Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter

Welcome to the Spring 2026 addition of the Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) Newsletter. We hope you find this newsletter useful and we welcome any feedback which you can send to us by emailing

wsab@wigan.gov.uk

What'sUp Champions Update

Our recent session was full of great energy and collaboration. Here's a quick look at the highlights:

- Welcoming New Champions: We were pleased to introduce our newest What's Up Champions to the group.
- Assistive Technology Presentation: A colleague from the Assistive Technology Team joined us to showcase the range of tools available to support daily activities.
- Role Refresh: We took time to revisit and strengthen our understanding of the What's Up Champion role.
- Sharing Best Practice: The group explored a new method for gathering and sharing real-life examples of the What's Up role in action.
- Celebrating Success**:** To mark the recent CQC 'outstanding' outcome and the Champions' recognition in the report, we rounded off the session with a lively sing and dance to *"Celebrate Good Times (Come On!)"*.

Pride of Adult Safeguarding Awards: A Night of Celebration

In January, partners from across the borough joined Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board Business Unit to celebrate the first ever Pride of Adult Safeguarding Awards. The event recognised the dedication, compassion, and teamwork shown by professionals, volunteers, and communities, guided by our principles of Progress with Unity.

The awards were co-designed with the What's Up Champions, residents who use services and help shape improvements. They selected the winner of each category and three Champions attended the awards evening.

A huge thank you to our presenters, special guest Steve Hampson, and entertainers including One Vision, More Than Words, The Maloney Duo and more. Congratulations to all the winners and runners up.

Attendees said their favourite moments were the fantastic local performances and seeing the smiles on the young peoples faces.

Carers HUB— Learning and Support

The Hub in partnership with Wigan Later Life and Memory Service offer education and support sessions for carers of people living with dementia. **The sessions take place on the second Wednesday of every month from 1-3pm.**

Address: The Hub CIC, 30 E Bond St, Leigh, WN7 1BP (in little rainbows 2 day nursey) Free Parking.

If you work with someone who feels they are unable to leave the person they care for, The HUB can support up to three people living with dementia whilst they attend the education and support session.

Contact Zoe at The HUB to book a place on 01942 673327

For more information: Drop into a session, email LLAMS.Carersinfo@gmmh.nhs.uk or call Cassie on 01942 764462

An Afternoon with Wigan and Leigh Hospice

Wigan & Leigh Hospice are inviting colleagues to join them for an afternoon dedicated to learning more about Hospice care.

The informal sessions offer the chance to hear directly from the hospice team about the specialist care they provide to patients and their loved ones. Attendees will also have the opportunity to share experiences, and strengthen local working relationships.

Each event includes a guided tour of the hospice building and grounds, offering a closer look at the facilities and the compassionate environment created for those accessing hospice care.

Available dates (2pm – 4pm)

- **10th June 2026**
- **16th September 2026**
- **18th November 2026**

Location:

Wigan & Leigh Hospice
Kildare Street
Hindley
WN2 3HZ

Spaces are limited. To secure your place, please email **PDT@wlh.org.uk** or call **01942 525566** for further information.

Cuckooing Guidance

Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board and the Community Safety Partnership have developed guidance to raise awareness of cuckooing and provide a framework for agencies when dealing with cases. The guidance promotes a consistent approach and ensures an effective multi-agency response that supports victims, while taking action to prevent, disrupt and reduce cuckooing in the borough.

You can access the guidance via the WSAB website here: Cuckooing Guidance

WSAB Development Day

In March, WSAB hosted a development afternoon that brought together a wide range of partner agencies to reflect on our shared priorities, collective learning, and achievements.

Together, we reviewed the past 12 months, considered our current position, and began shaping our plans for the year ahead.

