

**North Wales**  
**Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy**  
**2021 - 2025**

**Update on Progress – April 2024**

**Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg hefyd**

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# 1. Executive Summary

## **Our vision:**

'The people of North Wales can live safe, equal and violence-free lives, in communities without abuse or exploitation'.

North Wales is working together to tackle all aspects of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence, Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking, Organised Immigration Crime and Exploitation.

The North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Board represents all statutory and non-statutory partners across the region, committed to a collaborative, joined-up approach to addressing all areas of vulnerability and exploitation.

The North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy 2021-2025 involves a multi-agency approach to addressing vulnerability and exploitation in North Wales. Both Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) and Modern Slavery agendas are aligned to the four Strategic Aims:

PREPARE PREVENT PROTECT PURSUE

The Strategy enables and supports innovative practices and ideas, as well as supporting existing services, to provide a cohesive package of support for victims, survivors, and their families. The Strategy also ensures perpetrators are held to account and supports communities to promote an ethos of safety, equality, and well-being.

## 2. Introduction

The North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Board was developed in 2020, bringing together the VAWDASV Strategic Board and the Modern Slavery Board, with the aim of having a more cohesive approach to all areas of exploitation.

A new Strategy was developed in 2020/21, which gives clear strategic aims for the region and under that is a Delivery Plan, showing the short, medium, and long-term objectives of the Vulnerability and Exploitation Board. This is continuously updated, to ensure progress and to monitor outcomes.

The Vulnerability and Exploitation strategy clearly shows that North Wales is committed to tackling exploitation of the most vulnerable in our society and is a priority for all partners within the statutory and non-statutory sectors.

The North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Partnership Board is a strategic network of agencies aligned across all six Local Authority Areas of North Wales (Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, and Wrexham), comprising statutory, non-statutory and third sector organisations.

The purpose of the strategic partnership is to generate a coordinated, efficient, and productive response to tackle Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) and Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking, Organised Immigration Crime and Exploitation. We aim to achieve this by:

- Working collaboratively to ensure that individuals within our communities who may be vulnerable and/or subject to exploitation are identified and heard in order to achieve the best outcome for them.
- Building trust and confidence through working alongside and within our communities.

The Vulnerability and Exploitation Board is designed to capture and guide the partnership work, as well as overseeing the delivery of the strategy objectives, by all partnership agencies, under the Regional Strategy as well as relevant national legislation.

The current Strategy is due to be updated during 2024/25 and this will begin with a period for reflection on what has been achieved over the last four years, as well as what still needs to be developed. We will be looking at VAWDASV in its widest sense, focussing on all aspects of domestic abuse and sexual violence, as well as considering the impact of explicit and internalised misogyny, the influence of social media on young people and innovative ways to tackle the perpetration of abuse.

### 3. Governance

The North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Partnership Board is accountable for the Vulnerability and Exploitation Board Strategy. Chaired by the Chief Executive, North Wales Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Strategic Partnership Board provides oversight, direction and support to local partners to ensure a collaborative approach. The Board meets on a quarterly basis to monitor and evaluate progression towards the Strategic Aims and Objectives as outlined within the Delivery Plan and Actions. The Work Streams, in turn address the aims and objectives within the Delivery Plan and move the work forwards in each of the agenda areas, reflecting the work directed by the national VAWDASV workstreams. This work is then be reported back to the Strategic Board and Welsh Government on a quarterly basis.

The work streams under the Board have been brought together over the last 12 months and are at varying stages of development:

- **MARAC and ADAPT Regional Steering Group** – this group meets on a quarterly basis to look at ensuring consistency within the region for the MARAC and ADAPT meetings, but also meets mid-quarter to dip sample cases that have been heard at MARAC, to ensure risk is being managed effectively and to ensure partners are engaging appropriately.
- **Remote Evidence Sites Group** – meets quarterly to ensure the remote evidence sites are being utilised appropriately and to highlight any issues to be resolved between partners.
- **Sexual Violence Strategic Group** – meets quarterly to ensure that criminal justice partners are working with the specialist sector to address the needs of all victims and survivors of sexual violence.
- **Commissioning (decision-making) Group** – meets when funding is available to look at service specifications and applications for funding.
- **Research, Gaps and Needs Group** – meets quarterly to look at data and research, gaps in provision, areas for development and any trends locally, regionally, or nationally. They are responsible for the continuous updating of the Regional VAWDASV Needs Assessment.

- **Perpetrator work stream** – this work stream is on hold while the Perpetrator Service Review is undertaken. This group will then be responsible for implementing the learning from the review.
- **Children and Young People** – this work stream is on hold until the decision is made concerning the position of the work in relation to the Regional Partnership Board and Safeguarding Board structure.

