

Good morning, and welcome to the Initial Child Protection Conference held today on (date) for the Jones children. My name is Rhiannon Lewis, and I am the chairperson and allocated social worker. A chairperson is required under the Wales Safeguarding Procedures (2020) section 3 part 2. Safeguarding is central to my role under Part 7 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. I have a legal duty to protect the children from harm or abuse in line with Article 19 of the UNCRC and NSPCC guidance. Where concerns meet the threshold of significant harm, I would undertake a Section 47 enquiry under the Children Act 1989.

I will support the family, treat them fairly without discrimination (Equality Act 2010) (Human Rights Act 1998) and work with multi agencies to safeguard the children, upholding section 6 of the social services and wellbeing (Wales) act 2014.

I will handle all information lawfully under UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 especially part 3 for safeguarding and information sharing.

I will go around the room for introductions.

Riftana, would you like to begin

Abby, Sarah

I conducted a section 47 enquiry after the Duty to Report form was submitted on (date) using the Gwent Safeguarding Board (2023) Multi-Agency Referral Form, the nurse acted on their suspicion of abuse and reported under Section 130, of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. This was received by Riftana, can you confirm this?

The police also submitted a Public Protection Notice (HMICFRS 2022) following a domestic disturbance in line with the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015.

Sarah, can you confirm this?

I contacted health to complete a lateral to share information today.

Abby, can you confirm this ?

I completed a home visit in accordance with the children act 2004 section 25 which requires children's wellbeing to be supported, their care improved, and section 28, which ensures their welfare is safeguarded. I approached the visit with an open mind as required by the Wales safeguarding procedures 2020.

This was my first visit. I showed my ID badge to confirm my identity (Social Care Wales 2017)

In line with Section 21 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, I observed the physical conditions of the home, checking for adequate food, I found

mostly snack very little other food, there was hot running water, however there was dirty dishes mounted up, there was empty alcohol cans all around the kitchen. The overall presentation of the home was poor. This links to Section 22 of the Care Standards Act 2000, which say that the premises used to care for children must be suitable and that their welfare must be protected.

I observed the children, both were visibly dirty and their clothing was stained. Mum explained her washing machine was broken and she had no money to repair it. Mum explained the empty cans was her new partners and she did not drink around the children. Bronfenbrenner's model shows the immediate effect the children's environment shape their growth. Empathising that the dynamic of the environment and the children's development are influenced as there is a breakdown in caregiving. (Webster 2025)

As my statutory duty under section 47 and 17 of the children Act 1989 as domestic abuse can affect children, mum was alone so I asked, "Has your partner ever hurt you, threatened you, or made you feel you can't say no?" she replied "no". this will explore any indicators of domestic abuse or controlling behaviour, in line with *Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015*. This concern indicates ACE's that exposure to domestic abuse, neglect, substance misuse can have a lasting impact on a child's health, wellbeing and development. (Public Health Wales 2024).

After my observation, I feel the children basic needs are not being met. This family meet the threshold for significant harm under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 this is in line with the NSPCC, neglect refers to situations where a child's basic physical and emotional needs are not met, this can seriously impact to a child's health, development, and wellbeing.

We will now vote

I vote Yes as I feel that the children fall under the category of neglect, under Section 197 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

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