



Plismona
yng Nghymru
Policing in Wales



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

VAWDASV National Partnership Board – Minutes

Date: Thursday 18th July

Time: 14.00-16.00

Location: MS Teams

Chair: Emma Wools, South Wales PCC, on behalf of Policing in Wales

Attendees:

Name	Role	Organisation
Emma Wools (Chair)	Police and Crime Commissioner	SWPCC
Jane Hutt MS	Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	SWPCC / Policing in Wales
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Hosted by SWPCC on behalf of Welsh Government and Policing in Wales
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	SWPCC
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	North Wales Police
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Gwent Police
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Older People's Commissioner for Wales
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	New Pathways
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	North Wales Police
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	CPS
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government

[information redacted]	[information redacted]	WLGA
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Women's Aid
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Wales TUC
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	North Wales OPCC
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	BAWSO
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Age Cymru
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	HMPPS
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	HMCTS
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Safer Wales
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
[information redacted]	[information redacted]	Welsh Government

Apologies: [information redacted]

1. Welcome, Introductions, apologies, and membership.

Co-Chair Emma Wools, Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales (EW) opened the meeting by welcoming board members and noting the change in ministerial team, welcomed the return of Jane Hutt, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip (CSCSJTCW) as co-chair.

CSCSJTCW gave thanks for the introduction and congratulated EW on being the newly elected PCC for South Wales and added that given the change in UK government and their commitment to tackling VAWDASV this is an opportunity to work closely to ensure the strategy is taken forward.

Special thanks was given to [information redacted] and a suggestion that the board write to formally give thanks for the commitment to this programme.

Action 1: Provide a formal letter of thanks to DL from the board.

VAWDASV has been highlighted as one of the key priority areas that all four Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables are committed too as the new strategic priorities are set out. The UK Government pledge to halve violence against women and girls over the next 10 years provides the landscape with which to drive forward this agenda, noting the importance of partnership working.

Discussions will take place regarding the policing senior responsible officer (SRO) vacancy, with an update being provided to members in the coming weeks. The new SRO from Welsh Government is introduced as [information redacted] who has recently taken on the role of Deputy Director of Cohesive Communities. Members were provided with a brief working background and is hopeful that previous experience implementing and delivering the Well-Being and Future Generations Act will be valuable to the Blueprint Programme, highlighting the importance of prevention, collaboration, and involvement.

Special thanks given to [information redacted], [information redacted] and [information redacted] for their support and commitment in driving forward the Blueprint programme.

The board welcomes two new members, [information redacted] and [information redacted].

Apologies noted.

2. Minutes and Actions of the last meeting

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate reflection of the previous meeting.

3. VAWDASV Blueprint Programme – progress and updates

[information redacted] provided the VAWDASV Blueprint Programme update, looking at three key areas.

- Internal Audit report findings

Welsh Government has undertaken an Internal Audit of the Blueprint. This report has been circulated to board members in confidence; it was stressed that this is not for further sharing. The report indicated that there was reasonable assurance that the governance, risk management and processes are effective.

The report positively highlighted the alignment between the Programme for Government, the strategy, and the Blueprint. There were five significant recommendations and two that merited attention, with the action plan providing the next steps and dates of anticipated completion.

The report was previously presented at the VAWDASV National Programme Board with a suggestion to hold a workshop to identify and manage risks collectively.

The National Indicators recommendation was flagged as an area to explore more. There is a commitment in the Audit Action Plan to Set out a clear pathway for the VAWDASV Blueprint workstreams to identify how they help identify relevant measures to support the national Indicators.

The report does not highlight the good practice that has been achieved through this programme, particularly around survivor engagement and partnership working, and this should be recognised. Members raised budgeting and finance as an area for discussion during the workshop to ensure implementation of the Blueprint is tied in with the sustainability work being undertaken.

The communications and engagement toolkit is close to being finalised, this will outline the strategy for effective communications with stakeholders.

A key piece of work being undertaken for the next public communications campaign is the development of a research and evidence plan with a focus on gender-based harassment in all public places, as well as the three upcoming workplace harassment conferences, with the first taking place 18th September at Cardiff University, details of which will be provided in due course.

There is a new communications lead at Welsh Government that is looking at the implementation of the new communications framework and to ensure the links with the stakeholder's communications leads is robust.

- Risk register review.

Following the Internal Audit findings there is a renewed commitment to reviewing the risk management processes. The risk register will feature as a standing agenda item at board meetings to ensure a collective effort in managing risk with the forthcoming workshops addressing this.

[information redacted] offered to support the risk management workshops from a policing perspective and added that there is an opportunity to explore the issues section to horizon scan and mitigate future risks.

With the report having highlighted communications as a key area to look at, the option of sharing the key points from the internal audit with wider stakeholders and specialist services was discussed, with the suggestion of including this within the 7-Minute briefings.

Action 2: Ensure attendance of operational policing leadership at the risk workshop.

Action 3: Include finance and budgets as a thematic discussion in the risk workshop.

- Other key updates for the Blueprint

Members were informed that the workplace harassment conferences will be a collaborative approach between all social partners recognising that this is a global issue.

Members held discussion around the intergovernmental working between the Welsh and UK governments and whether there will be opportunities to link in with any planned national campaigns, reduce duplication and share what work has already been undertaken.

Action 4: CSCSJTCW to invite UK Minister to the Partnership Board to engage with this area of work. [information redacted] to draft a letter of invitation for the CSCSJTCW to issue to UK Government.