The Vulnerability and Exploitation Partnership Board Chair meets with counterparts from the Safer North Wales Partnership Board, Safeguarding Boards (Adults/Children), Contest Board, Local Criminal Justice Board, Area Planning Board and Regional Leadership Board to ensure alignment of work streams.

## 4. Specific areas of progress/concern during 2023/24

2023/24 has seen a significant increase in cases being referred to MARAC as well as those being referred directly to the specialist sector. This has put a large amount of pressure on all partners as we try to ensure a strategic approach to supporting all those affected by VAWDASV in North Wales. The amount of funding coming into North Wales from Welsh Government, Ministry of Justice and the Home Office alone has been over £1m during 2023/24 and that is without counting the charitable trusts etc. who help to support the specialist sector. Despite this, waiting lists have increased and the complexity of cases has also changed, as victims and their families are suffering the effects of the economic and housing crisis, on top of their issues related more directly to VAWDASV.

The Regional MARAC Steering group has been holding regular dip sampling sessions, looking at cases from referral, through to risk management. This has proved to be highly beneficial and has resulted in highlighting a number of areas of improvement for all partners, as well as the need for additional safeguarding work in some cases. This will be an ongoing process, in order to continually improve processes.

The join up of the Serious Violence Duty and the VAWDASV agenda in North Wales has been a significant shift in thinking for the region but has led to some really impactful work. The strategies have been joined up to ensure that all partners understand their obligations and are all working to the same objectives. The Serious Violence Duty objectives relating to VAWDASV for North Wales are based around primary prevention and working with children and young people to look at their attitudes and values around relationships. This ties in with the current focus on our work with men and boys and the strategies align very clearly.

Working with men and boys has been a priority in 2023/24 and North Wales hosted 'She is Not Your Rehab' from New Zealand and Professor Michael Flood from the University of Canberra, Australia. 'She is Not Your Rehab' provided training for a large group of professionals, as well as sessions with young people at Coleg Cambria, looking at how to address abuse with young men, and how to support them to unpack their own experiences of trauma, without

blaming the women in their lives. The response from young men in the audience was extraordinary, with many taking to social media immediately after the event to share their own experiences and how they will rethink their behaviour in the future. Following this success up with Prof. Flood's visit and lecture around how to talk to men and boys on a wider scale around misogyny, social media influence and the manosphere was incredibly powerful and has led to a much wider discussion as a region about how these approaches can be rolled out across schools and other youth-based arenas.

Housing concerns have really come to the fore during 2023/24, with some Local Authorities hitting breaking point and declaring a complete lack of any appropriate housing for victims and their children. This has been coupled with a static budget for the Housing Support Grant (with cuts in some areas), so the more traditional refuge-style support has suffered. Despite this, we have seen an increase in funding into North Wales for disbursed units and during this period, we saw new units being opened in Conwy, enabling families to have the support they needed, but also have the dignity of having their own front door. We also saw the development of the first short-term emergency units for those fleeing abuse, which enable them to bring children, pets etc. These units are to support victims fleeing at the weekend or the middle of night and have cooking facilities and space for the whole family, which avoids them having to go into hotels or B&Bs, which are totally unsuitable and potentially unsafe. They are then able to transition to more suitable, longer-term accommodation when this comes available, thus avoiding them having to return home through lack of suitable properties.

We have seen a real pressure put on our specialist providers during 2023/24, due to recruitment and retention issues with staff, as well as the ongoing after effects of vicarious trauma linked to the pandemic. This has been further exacerbated by issues of differing pay scales and benefits depending on the organisation they work for, with a real disconnect between the statutory and specialist sectors. This has led to two service reviews being commissioned, one to look at the IDVA provision across the region and the other to look at work with Children and Young People affected by VAWDASV. These service reviews and the recommendations that stem from them will be utilised in future commissioning decisions and will support discussions around costs of provision for the future. Two further reviews will be commissioned during 2024/25, looking at Perpetrator work and Sexual Violence work respectively.

Sadly, the IRIS project in North Wales came to an end at the close of the financial year, due to lack of continuation funding, but this reflects a similar pattern across many parts of Wales. The Chair of the Vulnerability and Exploitation Board is working with colleagues on the National VAWDASV Partnership Board to consider the funding of this vital service on an all-Wales basis.

