

Welcome to the November edition of the Single Unified Safeguarding Review Bulletin.

Last week we held the second SUSR
Dissemination Event in the All Nations
Centre in Cardiff. We heard from excellent
speakers on really important topics and this
month's Bulletin will focus on the event; the
conversations that took place, the learning
that was shared and some interesting
resources that were referenced during the
day that can help us strengthen our
collective safeguarding response.

Agenda

The Minister for Children and Social Care, Dawn Bowden, opened the event and stressed the importance of ensuring that learning and recommendations from SUSRs are disseminated across Wales and embedded into practice. The agenda was then as follows:

- Professor Amanda Robinson: Analysing Recommendations in the WSR
- Ceri Fowler: Learning from Domestic Abuse Related Suicides
- Professor Khatidja Chantler Learning from Adult Family Homicide Reviews
- Julian Hendy: Learning from Mental Health Homicides in Wales
- · Afternoon Breakout Sessions
- Kirsty McDowell and Sue Hurley: Learning from the Cwm Taf Offensive Weapons Homicide Review

MONTHLY BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 25

Wales Safeguarding Repository

Professor Robinson presented on an analysis of recommendations in the WSR, highlighting which types of recommendations were most likely to be made for different agencies. It was interesting to note that the agency that had the most recommendations made was, in fact, 'no agency specified' - food for thought for those making SUSR recommendations. Professor Robinson also mentioned recent research on best practice identified within reviews contained in the WSR.

Offensive Weapons Homicide Review

Kirsty McDowell and Sue Hurley shared the practice and process learning from the Cwm Taf Morgannwg OWHR. It was good to hear directly from them about their experiences as Reviewer and Chair on this complex review. This report, and the other OWHRs published by the Home Office so far, can be accessed here.

Suicide and Self Harm Prevention

Ceri Fowler, Suicide and Self Harm Prevention Lead, NHS Wales, presented on the links between domestic abuse and suicide, risk indicators and practice implications, and recommendations as to how Wales might address the issue. A Suicide Awareness emodule with universal access is available here. Ceri also shared links to resources from the National Conference on Suicide Prevention and Self Harm 2025 and the 2025/2026 Webinar Series, both of which contain a wealth of information in relation to the links between domestic abuse and suicide, and suicide and self harm prevention more generally.

Adult Family Homicides

Professor Chantler discussed the findings from the HALT - Homicide Abuse Learning Together -Project, which included analysis of 302 DHRs, of which 66 related to adult family homicides. Professor Chantler outlined the differences between this type of homicide and intimate partner homicides, including victim and perpetrator profiles, and shared some key messages such as the requirement to 'think family' in these contexts, the need to expand professionals' awareness of domestic abuse to include adult family abuse, and the frequently noted care dynamics identified in the DHRs considered for this research. A number of HALT resources, including a briefing paper on adult family homicides, can be accessed here.

We want to hear from you!

Please share any good practice identified as part of a SUSR with the Co-ordination Hub at SUSRWales@gov.wales

Feedback

Overall, how would you rate the event?

Excellent - 87%
Good - 13%

Would you attend this event again in the future?

Yes - 100%

How satisfied were you with the speakers/presentations?

Very satisfied - 90% Satisfied - 10%

'A really powerful day. Thank you'

'I learn every time I attend these events - invaluable'

'Really coherent purpose and group of speakers'

'What an absolutely wonderful event. Really well organised I can't praise this event enough'

Mental Health Homicides

Julian Hendy, whose father was murdered by a person known to mental health services in 2007, presented on findings from mental health homicides in Wales and the important role families can and should have in all types of review or investigation. Julian asked us to consider - is 'learning' a verb or a noun? A good discussion point for team meetings perhaps... More information on Hundred Families, the charity Julian set up in response to his father's death and the challenges he and his family experienced in obtaining information, can be accessed here.