Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter

Welcome to the Winter 2026 addition of the Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) Newsletter and a Happy New Year from WSAB. 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

The What'sUp Champion project continues to grow. In November we held our last What'sUp Champion Network Meeting of the year.

What did we get up to?

- Welcomed 8 new Champions
- The Champions voted for the winners of the Pride of Adult Safeguarding Awards.
- The Champions participated in a sing and dance to 'We are the Champions' by Queen.

Safeguarding Adults Week 2025 : A Look Back

In November 2025 we marked **Safeguarding Adults Week** with an incredible programme of learning and collaboration across Wigan.

Over the course of the week, Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board with support from partners, hosted **12 learning events** covering a wide range of safeguarding topics. Highlights included:

- **Prevention Hub Team** – Insight into their vital work, how professionals can make referrals, and real-life examples of support for vulnerable adults.
- **Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service** – Sharing fire safety resources and information on Home Fire Safety Assessments for professionals and vulnerable adults.
- **With You Drug and Alcohol Service** – Exploring the support available for those affected by alcohol and substance misuse.

Additional sessions included **How to Make a Good Safeguarding Referral**, **Safer Employment**, **Eyes and Ears Safeguarding Training**, **Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA) Awareness**, and more.

We're proud to share that over **500 colleagues from across the partnership** engaged with these events, demonstrating a strong commitment to safeguarding in Wigan.

Beyond the sessions, we also **connected with other Safeguarding Adults Boards, partners, and the Ann Craft Trust via social media**, helping to raise awareness of safeguarding issues and share key messages throughout the week.

A huge thank you to all our partners, presenters, and everyone who joined us. Your support and expertise strengthen our collective efforts to protect and empower vulnerable adults.

For those of you that haven't already completed the feedback form. We would really appreciate your feedback.

Safeguarding Adults Week Feedback – Fill in form

Section 42 Training

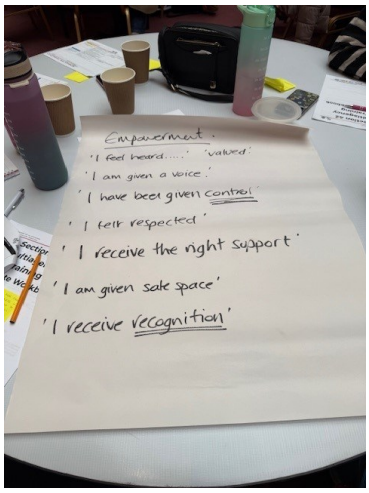
We're excited to share that the Section 42 training is now being delivered, with dates scheduled right through to September 2026. The first two sessions have been well received by staff, and we're delighted with the strong engagement from colleagues across the partnership.

This training is a fantastic opportunity to embed good practice and strengthen understanding of the Section 42 process across all teams.

Current availability:

- Sessions are filling up quickly, but there is availability from May onwards.
- You can view all scheduled dates here and book your place by emailing wsab@wigan.gov.uk

Don't miss out—secure your spot and join us in building consistent, high-quality safeguarding practice across the partnership.



Safe Employment Training & Resources

As part of our commitment to working together with our communities, helping people live safer, happier lives and in response to the learning from a local Safeguarding Adult Review SAR Una the WSAB Business Unit have developed the Safe Employment Training.

This is a great opportunity to find out more about applying a safeguarding mindset to every part of the employment journey. We want organisations to be curious about their own organisational culture and their approach to employment, in order to fulfil their responsibilities to keep everyone safe.

We have also developed a number of resources which can be used by recruiting managers, employers, community groups and voluntary organisations. Including reference templates, a safe employment checklist and Value Based Interview Questions. You can find out more here.

To ensure this learning is accessible for everyone we offer the training either as a full day, face to face session or as a virtual bitesize session. You can book your place here.

Mental Wellbeing and Education Training Offer

The Mental Wellbeing Education & Training offer is a free resource available to voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise (VCFSE) organisations, partner organisations across Wigan, and anyone supporting others in the community.

The aim is to strengthen community capacity by equipping individuals with the knowledge and confidence to support others experiencing poor mental wellbeing. This involves developing people's skills, motivation, and understanding so they feel empowered to offer timely, appropriate help and guide others towards relevant support services.

For more information on courses available, please visit: Community Training Events — EmotionalWellbeingGroup

EWG
Emotional Wellbeing Group Ltd

With You Drug and Alcohol Training

With You's Prevention and Engagement Teams in Wigan and Leigh offer a range of online and in-person training opportunities for anyone looking to improve their understanding of drugs and alcohol. Including:

- ⇒ Drug and Alcohol Awareness Training
- ⇒ Drug Use Screening Tool (DUST) Training
- ⇒ Let's talk about Ketamine
- ⇒ With You: What We Offer
- ⇒ Naloxone Training

Find out more about course details and booking links here.

Interested in specific or in-person training?

Contact emma.tomkinson@wearewithyou.org.uk

withyou

Pride of Adult Safeguarding Awards Update

Preparations for the Pride of Adult Safeguarding Awards Ceremony are well underway! We're thrilled to announce that **eighteen nominations have been shortlisted across six annual categories**, and the **What'sUp Champions** have selected the winners. These will be revealed at the Awards Ceremony at the end of January.

In addition, we have **five Special Recognition Award Winners**, which were presented by one of our Board Members this month.

A huge **thank you** to everyone who submitted nominations and a big **congratulations** to those who have been nominated, shortlisted, and received a Special Recognition Award. Your dedication and commitment to safeguarding make a real difference every day.

Special Recognition Award Winner— Celebrating Jean Ramsdale's Extraordinary Contribution to Nursing

Jean began her nursing career in 1980 and quickly developed a passion for elderly care. Over 40+ years, she pioneered roles and initiatives that transformed how Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust approaches care for older people and those lacking capacity. She became the first Trust Lead for Older People/Dementia and later MCA/DoLS Lead, always keeping person-centred care at the heart of her work.

Her achievements included setting up falls and rapid access clinics, creating nurse-led wards, implementing pressure ulcer prevention techniques, adapting Intensive Care Unit scoring systems, and delivering dementia training to staff, including the Trust Board. Jean also directed the award-winning film *"Diary of a Bed Number"* to raise awareness of dementia patient experiences. Ensuring staff give the best possible, individualised care whilst empowering individuals to remain active in decisions.

Jean's influence has shaped policies, training, and culture, ensuring patients retain a voice and choice. Her dedication and advocacy have left an enduring impact on elderly care and dementia services across the Trust.

Jean retired on the 31st of December and the Board visited the Trust to present her Special Recognition Award before her retirement.

Meet Anna Swift—Clinical Director at Wigan and Leigh Hospice

I'm Anna Swift, the new Clinical Director at Wigan & Leigh Hospice. I've worked in the NHS in Wigan for more than 20 years across primary care, hospital services and system leadership. I'm looking forward to continuing that work in a role that's firmly rooted in the local community.

At Wigan & Leigh Hospice, I lead our clinical teams who support people living with life-limiting illnesses, whether at home or in our Inpatient Unit. Much of my career has focused on improving access to care and tackling the barriers that prevent people from getting the support they need. That remains a priority for me, high quality, responsive care should be available to everyone who needs it.

I was drawn to the hospice because of its value led approach and its commitment to dignity, compassion and holistic support for patients and those close to them. My aim is to lead with clarity, support colleagues to do their best work and help shape services that meet the needs of people across the borough.

Outside work, I enjoy reading, walking my dog and travelling - with South America still on my list.