<b>Strategic Objectives</b> <i>(What do we aim to do?)</i>	<b>Underpinning Activity</b> <i>(How will we do it?)</i>	<b>Lead / Owner</b> <i>(Who will do it?)</i>	<b>Timescales</b> <i>(When will we do it?)</i>	<b>Outcomes/Outputs/ Measures</b> <i>(What does success look like?)</i>	<b>Status</b>
<b><u>VAWDASV 1</u></b>  Challenge public attitudes to VAWDASV across North Wales through awareness raising, and enabling space for public discussion with aim to decrease its occurrence	Bystander Training – Training and awareness for members of the public as to how they can better challenge and address harmful attitudes associated with VAWDASV	North Wales Police/Serious Violence Duty (SVD) partners	Ongoing	- Public and professional awareness and understanding of their role as a bystander and a willingness to intervene	<b>Amber</b>  Bystander training will be part of the Serious Violence Duty ongoing roll out
	Share Welsh Government campaigns and Live Fear Free marketing materials with key partner agencies then local partner agencies to promote materials via their social media & websites	Regional VAWDASV Team/V and E Board partners	Ongoing	- Promote and share documentation with LA's and services.	<b>Amber</b>  To be completed as and when required



	Community Safety Partnerships to ensure calendar of important VAWDASV events are shared via social media, websites etc	VAWDASV Regional Team and CSPs	Immediate	- Promotion of important VAWDASV-related events by partners across North Wales	<b>Green</b>  - Completed for 2024/25 financial year
	Challenge cultural attitudes and change practice which can underpin Forced Genital Mutilation (FGM), Honour Based Violence and forced marriage.	V and E Boards partners	Ongoing	- Increase reporting of HBA with BAWSO developing monitoring template.  -	<b>Amber</b>  - BAWSO supported 124 victims during 2023/24 - Meeting arranged with BAWSO to discuss monitoring of HBA.
				- Map provision of available support across North Wales other than commissioned services.	<b>Amber</b>  Research and Needs Work stream to take findings from mapping exercise to the V&E Board.
<b><u>VAWDASV 2</u></b>  Increase awareness in children, young	Schools and colleges to implement a trauma-informed ethos, enabling young people to feel	Children & Young People Work stream under Regional Partnership Board	Ongoing	- To increase reporting of domestic abuse within schools	<b>Amber</b>  Need to establish status as Children & Young People work stream under

people, and adults of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships, and empowering them to make positive personal choices.	safe to disclose abuse.				V and E Board is on hold until a decision is made concerning the position of the work in relation to the Regional Partnership Board and Safeguarding Board structure
	Schools and colleges to develop an approach to working with young people as bystanders to promote VAWDASV prevention and further social change.	Children & Young People Work stream under Regional Partnership Board	Not yet known	- Awareness and understanding of their role as a bystander and a willingness to intervene	<b>Amber</b>  Need to establish status as Children & Young People work stream is on hold until a decision is made concerning the position of the work in relation to the Regional Partnership Board and Safeguarding Board structure
	Roll out 'Don't Steal My Future' across North Wales schools and colleges	RASASC and LA Education leads	Ongoing	- Establish continuous monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress, measure outcomes and impact, pinpointing areas for improvement including stakeholders.	<b>Amber</b>  RASASC reported that 101 sessions had been delivered during 2023/24, with 5,061 attendees present

	Use the findings from the intervention mapping exercise to review the services and gaps in services in the VAWDASV space, particularly focusing on primary prevention opportunities that challenge and shift social norms and values and focus on positive role modelling for boys and men living in North Wales	VAWDASV Regional Team/ Commissioning Decision-Making Group	2024/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Findings used to inform commissioning with a view to developing training for professionals and young men to feel confident in challenging harmful narratives around VAWDASV</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <p>‘She is Not Your Rehab’ training delivered to professionals in November 2023 with 35 professionals in attendance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional session delivered to boys and young men at Coleg Cambria</li> <li>- Seminar hosted by Prof. Michael Flood, looking at how to work with men and boys to address abuse.</li> <li>- During 24/25, explore opportunities such as the delivery of Men at Work training through SVD funding.</li> </ul>
<b><u>VAWDASV 3</u></b>	Provide appropriate training to professionals to ensure they recognise perpetration of abuse and the effect it has on whole family engagement with services.	VAWDASV Regional Team	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased confidence demonstrated by professionals in recognising and challenging VAWDASV perpetration</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <p>Safe Lives ‘Engage’ Training delivered to 102 professionals during 2022/23</p> <p>Out of a score of 5 (with 5 being the most confident), 88% of respondents rated their knowledge of this</p>

