



# SAFEGUARDING BOARD ISLE OF MAN

# Newsletter



## Chair’s Introduction

As the Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Board, it is my pleasure to introduce the Board’s first newsletter. I would encourage you all to access the newsletters, which will be produced quarterly, and will include up-to-date information on local and national learning from reviews, key updates for professionals, the latest training on offer and other useful information.

The Isle of Man Safeguarding Board is the first statutory joint Safeguarding Board in the British Isles. The Safeguarding Act 2018 is the overarching legislation which governs what we do and sets out in statute who our statutory board members are. Membership of the Board is set out below:

- The CEO of the Department of Education, Sports and Culture
- The CEO of the Department of Health and Social Care
- The CEO of the Department of Home Affairs
- The Chief Constable
- The Director of Public Health
- Three independent members.

The CEO of Manx Care, the Head of Safeguarding, Health Services, the Executive Director of Social Care, Mental Health and Safeguarding are co-opted members of the Board.

As a statutory Safeguarding Board our key business is the assurance of multi-agency safeguarding practice, to ensure it is effective and protecting children and young people and vulnerable adults from abuse and harm. The Board also co-ordinates and provides support to agencies at a strategic level, to deliver key pieces of work to improve the safeguarding of IOM citizens. We aim to have a culture of high support but high challenge in all of our work.

I was appointed in April 2021 during the COVID Pandemic and despite the challenges this brought, there has been significant work undertaken to improve safeguarding practice. None of this would have been possible without the commitment of all the partner agencies and sectors in the Isle of Man to Safeguarding, and I would like to give my sincere thanks and gratitude on behalf of the Board for your passion and hard work.

*Lesley Walker*

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### Special points of interest

- Are you confident on when you can share information?
- Do you fancy becoming a pool trainer for the Board?
- The Board is on Facebook, have you liked our page?

## Board's Achievements 2022-23



A new website has been launched which contains a wealth of information and is updated regularly. It can be found at [www.safeguardingboard.im](http://www.safeguardingboard.im). As well as this we have launched our own [Facebook](#) page.

The Board's suite of [multi-agency policies and procedures](#) have been reviewed and revised. A new fully functioning procedures manual is in the process of being compiled. When this has been completed we will be coming out to professionals, showing them how to use it and where to access it.

The Board have developed a protocol, guidance and tools to improve information sharing (See the section on information sharing. We have produced a joint [Managing Allegations against Persons Working with Children and Vulnerable Adults](#) (MASM) policy. Christine Impey, our new Director of Multi-Agency Safeguarding has been tasked with ensuring agencies are aware of this

and how to find it.

In September 2022 we launched a [Vulnerable Adolescent Strategy](#) and [working protocols](#).

We have agreed a Quality Assurance and Scrutiny Framework and held our first scrutiny event. An article about scrutiny will appear in the next newsletter. We have also undertaken an Organisational Standards Audit (similar to the Section 11 Audit which is undertaken in the UK). This is a self-audit tool, which each agency completes and is reported to Board as to where agencies have marked themselves. The next stage is to compile an action plan for each agency so that they can work on improving their ratings against each standard.

We have revised the terms of references for all of our sub-groups as well as reviewing and updating our training offer as well as refreshing both the [children's competency framework](#) and the [adults' competency framework](#). As part of the work undertaken by the two Quality, Training and Development Groups we have also compiled a comprehensive dataset. Our two sub-groups have also developed their own workplans which are closely aligned to the Board's priorities.

Other achievements can be found as articles throughout this newsletter.

### Vulnerable Adolescents launch

On 22 September 2022, the Isle of Man Safeguarding Board launched its vulnerable adolescent strategy. This came about following the Serious Case Management Review about Child J.

Over 100 front-line practitioners attended the event which saw key-note speakers such as Julie Gibney, Assistant Director of Children and Families, the Police Protection Unit, Michele Mountjoy, Assistant Director Adult Social Work as well as a session on information sharing.

[The Strategy, an assessment tool as well as the SAFEGUARD mnemonic were launched](#). All of these can be found on our website with a copy of the slides from the day.

### Learning from Reviews

In the Isle of Man we commission Serious Case Management Reviews which are known as Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews or Safeguarding Adult Reviews in the UK.

