Health Professionals, VAWDASV Domestic Violence Services, Third Sector and Relevant Community Based Organisations.

Closing date: 30th October 2026

2:00– 4:00pm

Financial Abuse (Adults)

Facilitator:

Dr Martin Vaughan (MEWI)

Book your place via following LINK.

Closing date: 30th October 2026

Session Aims:

- ➢ What is financial abuse
- ➢ Impact of financial abuse
- ➢ Who is at risk
- ➢ Mindset of perpetrators
- ➢ Aspects of financial abuse
- ➢ How to recognise financial abuse
- ➢ Links to other form of abuse
- ➢ Speaking to the victim
- ➢ Minimising the risk
- ➢ Next steps

Who should attend?

Carers, Social Workers, Managers, Police Officers, Relevant Health Professionals, Care and Nursing Home Managers, Commissioning Managers, Domiciliary Care Managers, Dementia/ Older People Specific Charities, Fire & Rescue Officers & Relevant Third Sector and Community Based Organisations.

Wednesday 11th November

Children's Events Day

Carmarthenshire:

Through the Doors Exhibition

Discover *Through the Doors*, a powerful exhibition showcasing the voices and experiences of young people in Carmarthenshire. Developed from participation work exploring barriers to school attendance, the exhibition provides a unique insight into the challenges faced by children and young people. Through creative expression, including artwork, poetry and music, young people share their stories, perspectives and ideas for change, helping to raise awareness and promote understanding across our communities.

Ceredigion:

Care-Experienced Children: Sharing Experiences Through Creativity *(Saturday 14th November)*

In Ceredigion, care-experienced children will take part in engaging activity sessions designed to help them share their thoughts, feelings and experiences in a safe and supportive environment. Using play-based and creative approaches, children and young people will have the opportunity to express their views and shape understanding of their experiences. The insights gathered will be shared with the Corporate Parenting Group to help inform future support and services for care-experienced children and young people.

Pembrokeshire:

Young Voices, Lived Experience, Listening and Taking Action: Safeguarding and White Ribbon Event

In Pembrokeshire, young people from schools and youth settings will come together for a joint Safeguarding and White Ribbon event focused on promoting positive masculinity, healthy relationships and safeguarding. Taking a leading role throughout the event, young people will present resources, share key messages and explore how learning can be embedded within their school communities. This empowering event will support meaningful discussions, encourage positive change and amplify young people's voices in creating safer, more respectful environments.

Powys:

Powys will host a diverse programme of activities during Safeguarding Week, designed to engage children and young people in creative and meaningful ways. Events will include safeguarding-themed escape rooms for schools, consultation activities with care-experienced children and young people, dedicated activity days, and a podcast featuring foster carers and young people currently in care. Through these innovative approaches, participants will have opportunities to share their experiences, build awareness of safeguarding issues, and contribute to shaping services and support. The programme reflects a strong commitment to participation and engagement across the county, despite the challenges of delivering activities within such a large geographical area.

Thursday 12th November

9:00 – 3:30 pm

Regional Conference: Learning from Lived Experience to Prevent Sexual Harm Together

Venue: Pembrokeshire College, Haverfordwest

Book your place via following LINK.

In line with this year's regional theme of Lived Experience, Pembrokeshire Local Authority will be hosting a face-to-face conference on Thursday 12th November from 9.00am to .30pm (registration 9am).

Keynote Speakers Include:

- Nici Evans, Practice Improvement Adviser Wales - CSA Centre
- Dame Jasvinder Sanghera CBE, DBE
- Elicia Curtis, Founder & Executive Director - Reign Collective
- Sophie Olson, International Speaker, Educator and Author of The Flying Child: Finding a Purposeful Life After Child Sexual Abuse
- Jan Pickles OBE, Learning Lessons From Our Bravery Brought Justice Review / Caldey Island
- Nikki Carroll-Beale, Lived Experience Ambassador - New Pathways

Closing date: ***Places to be offered on a first come, first served basis***

View Programme

BOOK ONLINE

Places to be offered on a first come, first served basis.

Back to "Week at a glance"

Friday 13th November

9:30 – 10:30 am

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS): Legal Duty to Refer

Facilitator:

Owain Rowlands, DBS Regional Outreach Adviser for Wales

This workshop will cover:

- The role of the Disclosure and Barring Service
- Recent updates for those already familiar with DBS
- Understanding DBS checks and eligibility, including workforce and level of check
- What constitutes regulated activity
- An organisation's duties and responsibilities when making referrals to the DBS
- Understanding the DBS barring process and the consequences of being placed on one or both barred lists

Who should attend?

Relevant Social Work Practitioners and Managers (Children and Adult Services), Police Officers, Relevant Health Professionals, Probation Officers, Fire & Rescue Officers, HR Officers, Third Sector and Relevant Community Based Organisations.

Book your place via following LINK.

Closing date: 30th October 2026

1:30 – 3:00 pm

Survivors Panel: Lived Experience of Domestic Abuse

Facilitators:

The Mid and West Wales Survivor Advisory Panel

About this session:

The Mid and West Wales Survivor Advisory Panel invite you to attend their Lived Experience event on Friday, 13th November, to celebrate National Safeguarding Week.

This event will bring together the panel's wealth of knowledge on a range of topics, all informed by their own lived experience of domestic abuse, in our region. We hope that you will join us, to gain unique insight into both the best practice and the challenges that exist for survivors of VAWDASV in Mid and West Wales.

Themes explored will range from controlling and coercive behaviour, sexual violence, stalking, and its impact on children, as well as intersectionality, rurality and counter allegations.

Who should attend?

Relevant Social Work Practitioners and Managers (Children and Adult Services), Police Officers, Relevant Health Professionals, Probation Officers, Fire & Rescue Officers, CP conference Chairs, Domestic Abuse Services and practitioners, Third Sector and Relevant Community Based Organisations.

Book your place via following LINK.

Closing date: 30th October 2026

Back to "Week at a glance"