



Bwrdd Diogelu Annibynnol
Cenedlaethol Cymru

National Independent
Safeguarding Board Wales

National Independent Safeguarding Board Meeting NISB

Meeting Minutes

Date: 10th December 2025 **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)
- Taryn Stephens (Welsh Government)

Agenda Items and Detailed Summary

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

2. Conflict of Interest Declarations: The Board discussed the annual and ongoing process for declaring conflicts of interest. Members were reminded of their responsibilities, and it was agreed to formalize the protocol and share it with the Welsh Government.

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.

Conference Feedback and Follow-Up:

The Board noted positive feedback from the annual conference, highlighting its success in uniting diverse stakeholders and fostering valuable discussion. They agreed to update the website with key speaker highlights and main themes to effectively communicate outcomes. Emphasis was placed on maintaining momentum around “lived experience” to drive ongoing improvements. A follow-up roundtable will focus on data use and integrating lived experience into future work.

The Board also discussed creating a knowledge hub to share best practices throughout Wales.

4. Recruitment and Board Member Appointment Update

It was updated that applications had been submitted and the sifting, shorting and interviews were scheduled for January 2026.

5. Communications and Website

The Contract approved a new communications strategy to improve engagement and information sharing, supported by an external contractor for expertise. At the meeting, the board discussed options for a new website provider, focusing on cost and resource alignment as the current contract ends in March. The board prioritised making the website more interactive, user-friendly, and accessible for all users. Budget limitations were acknowledged, and a strategic approach to communications and website development was agreed upon to maintain effectiveness and sustainability.

6. Thematic Review CPR

Progress updates were shared on the thematic Child Practice Review (CPR) report, scheduled for publication in January. The Board emphasised the importance of hearing the child’s voice and understanding lived experiences; and transitional safeguarding. To be considered in next year’s work plan.

7. Annual Report

The board reviewed the annual report, made further edits, and requested for this version to be sent to the Chair for final proof. The Board agreed the Annual Report was a true reflection of the board.

8. North Wales CPR

The board discussed the recent North Wales safeguarding report, Bravery Brought Justice Child Practice Review. noting themes, variable thresholds, and the importance of organisational culture. Ongoing consideration will be given to the recommendations made in the report and its impact.

9. Welsh Government Update

Welsh Government provided an update on the government's response to the Bravery, Brought Justice Child Practice Review. Discussed the ongoing governance review, its phased implementation and plans to strengthen safeguarding structures, offering board involvement and ministerial updates.

Confirmed Welsh Government is supporting maintenance of the board's budget, though final approval is pending.

10. Budget Update

The board reviewed the organisation's finances and found it is on track to break even this year, thanks to careful financial management. They considered ongoing and one-off costs, especially for website and communications projects, ensuring all expenses are included in the budget. The board will now review individual spending lines to find savings and prepare for potential budget pressures next year.

8. Regional and National Updates

Updates were provided from regional safeguarding boards, including recent meetings, training events, and thematic reviews.

The importance of multi-agency training and the challenges of workforce recruitment and retention were highlighted.

Updates were requested about the implementation of a national referral mechanisms.

11. Any Other Business

- The board confirmed the next steps for finalising and publishing the annual report.
- Arrangements for upcoming meetings and development sessions were discussed.
- The meeting concluded with seasonal best wishes.

Meeting adjourned at 16:45.