Since April 2021 we have published the following reviews:

Child J—Child J lived a complicated, chaotic and emotionally complex life and had been the subject of child safeguarding procedures periodically for over six years starting when they were seven. They were subject to the emotional impact of their father's criminal conviction, domestic abuse, family dynamics, extended private law proceedings and poor engagement with services trying to help them and their family. Child J became involved in drugs and other criminality, was criminally exploited and had dangerous criminal associations. Child J was deemed as "beyond parental control", was regularly missing from home and was becoming increasingly more violent. Matters came to a head when they overdosed and were admitted to hospital and transferred to Intensive Care. As they recovered, they assaulted care staff and police officers and subsequently were remanded into the care of the department and subsequently in a secure unit.

Family K—This concerns the homicide of Mrs K and a serious assault to her husband Mr K by their son Mark. Mark was mentally unwell at the time of the incidents. He was convicted for manslaughter of his mother, and the attempted murder of his father. Mark is now detained in secure psychiatric care through a Hospital Order imposed by the Court. The review found that the death could neither have been predicted or prevented.

Thematic Review on Self-Neglect—This review concerns the lives of seven people who all died in circumstance of self-neglect. Each person's death was in sad circumstances, not all those people were known to services in the Isle of Man. The Board wanted to understand how effectively services and communities in the Isle of Man work together to support people who may be self-neglecting and use that learning to make improvements. The outcome of this review has led to the new Self Neglect Development Strategy and we are currently finalising the new working procedure and guidance.

We also review key cases being published by the National Review Panel in the UK and implement appropriate learning on the Isle of Man.

You can see all learning from [our reviews](#) on our website, as well as lessons [learned from cases in other jurisdictions](#)



*Training in action*

## Training

The Safeguarding Board appointed a new training officer at the end of October 2022. Since that time we have put on 20 courses with over 500 places being made available to front-line practitioners across all the agencies as well as staff from third-sector organisations, nursery and nursing home staff.

Our training courses are delivered either by external subject matter experts or by our own pool of trainers, selected from our front-line practitioners where they have a specific interest in the topic or they run single agency training on that topic.

We have delivered the following training:

- Externally provided Adults Safeguarding levels two and three;
- Child Exploitation;
- Domestic Abuse; and
- Self-Neglect awareness;
- Pool trainer delivered Core groups and conferences;
- Designated Safeguarding Lead;
- Safeguarding Babies;
- Threshold training ;and
- Safeguarding Children Training.

Our training offer aligns to our competency frameworks which have been reviewed and updated. If you're unsure about what training is applicable to you in your role we encourage you to review the competency framework in the first place. Both the [children's competency framework](#) and the [adults' competency framework](#) can be found on our website as well as an up to date training catalogue.

Do you think you could deliver a course for us? We are always looking for trainers to be added to our pool. If you think you have what it takes, contact Sharon on [Safeguardingboard.co@gov.im](mailto:Safeguardingboard.co@gov.im) in the first instance to find out what it would entail. Sharon will be able to talk you through what we need, what the commitment is and what you need to do to join our pool.

If you wish to apply to attend any of our courses, please contact Sharon on [safeguarding-board.co@gov.im](mailto:safeguarding-board.co@gov.im) and she will send you an application form. All applications have to be approved by your line manager.

Also don't forget you can access our e-learning for our Level 1 Safeguarding courses. Again, if you need access, please contact Sharon at [safeguardingboard.co@gov.im](mailto:safeguardingboard.co@gov.im) for further information.

## Upcoming Training Opportunities

At the time of publication we have spaces available on the following courses:

**Core Groups and Conferences**—This is a Level 3 course aimed at practitioners working with other agencies as part of children protection conferences and core groups as part of their role.

**Child Sexual Abuse (disclosures)** — (Levels 3 and 4) This course is aimed exclusively to key professionals who may hear about or need to respond to a disclosure.

**How to Work with Hard to Engage Families**—This is a Level 3 and 4 course aimed at front line practitioners and their managers who work with families whose engagement is mandatory or recommended as part of a safeguarding plan.

**Domestic Abuse**—This is a Level 3 and 4 course aimed at professionals whose role it is to respond to referrals, carry out risk assessments and contribute to safety planning for children and/or vulnerable adults, who are impacted by domestic abuse. The course will also introduce use of the Domestic Abuse, Stalking, Harassment and Honour-Based Violence (DASH) tool and how to use it.

**Child Exploitation**—This is a Level 3 and 4 course aimed at staff who work predominantly with young people and/or their parents/ carers who could potentially contribute to assessing, planning and reviewing the needs of a child where there are contextual safeguarding concerns.