The afternoon covered:

⇒ Celebrating the success of the Pride of Adult Safeguarding Awards

⇒ Progress on actions arising from our learning reviews

⇒ Reflections on Board and subgroup activity

⇒ Embedding our values and behaviours—linked to Progress with Unity—across organisations

⇒ Key cross-cutting themes from our self-assessment

⇒ Reviewing our strategy and strategic objectives

A particular highlight was hearing from two of our What's Up Champions, whose lived-experience insights brought powerful context and meaning to the discussions.

It was a productive and inspiring session, marked by collaboration, shared learning, and a united commitment to strengthening adult safeguarding across Wigan. The outcomes from the afternoon provide a strong foundation for the year ahead.

Spotlight on Wigan Adult Social Care Safeguarding Team

There have been several positive developments within the Adult Social Care Safeguarding Team over the past year. In 2025, the Prevention Hub Keyworkers and Complex Dependency Team Keyworkers officially joined the safeguarding team. Most recently, on the 12th January 2026, the safeguarding team further expanded its workforce.

This change came from feedback and learning from audits, alongside a successful pilot between the Safeguarding Team and the Prevention Hub. The Pilot highlighted positive outcomes for people not meeting the safeguarding criteria under section 42 of The Care Act but who needed some quick and positive crisis management.

The safeguarding team is responsible for all the safeguarding alerts that come into adult social care and throughout the safeguarding process if the resident is not currently open to adult social care. With the team now continuing with the safeguarding process the aim is to provide more timely interventions, reduce risks and continuity for residents.

The work of the Prevention Hub and Complex Dependency Team keyworkers ensures that residents who would benefit from early intervention are assigned a keyworker who can support them short term or longer term to reduce any escalating risks. Through the new team and integrated approach the service aims to support residents through statutory and non statutory approaches under safeguarding.

The team also includes Belongings Support Lead roles, delivering valued work on hoarding.

The team consists of:

A Locality Manager for safeguarding

Advanced Practitioners

An Operational Manager for the Prevention Hub

An Operational Manager for the Complex Dependency Team

Social Workers

Prevention Hub Keyworkers

Complex Dependency Team Keyworkers

Belongings Support Leads

Specialist Support Officers.

Sexual Violence Recovery Toolkit Programme

The Sexual Violence Recovery Toolkit (SVRT) is a structured, trauma- informed programme designed to support women who have experienced sexual violence. It is an evidence-based programme that supports clients to be the expert, and at the centre of their own recovery.

The 12-week group programme uses a trauma-informed and a psycho-educational approach to enable clients to move forward from the trauma of experiencing sexual violence. It supports participants to develop positive lifestyle coping strategies and restore a sense of safety.

The maximum group size is 10 people.

If you are a professional and are working with an individual who you think may benefit from this programme, you can contact Jessica Daley for further information.

Email address: j.daley@wigan.gov.uk

How Wigan is Leading the Way in Prevention, Partnership and Co-production for Safeguarding

Wigan's recent Outstanding CQC assessment highlights what many already know: the borough is delivering some of the most innovative, person-centred safeguarding and wellbeing practice in the country. With a clear strategic commitment to prevention. Wigan has embedded early intervention across all services — from the multi-agency Prevention Hub and award winning "Eyes and Ears" programme to technology enabled support and rapid screening at the Community Adult Front Door. These approaches are ensuring risks are identified earlier and that support is timely, holistic and rooted in strong partnership working.

The CQC report repeatedly emphasises Wigan's "exceptionally mature partnership working". Safeguarding is seen as a shared responsibility, with partners aligned around common priorities and supported by strong governance, joint training, and shared data.

A defining feature of Wigan's approach is genuine co-production. The What'sUp Champions are an example of this, made up of people with lived experience, the champions act as "the eyes and ears" across communities and services. Their insight strengthens safeguarding by building trust, improving practice and ensuring people feel confident speaking up. The CQC report highlights multiple examples where champions directly prevented harm, improved wellbeing, or changed organisational practice — from helping a peer disclose a scam to improving resident meetings, and ensuring police, fire and domestic abuse services attend forums to build trust and positive relationships.