



Gweithdrefnau Diogelu Cymru
Wales Safeguarding Procedures



National Safeguarding Training Standards

Have your say on the proposed draft training standards

Closing date: 17 June 2022



Gofal Cymdeithasol **Cymru**
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Other formats: This document is available in other formats if required and you can request these by using the contact details above. This document is also available in Welsh.

About the National Safeguarding Training Standards

Social Care Wales has been leading on the development of the National Safeguarding Training Standards. The standards have been co-produced by a multi-agency national development group as well as other groups focused on specific aspects of the work.

The standards were developed because there:

- were no multi-agency, national standards for safeguarding training in place
- was a lack of consistency in the design, content and provision of safeguarding training across organisations in Wales
- was confusion around the appropriate levels of safeguarding training for the workforce.

The standards will help organisations make sure:

- they incorporate the standards for practitioners into their safeguarding policies and procedures
- practitioners understand their responsibilities relevant to the group they're in and how to follow the relevant policies and procedures
- all practitioners have access to and comply with the Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

Who are the training standards for?

The training standards are relevant to everyone working in:

- local authorities
- social care
- early years and childcare
- health
- police
- education
- probation
- inspectorates

- third and independent sector organisations
- commissioned providers
- agencies or organisations that work with all the above services.

We've split the standards into six groups (A to F) that reflect the roles and responsibilities of people who may be involved in safeguarding practice.

The multi-agency National Safeguarding Standards Development Group chose the term 'groups' and agreed that the groups will be consistent with the levels noted in the roles and competencies for healthcare staff (children and adults). So Group A, for example, is equivalent to Level 1.

How to respond

If you'd like to have your say on our proposed national safeguarding training standards, you can do so by:

- completing the online survey at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/D6TKV5G
- completing this document and emailing it to consultations@socialcare.wales
- requesting a discussion with a member of the project group via the email above .

The closing date for the consultation is 11.59pm, 17 June 2022.

Thank you for taking the time to tell us what you think.

About you/your organisation

Are you responding to this consultation:

a) as an individual

If you're responding as an individual, are you:

- a person who uses care and support
- an early years and childcare worker
- a healthcare worker/manager
- a social care worker/manager
- a social worker
- a health professional – clinical
- someone who works in the prison service
- someone who works in the probation service
- someone who works in the third sector
- an educational professional
- a member of the public
- other – please describe below:

b) on behalf of an organisation or network

If you're responding as an organisation, is the organisation:

- regional safeguarding board
- central or devolved government
- a local authority
- a social care employer
- an early years employer

- a learning provider
- a health organisation
- a police service
- a probation service
- an education provider
- a third sector organisation
- network – please name below:

other – please describe below:

Organisation name or network:

Learning Disability Wales

Consultation questions

We welcome your views about the National Safeguarding Training Standards and would be grateful if you could take the time to answer the following questions:

1. Do you agree that these training standards align with the current safeguarding arrangements? (Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Wales Safeguarding Procedures)	
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comments</p> <p>We believe that these training standards can give staff a good foundation to make sure people are efficiently protected from abuse and receive appropriate support when they have experienced abuse or mistreatment.</p> <p>We are particularly pleased to see the strong focus on a person centered approach here. We know that sometimes, when people experience abuse the way that this abuse is handled by others and the type of support they receive has a significant impact on how distressing the situation is to them. Making sure that people’s own voices matter in the way situations are handled can go a long way to making things easier.</p>	

2. Do the six groups (A to F) set out in the standards represent the main roles in the safeguarding process? If anything’s missing or unnecessary, let us know in the box below.	
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comments</p> <p>We do have some concerns about the way people of all groups (especially A-C) are trained to be aware of safeguarding issues. The phrase used in the safeguarding document repeatedly is “I know what to look for” when it comes to abuse and neglect. On the Safeguarding Wales homepage there is a more detailed list on what people are being trained to look out for. We are concerned that this list on its own is not a suitable way to understand abuse and neglect. We think that even at the lower levels it would be good to give people a better understanding of what abuse and consent might look like by giving a bit more background and maybe some case studies. We would also suggest that</p>	

safeguarding should be connected to thinking about consent and enabling people to live the lives they want to live.

Looking at the guidance it also seems that the vision of safeguarding here is one in which people need to be protected from external dangers. The person or institution which is seen to be responsible for the abuse or neglect that people need to be safeguarded against is never addressed. It is important to be clear that many people in social care settings are in danger of abuse and neglect in the services they receive. We believe that the guidance should better reflect this in order to ensure that people working in the social care sector are confident to safeguard the people they work with against these dangers. We recognize that there is some mention of “whistleblowing” in the documents but we believe this should be expanded and made more concrete.

A positive part of the plan is a strong focus on understanding why people may be vulnerable to abuse. We would like to emphasize the need to include self-advocacy groups in understanding these issues. Especially when it comes to people with a learning disability, self-advocacy organizations will often be best able to talk about how people might struggle with mistreatment and how support can be given in a way that is both effective and respectful.

Please note, you are not expected to be able to answer on all groups (Q3 to 8) but please do try and answer those that are relevant to you and/or your workforce.

3. Is Group A clear and does it give enough information? If anything is missing or unnecessary, let us know in the box below.			
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments			

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4. Is Group B clear and does it give enough information? If anything is missing or unnecessary, let us know in the box below.

Yes No

Comments

5. Is Group C clear and does it give enough information? If anything is missing or unnecessary, let us know in the box below.

Yes No

Comments

6. Is Group D clear and does it give enough information? If anything is missing or unnecessary, let us know in the box below.

Yes No

Comments

7. Is Group E clear and does it give enough information? If anything is missing or unnecessary, let us know in the box below.

Yes

No

Comments

8. Is Group F clear and does it give enough information? If anything is missing or unnecessary, let us know in the box below.

Yes

No

Comments

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9. Do you recognise your own workforce or role in the group descriptions? If not, how can we make them clearer?
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Comments

10. What opportunities do organisations need to think about when embedding the standards?
Comments

11. What challenges do organisations need to think about when embedding the standards?
Comments

12. Is there anything else we should include in the standards? If so, what should it be?

Comments

13. Is child-/person-centred practice addressed sufficiently in the standards? If anything's missing or unnecessary, let us know in the box below.

Yes

No

Comments

14. What effects will our proposals have on the Welsh language, specifically on:

i) opportunities for people to use Welsh

ii) treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

How could we increase the positive effects or reduce the negative ones?

Comments

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15. Do the standards have an impact on those with protected characteristics?

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

Yes

No

Comments

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How we will use your views

Any response you send us will be seen in full by our staff and members of the national development group dealing with the issues this consultation covers. It may also be seen by other members of staff to help us plan future consultations.

We will be publishing a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish the responses in full. Normally, the name and address of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. This helps show that the consultation was carried out properly. If you do not want your name or address published, let us know in writing when you send your response. We will then blank them out.

Names or addresses we blank out might still get published later, but we do not think this would happen very often. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 allow the public to ask to see information held by many public bodies, including Social Care Wales. This includes information that has not been published.

But the law also allows us to withhold information in some circumstances. If anyone asks to see information we have withheld, we will have to decide whether to release it. If someone has asked for their name and address not to be published, that is an important fact we would take into account. There may sometimes be important reasons why we would have to reveal someone's name and address, even though they have asked for them not to be published. We would get in touch with the person and ask their views before we decided to reveal the information.