

16 July 2025

Dear

Thank you for your request to Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 24 June 2025 about the National Independent Safeguarding Board Wales (NISB).

You requested the following:

1. The total number of safeguarding concerns or referrals raised between January 2020 and June 2025 by any organisation or charity commissioned or funded by NISB to deliver:
 - Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA)
 - Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA)

Broken down by:

 - Year (e.g. 2020, 2021, etc.)
 - Advocacy service type (IMHA or IMCA)
 - Setting (e.g. inpatient mental health unit, care home, community-based setting)
 - Advocacy provider name (if multiple organisations are commissioned)
2. Confirm whether NISB monitors or records safeguarding concerns raised by IMHA or IMCA services. If not, whether this is the responsibility of the commissioned provider to report externally, and how NISB assures safeguarding is being actioned.

Our Response

The Welsh Government does not hold the information requested. You can contact Regional Safeguarding Boards on following the link: [Safeguarding Wales](#) to explore the services within their regions that are commissioned and levels of referrals received.

The National Independent Safeguarding Board was set up under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. Specifically, the National Board has three primary duties. These are:

1. To provide support and advice to Safeguarding Boards with a view to ensuring that they are effective
2. To report on the adequacy and effectiveness of arrangements to safeguard children and adults in Wales
3. To make recommendations to the Welsh Ministers as to how those arrangements could be improved (S.132 (2)).

The regulations made under the 2014 Act set out the way in which the National Board must exercise its functions. An important function is the requirement to consult with those who may be affected by arrangements to safeguard children and adults in Wales.

Next Steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process

Yours sincerely,