or violent behaviour to change their behaviour and avoid offending.					area as 4 – 5, during a 12-month post-training evaluation
	Commission Perpetrator Service review	VAWDASV Regional Team	2024/25	- Identify the current good practice and consider what the Perpetrator Intervention 'offer' should look like in North Wales.	<b>Amber</b> Currently out to tender.
	Implementation of Cautioning and Relationship Abuse (CARA) programme – Conditional Cautioning programme offered to people arrested for domestic abuse but who want to make a positive change to their behaviour.	North Wales Police	2024/25	- Reduction in repeat offending. Hampton Trust research suggests that offenders who attended CARA were 35% less likely to be involved in domestic abuse re-offending, when compared with the control group.	<b>Amber</b>  Awaiting implementation
<b><u>VAWDASV 4</u></b>  Make early intervention and prevention a priority.	Implementation of National Training Framework to ensure that all professionals working in public facing roles are fully equipped to support victims and survivors of VAWDASV	Regional Workforce Development Group	Ongoing	- High proportion of eligible front-facing professionals trained to undertake targeted enquiry	<b>Green</b>  5,673 professionals trained in Group 2 - 145 professionals trained in Group 3 - Roll-out of training continuing.

	Request that Domestic Homicide Review recommendation to integrate suicide awareness into Group 2 and 3 Ask and Act Training is implemented.	VAWDASV Regional Team/Regional Workforce Development Group	By end of Q2 2024/25	- Professionals undergoing Group 2 and Group 3 training will be aware of the risk factors associated with suicide and VAWDASV	<b>Amber</b>  Discussions held with Welsh Government and Welsh Women's Aid. - Decision made to consider the request as part of the review of Ask and Act.
	Review the services and gaps in the VAWDASV space – particularly focusing on primary prevention opportunities.	VAWDASV Regional Team	2024/25	- Using monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress, measure outcomes and identify needs and gaps in service provision	<b>Amber</b>  A multi-agency Research and Needs Workstream established to review emerging need and report findings to the V&E Board with a view to informing future commissioning opportunities
	Review the referral pathways and their use by partners for VAWDASV services in North Wales	Honour Based Abuse (HBA) and harmful practices work stream/VAWDASV Regional Team	2024/25	- Ensure referral pathways are embedded into existing practices across all partner agencies across North Wales, with regard to Forced Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation and Groups 2 and 3 Ask and Act	<b>Amber</b>  Referral pathways for FM and FGM under review LAs encouraged to develop their own localised pathways for Group 2 and Group 3 targeted enquiries.

	<p>Review sustainable commissioning opportunities in the VAWDASV space, learning from existing breadth of coverage by contracted services.</p>	<p>Research and Needs Workstream/Commissioning (Decision making) Group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish continuous monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress, measure outcomes and impact, pinpointing areas for improvement including stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <p>The Commissioning (Decision making) Group continually reviews existing and new commissioning opportunities in line with the Commissioning Framework and the Statutory Guidance for the commissioning of VAWDASV services in Wales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Availability of housing for victims and families identified as a major concern.</li> <li>- IRIS project now concluded and discontinued for the foreseeable future.</li> </ul>
	<p>Take a systems thinking approach to VAWDASV and explore how partnership working supports a holistic approach to wrap around support for families</p>	<p>VAWDASV Regional Team/North Wales Police</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure that a whole-systems approach is embedded within all services across the region in line with the Welsh Government’s blueprint high level action plan.</li> <li>- Encourage partnership working</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implement all relevant actions from the Welsh Government blueprint workstreams on a regional level</li> <li>- Monitor efficacy of MARAC through Steering Group and DIP sampling.</li> <li>-</li> </ul>

				to safeguard high-risk victims of domestic abuse at MARAC and through IDVA provision	<b>Amber</b>  Findings of IDVA Service review to be scrutinised to assess efficacy of partnership-working
<p><b><u>VAWDASV 5</u></b></p> <p>Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors</p>	<p>Work with criminal justice partners, to ensure that adequate training is provided in supporting victims of VAWDASV through the use of civil remedies.</p>	<p>North Wales Police/HMCTS partners</p>	<p>2024/25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase in the number of civil injunction applications and orders granted, to protect victims and survivors of VAWDASV</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <p>National Centre for Domestic Abuse scheme being piloted in North Wales to increase the number of civil injunctions granted to safeguard victims and survivors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roll out of further training for associated professionals during 24/25</li> </ul>
	<p>Support the implementation and roll-out of Remote Evidence sites across North Wales</p>	<p>Remote Evidence Group/VAWDASV Regional Team</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased support for victims and survivors leading to increased usage, achieving best evidence and securing increase in perpetrator convictions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <p>Three remote evidence sites established in Llangefni, Dolgellau and Wrexham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- During January - March 2024, Remote Evidence Sites accounted for 48% of Criminal DASV trials – an increase from 24% on the previous quarter.</li> <li>- 93% of people indicated a preference for special</li> </ul>