**Safeguarding Children Awareness**— This is a Level 2 course aimed at all staff who regularly work with children and young people and may be in a position to identify concerns.

## Website/ Social Media

The website was launched late spring 2022 and continues to evolve as we publish reviews, produce seven minute briefings, update our policies and procedures and publish strategies.

The next step is for a professional's zone on the website, which will require a log-on. Your agency representative on AIP (the Action and Implementation Panel) will be in contact with you in due course to show you how to log on.

In September 2022 the Board also agreed to launch a Facebook page and there are plans to introduce a twitter feed.

The website can be found at [www.safeguardingboard.im](http://www.safeguardingboard.im)

The Facebook page is : [Isle of Man Safeguarding Board](https://www.facebook.com/IsleofManSafeguardingBoard)

On the Facebook page you will find an up to date list of what training is available as well as information helpful to parents, carers, professionals and children.

Should you have anything you think is pertinent for either Facebook or for the website please contact the Board's Business Team on [safeguardingboard.co@gov.im](mailto:safeguardingboard.co@gov.im)



## Domestic Abuse

Early in January 2023, here in the Isle of Man, a new [Domestic Abuse Act](#) came into force. The Domestic Abuse Act 2020 makes fresh provision around domestic abuse.

It has brought into force Domestic Abuse Protection Notices (DAPNs) and Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DAPOs). Since the legislation has come in there have been 5 DAPNs issued (2 of which have been issued to the same person) and 3 DAPOs. Each of the 3 DAPOs applied for has



been successful and the Court has agreed with the suggested length of each being 3 months, 3 months and 6 months respectively. One DAPO has been breached with the offender fined £600.

There have been other opportunities to issue DAPNs however the subject has been charged with offences so the offender then becomes subject to



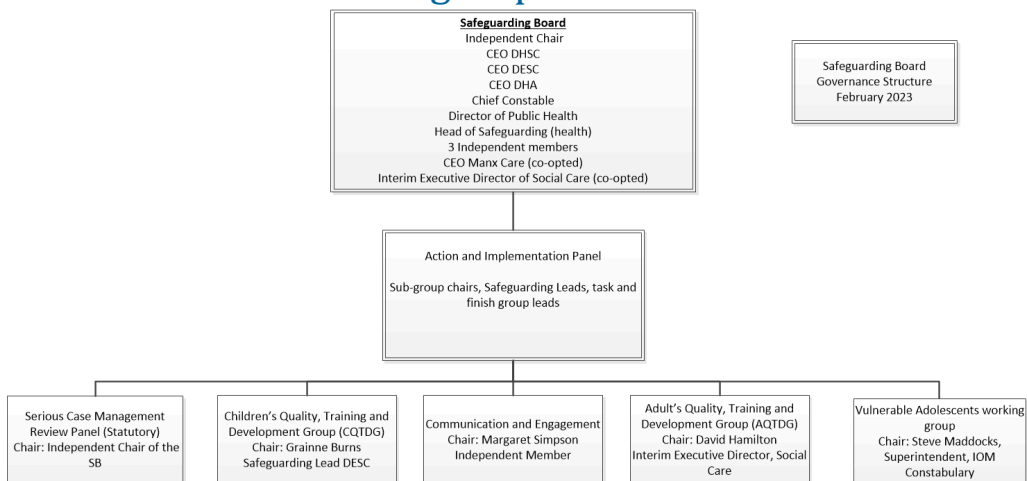
bail conditions which negates the need for a DAPN.

## Independent Members

The [Safeguarding Act 2018](#) makes provision for no less than 3 and no more than 5 Independent members of the Board. The term is for five years and the current independent members' term of office is due to expire on 31 December 2023.

We will be going out to advert for these posts later in the year. We will be looking specifically for one of the independent members to be a representative of the Third Sector. Is this something that would interest you? For further information please contact [safeguardingboard.co@gov.im](mailto:safeguardingboard.co@gov.im) and speak to either Christine Impey, Director of Multi-Agency Safeguarding or Clare Daugherty, Business Manager for the Safeguarding Board.