Action 5: Identify the relevant interfaces between Welsh Government and UK Government and its structures.

4. Survivor Voice Scrutiny and Involvement Panel

CSCSJTCW introduced this item explaining the importance of having the Survivor Voice Scrutiny and Involvement Panel at the heart of this programme and handed over to [information redacted] and [information redacted] to provide an update.

A panel member has offered to provide input for the workplace harassment conferences in the form of an in-person speech or recording. Panel members are also looking forward to taking part in the workstream meetings.

There have already been discussions with Home Secretary Yvette Cooper regarding the Blueprint approach and the survivor involvement, with a keen interest to explore this further.

Panel members will attend two workstreams per quarter as well as full panel meeting to discuss common areas of interest, as well as having the ability to feedback into ongoing pieces of work, such as the intersectionality toolkit and perpetrator mapping survey.

Pre-meets between panel members, co-chairs, delivery managers and policy leads have been arranged to conduct initial introductions and ensure members feel comfortable and that risks have been mitigated. Panel members sat at their first meeting yesterday for gender-based harassment in all public spaces, with members commenting that the meeting was a success and survivor input was invaluable.

An expression of interest form has been provided to panel members to complete to ensure that there is fair representation, and other survivors are able to take part in this process.

There is a suggestion of having panel members attend the board meetings, this should be reviewed after the workstream meetings have taken place to ensure an incremental approach.

5. Emerging/Contemporary Issues

[information redacted] gave thanks to the co-chairs for their active engagement in the SRO reviews as well as providing positive feedback to the Blueprint team for all the support that has been provided so far. Members were provided with an overview of the review process and a summary of the findings, looking at the five proposals for discussion.

There is a request for approval from the board to amend the frequency of Programme and Partnership Board meetings to three times per year each, this still allows adequate oversight whilst enabling work to progress in each workstream, taking a more task focussed approach to encourage member engagement to drive forward actions.

Members discussed intersectionality and the work around strengthening evidence base, with a particular mention to Welsh speaking communities and the importance of the regional teams in making those links at a local level.

Members discussed the proposal to change the frequency of meetings, with reassurance given that there would be no direct conflict or challenges between changing the frequency and actions coming out of the audit report.

Action 6: [information redacted] to ensure the change in frequency of meetings does not conflict with the internal audit findings

Decision – Change in meeting frequency agreed in principal and will be brought back in October with a final position.

6. Thematic subject – Tackling Perpetration Workstream

[information redacted]) and [information redacted] provided members with a presentation on the VAWDASV Blueprint Tackling perpetration workstream outlining the purpose, priorities, high level actions, progress and next steps.

[information redacted] delivered the findings of the Perpetration Intervention mapping survey.

[information redacted] run through the recommendations and asked members of the National Partnership Board to acknowledge and endorse the recommendations, as well as noting that further work is needed to establish resource requirements for taking the recommendations forward.

Members noted that it would be useful to understand the referral pathways and ensure deliverability by analysing providers and capacity. There is also an opportunity to link this with the Children and young People's needs and Older People's needs workstreams.

CSCSJTCW suggested a letter to the chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee to link in previous recommendations from the committee and report on the findings and next steps of the perpetration mapping survey.

Action 7: Draft a letter to the Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee to highlight the perpetrator mapping survey findings and recommendations.

Members discussed how this report will be shared and the outward messaging, ensuring that survivors are considered sensitively.

There was discussion around what the service capacity for each intervention and services is as the number of interventions don't necessarily give an opportunity to understand population reach. There needs to be an understanding of the scale of what needs to be delivered against and what is already in existence.

Action 8 – Suggestion from Co-Chair regarding service capacity of each intervention to be included in the Tackling Perpetration delivery plan when undertaking the work linked to recommendation 1.

Decision – The board agreed to the following: -

1. Endorse the findings of the report
2. Acknowledge the recommendations
3. Note further work is needed to establish resource requirements for taking the recommendations forward.

7. VAWDASV Regional Boards feedback

[information redacted] handed back to board members for any feedback on the highlight report provided to members prior to the meeting. No comments.

8. AOB and Closure

Thanks given to [information redacted], Chief Executive for South Wales PCC, for taking on the interim SRO role.

Members highlighted the risk around a diversion of money from victims' services following the King's Speech. It is important that members reinforce the importance of additional funding for VAWDASV with UK Government colleagues.

No other business noted.

Meeting closed.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS AGREED

Action Point 1	Provide a formal letter of thanks to DL from the board.	[information redacted] / CSCSJTCW
Action Point 2	Ensure attendance of operational policing leadership at the risk workshop.	[information redacted]
Action Point 3	Include finance and budgets as a thematic discussion in the risk workshop.	[information redacted]
Action Point 4	CSCSJTCW to invite UK Minister to the Partnership Board to engage with this area of work. [information redacted] to draft a letter of invitation for the CSCSJTCW to issue to UK Government.	CSCSJTCW / [information redacted]
Action Point 5	Identify the relevant interfaces between Welsh Government and UK Government and its structures.	[information redacted]
Action Point 6	[information redacted] to ensure the change in frequency of meetings does not conflict with the internal audit findings	[information redacted]
Action Point 7	Draft a letter to the Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee to	[information redacted]

	highlight the perpetrator mapping survey findings and recommendations.	
Action Point 8	Suggestion from Co-Chair regarding service capacity of each intervention to be included in the Tackling Perpetration delivery plan when undertaking the work linked to recommendation 1.	[information redacted]