					measures when asked during January – March 2024
	Support the roll-out of the Pathfinder pilot across the region	Remote Evidence Group/ V and E partners	Ongoing	- Monitor usage of remote evidence sites and special measures in family court settings	<b>Amber</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pilot in progress</li> <li>- Initial findings suggest increase in usage of remote evidence sites for family court cases.</li> </ul>
	Awareness raising sessions delivered to the Judiciary and Criminal Justice Partners to challenge victim-blaming narratives	Criminal Justice Board	2024/25	- Increase in the number of perpetrators convicted for VAWDASV-related offences	<b>Red</b> <p>Awareness raising sessions have been delivered to Judges and Criminal Justice Partners in Mid &amp; West Wales with consideration given to extending this to North Wales.</p>
	Provide specialist support for victims based on their individual need.	Research and Gaps Work stream/Regional VAWDASV Team	Ongoing	- Establish continuous monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress, measure outcomes and impact of IDVA, ISVA, refuge and floating support services, pinpointing areas for improvement including stakeholders	<b>Amber</b> <p>IDVA and MARAC provide individualised safety plans for high-risk victims.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local Authorities struggle to provide accommodation for victims and families however new disbursed units were opened in Conwy during 2023/24.</li> </ul>



					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Existing service provision and service outcomes continually monitored on a quarterly basis.</li> <li>- Service-user survey developed during 2023/24 to capture feedback</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>VAWDASV 6</u></b></p> <p>Provide all victims with equal access to appropriately resourced, high quality, needs led, strength based, intersectional and responsive services across North Wales.</p>	<p>Provide consistent IDVA/ISVA provision across North Wales, offering the same service to victims of VAWDASV, regardless of where in North Wales they are based.</p>	<p>Research and Needs work stream/Commissioning (Decision-making) Group/Regional VAWDASV Team</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish continuous monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress, measure outcomes and impact, pinpointing areas for improvement including stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 24 IDVAs employed across North Wales, exceeding the Safe Lives recommendation of 13.5</li> <li>- 2,429 victims supported during 2023/24 – an increase of 7% on the previous year.</li> <li>- Review of IDVA Service concluded with findings due to be presented to V&amp;E Board in June 2024.</li> <li>- Recommendations to be implemented and new IDVA contract to be commissioned from 25/26.</li> </ul>

			Within next three months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of IDVA Service concluded with findings due to be presented to V&amp;E Board in June 2024.</li> <li>- Recommendations to be implemented.</li> </ul>	<b>Amber</b>
	Provide consistent support provision across the region for children and young people witnessing and experiencing domestic abuse in the home	Research and Gaps work stream/Regional VAWDASV Team	July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish continuous monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress, measure outcomes and impact, pinpointing areas for improvement including stakeholders</li> </ul>	<b>Amber</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring of C&amp;YP provision ongoing</li> <li>- Review of C&amp;YP support provision concluded with findings to be presented to V&amp;E Board in June 2024.</li> </ul>
	Provide evidence-based recovery programmes, to support victims in building resilience and strengthening their family/friend support network.	Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase in numbers of individuals accessing recovery programmes.</li> <li>- Map what is commissioned in each LA area</li> </ul>	<b>Green</b> Current programmes offered to victims to build resilience include Own My Life, Freedom, Recovery Toolkit for Men, STAR, DART, and group and one to one therapeutic interventions.
	Provide standardised MARAC / ADAPT process across North Wales	Regional MARAC/ADAPT Steering Group	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All high-risk victims heard at local MARACs</li> <li>- Continue Dip sample every quarter.</li> </ul>	<b>Amber</b> Ongoing

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of MARAC protocol</li> <li>- Renewed ADAPT protocol.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ongoing</li> <li>- Ongoing</li> <li>- Ongoing</li> </ul>
	Develop a 'tiered' approach or framework - to ensure clarity of what 'specialist' means - mapping against other provisions ( <i>IDVA review</i> )	Regional VAWDASV Team	2024/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To define the meaning of 'specialist' and - mapping against other provisions across Wales</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <p>Service review of regional IDVA provision concluded April 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Findings to be analysed and presented to V&amp;E Board in June 2024</li> <li>- Recommendations to be taken forward</li> </ul>
	Development of a robust commissioning Framework – evidence-based enabling defensible decision making	Research and Gaps work stream/Commissioning (Decision-making) Group	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To develop a commissioning cycle, in accordance with Statutory Guidance for the Commissioning of VAWDASV Services in Wales</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amber</b></p> <p>The V&amp;E Board ensures that separate governance structures exist for the commissioning process and for stakeholders' input.</p>