## The Board and its sub-groups





# Information Sharing

Sharing information is an intrinsic part when working with children, young people or vulnerable adults at risk of abuse or neglect. Sharing information can make the difference in making sure that someone gets the right help at the right time and can prevent the escalation of needs into abuse or neglect. The risk of sharing information is often misunderstood. All those working with children, families and vulnerable adults must understand the risks of not sharing information. However, the most important consideration is whether sharing information is likely to support the safeguarding and protection of children, families and vulnerable adults at risk of abuse or neglect.

We have produced [an information sharing guidance](#), [an information sharing protocol](#) which all the CEOs from our partner agencies have signed up to, [a myth busting leaflet](#) and [a video](#), all of which advise professionals how and when they can share information.

We have found in all of our recent Serious Case Management Reviews, there have been issues around ineffective information sharing. If you are still unclear when you can share information, please seek advice from your Line Manager or Designated Safeguarding Lead.



*Information sharing is critical to protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse and harm!*

## About the Team

One of the achievements of the Board since its inception has been the creation of a Business Team. The Team is led by Christine Impey, the newly appointed Director of Multi-Agency Safeguarding. Christine comes with an extensive background in children safeguarding spanning practitioner through to strategic lead, across a number of local authorities in UK, CAFCASS and NSPCC. She has been responsible for Safeguarding Boards in three counties since 2015 which has extended her multi – agency working experience, and she thoroughly enjoys partnership working.

She joined the Isle of Man Safeguarding Board in April 2022 in the interim position as the Director of Multi- Agency Safeguarding and has been fortunate to be appointed to the permanent position in April this year.

Clare Daugherty is the Board’s Business Manager. She has been employed by the Board since April 2019. Previously she has worked in the DHSC and prior to that spent 10 years working in the Clerk of Tynwald’s Office. Clare’s responsibilities include minuting the statutory meetings of the Board, ensuring invoices are paid promptly and basically ensuring the efficient running of the day to day operations of the Board. She is the technical person within the office and is responsible for ensuring the website and Facebook are kept up to date.

Sharon Willetts is the newly appointed training officer. Her background is in social work, specifically family placement services. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge from Hertfordshire County Council and more latterly here in the Isle of Man. Sharon’s key re-

sponsibilities are researching appropriate courses, ensuring they align with both the competency frameworks and the business priorities, providing help and support for those wishing to undertake the e-learning, reviewing and updating course material to ensure it stays up to date and relevant, supporting the training pool and ensuring learning is disseminated via various medium.

There is a vacant administrator position currently, which we will hopefully be going out to advert for shortly.



## What to do if you have a safeguarding concern

What to do if you are aware of something that worries you.

If there is an imminent risk to life then call 999.



If you are a child or young person and are concerned that yourself or a friend may be being abused, there is advice available on our [website](#). There is always someone to talk to and you can contact either of the numbers below and speak to a trained professional about your concerns.

If you work for or volunteer with an organisation and you are concerned about the safeguarding or protection of a child, you must inform your line manager or the safeguarding officer/lead in your organisation - and you should record that you have shared this with them.

If you are a member of the public then it is your duty to report it directly to Children and Families Division or the Police.

'Doing nothing is not an option.'

Contact details for concerns about children are as follows:

(01624) 686179 (Initial Response Team, Manx Care) during office hours

(01624) 631212 (Isle of Man Police Headquarters) out of office hours and ask to speak to the on-call social worker.

In an emergency always call the police on 999.

Alternatively you can email: [dutyinitialresponseteam.dhsc@gov.im](mailto:dutyinitialresponseteam.dhsc@gov.im) This email address is monitored by Children and Families Division (Social Care) during office hours only.



If you work for or volunteer with an organisation and you are concerned about the safeguarding of a vulnerable adult it is your responsibility to inform your line manager or the safeguarding officer in your organisation - 'doing nothing is not an option' and you should record that you have shared this with them.

If you are a member of the public then it is your duty to report it directly to the Adult Safeguarding Team (Manx Care) or the Police.

Contact details for concerns about an adult are as follows:

lows:

(01624) 685969 during office hours

(01624) 650000 (Nobles Switchboard) out of office hours and ask to speak to the on-call social worker

Alternatively you can email to: [ASTeam@gov.im](mailto:ASTeam@gov.im)

This email address is monitored by the Adult Safeguarding Team in Manx Care during office hours.

If you need to contact the Safeguarding Board, the easiest way is to email:

[Safeguardingboard.co@gov.im](mailto:Safeguardingboard.co@gov.im)

This is not monitored outside of office hours and is not to be used to report specific safeguarding concerns.



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