



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Making Social Services Better

Putting **part 7** of the
Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
into action



A consultation for young people

We've got good social services in Wales but the Welsh Government are making them even better.

Social services help families and individuals when they need help.

They also help children and young people:

- when they're in danger of being hurt;
- when they have family problems;
- when they have a disability;
- when they're in trouble with the law or police;
- when they're looked after in care; or
- when they aren't being looked after as they should be by their families.

A new way of doing things

In 2014 we made a new
Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act.

(An Act makes changes to the law.)

This new Act sets out everything that local authorities (councils) have to do to help people in their area.

It has 11 parts that cover everything social services do and this booklet is about part 7.

To read about the whole new Act
- click here:



Getting ready

Everyone working in social services will be changing the way they work and using this new Act from April 2016.

So we're putting together the new arrangements (steps) now so that everyone understands what the new Act means and what they need to do.

The arrangements will include:

- The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act itself
- New rules (regulations) that can be made because of the Act
- Statutory guidance for everyone who works in social services to follow
- Statutory guidance on safeguarding.

This booklet tells you about some of the new rules and the statutory guidance that we have developed for Part 7 of the Act.

We have already asked some people working in social services about these but we want to know what you think.

After this we'll send the codes and the regulations to the National Assembly for Wales for them to agree in time for everyone to start working to them from April 2016.



What is Part 7 about?

Part 7 of the Act is about keeping people safe from harm and abuse. **We call this safeguarding.**

We already have arrangements in place on how to keep children, young people and adults safe; but the new Act makes these stronger and brings in new ways to help adults who are at risk.

There are five areas we'd like to look at in this part of the Act:

Safeguarding

- keeping children and young people safe.

Safeguarding for adults

- keeping them safe.

Adult protection and support orders

- stepping in when needed.

Safeguarding boards

- working together to keep people safe.

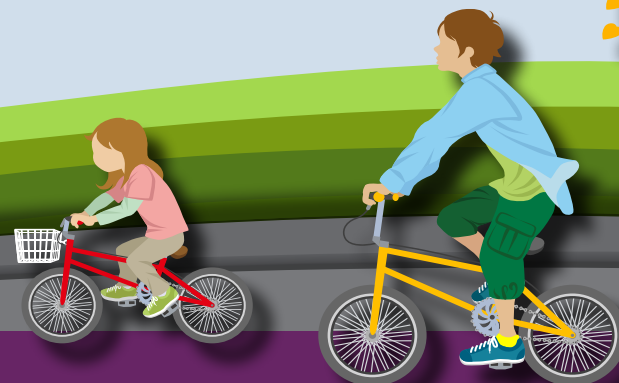
National Independent Safeguarding Board

- providing advice to make Wales safer.

Safeguarding — keeping children and young people safe.

The new Act means that everyone who works with children and young people have to tell someone (report) if they think a child or young person is at risk of harm.

The statutory guidance will make sure everyone in local authorities, health, schools and other places know who to speak to when they are worried that a child isn't safe.



Safeguarding for adults

— keeping them safe.

The Act means everyone working with adults also have to report to the Safeguarding Boards if they think an adult is at risk of harm.

This will happen in the same way as children and young people.

Information can be shared from one local authority to another to make sure adults are kept safe.

Adult protection and support orders

— stepping in when needed.

The Act gives a new legal power that means that professionals can get an 'adult protection and support order' to enter someone's home or other place if they think the adult living there is at risk of harm and needs support.

Safeguarding boards

— working together to keep people safe.

The Act means that we can set up new safeguarding boards. These will be made up of professionals and will replace the safeguarding boards that are in each local authority now.

There will be six new Safeguarding Children Boards, and six Safeguarding Adult Boards that will work across local authorities in Wales.

The statutory guidance will set out how they'll meet their outcomes and be funded.



National Independent Safeguarding Board

— providing advice to make Wales safer.

There will be a new National Independent Safeguarding Board set up for Wales.

This National Board will be appointed by Welsh Ministers and will give advice and support to the safeguarding children's boards and adult's boards.

They will share information with Welsh Ministers so they can see what they need to do to make safeguarding social services even better in the future.

Thanks for reading this.

Please fill in the questions below and send your answers to:

sswbimplementation@wales.gsi.gov.uk

or:

Sustainable Social Services Implementation Branch
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

by 2 February 2015



Questions:

Do you think the new rules and the statutory guidance that we have developed for Part 7 of the Act are a good idea?

Yes

No

Don't know

Do you think we have left anything important out when making these plans?

Yes

No

Don't know

Comment:

Comment:

