

Annual Report & Financial Summary 2015/2016



Children in Wales
Plant yng Nghymru



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Introduction

Children in Wales is the national umbrella organisation for voluntary, statutory and professional organisations and individuals who work with children, young people and families in Wales. Our aim is to promote the interests of these groups and take action to meet their needs by:

- Contributing to making children's rights a reality in Wales
- Fighting for sustainable quality services and fair shares for all children and young people
- Ensuring special attention and treatment for children in need and those who are marginalised
- Ensuring children and young people have a voice

Children in Wales is a membership organisation and provides a range of services designed to keep members informed of new developments and to facilitate joint responses. We are a registered charity and an independent, non-governmental organisation. We are also funded under the Children and Families Development Grant from the Welsh Government on a three year project to reduce inequalities in health, education and economic outcomes for children living in poverty, working under the following objectives:

- Informing and enabling children and young people to participate effectively and have their views heard by Ministers and policy makers
- Ensuring that the children and young people's workforce is informed of children's right to participate and for structures to be in place that facilitate the sharing of effective methods of participation
- Supporting a better informed and engaged multi agency cross sector workforce including policy makers and practitioners to deliver Welsh Government Policy
- Effectively influencing and contributing to policy and practice development with an emphasis on early intervention, prevention and mitigation of poverty, underpinned by Welsh Government strategic priorities

This report explains how these objectives were achieved through our work during 2015/16.



Young Wales



Young Wales is the name for our participation hub, working with schools, youth forums, national organisations and individuals to ensure that children and young peoples' voices are heard.

Children in Wales leads Young Wales, with Voices from Care, Tros Gynnal Plant, Promo Cymru and Youth Friendly as our partners. We also have a memorandum of understanding with Action for Children and Barnardo's Cymru.

As part of the Young Wales launch in March 2015, young people from youth forums across Wales identified the six priorities that they wanted Young Wales to build in to our work plan.

Mental health

Children in Wales is represented on the project board of the Together for Children and Young People (T4CYP) service improvement programme. Young Wales is developing young people friendly updates on the work of T4CYP that will be widely distributed to young people across Wales.

Young Wales has linked up with youth forums and organisations in Wales that are concerned about mental health issues to explore ways of working together and to prioritise pieces of work to take forward. We have also developed strong links with the mental health charities, Hafal and Time to Change Wales.

During Oct – Nov 2015, we supported two initiatives in relation to mental health services for young people in Wales. One was a survey that fed into the Together 4 Children and Young People's Improvement Programme, and the other was a film screening and discussion

event hosted by DECIPHer at Cardiff University.

Mental health had a strong focus at the Young Wales Conference, with strong messages coming through from Professor Donaldson during his video message about the emphasis of well-being in the new curriculum.

A workshop for young people, 'It's Good to Talk' was also held and gave participants an opportunity to develop key messages for Welsh Government. Mental health and emotional well-being was identified as a key priority area for local youth forums and continues to be raised by young people as an issue.

Domestic Abuse and Healthy Relationships

Young Wales met with Welsh Government officials working on curriculum review, domestic violence and sexual health to identify influencing points. This resulted in Young Wales being invited to work with Welsh Government on the Live Fear Free campaign to develop a leaflet focussing on healthy relationships for teens, and those embarking on their university careers.

During the year, Young Wales met with representatives of Welsh Womens Aid to explore ways of working together. In addition, Young Wales had a presence at the International Day of the Girl Conference 2015 – Giving Girls a Fairer Chance.

During July and August 2015, Young Wales worked with Welsh Government and Voices from Care to deliver 'Having Your Say' workshops for young people who are in contact with social services. Three workshops were delivered, in Cardiff, Carmarthen and Llandudno, and the young people produced short films highlighting

their key messages. The 'Having Your Say' video was shared with the Minister for Health and Social Services, Mark Drakeford AM.

During January and February 2016, Young Wales consulted on the draft young people's version of the 'Code of Professional Practice for Social Care', and their views were taken on board by the Care Council for Wales.

Substance Misuse

Young Wales held a workshop as part of a consultation for Welsh Government to inform the *Working Together to Reduce Harm Delivery Plan 2016-18*.

Following the workshop links were made with organisations to be able to get the voice of young people who are being supported with substance misuse that could inform the consultation about service delivery.

During January-March 2016, Young Wales has been holding small informal group discussions in a youth work setting with young people aged 11+ and visiting some youth forums for the formal consultation.

Young Wales gave feedback to the consultation for a 'Minimum Unit Price' for alcohol which ran between July and December 2015.

The feedback was collected from the Substance Misuse workshop held, visiting forums, using questionnaires and a survey monkey.

Overall it was seen that a minimum unit price would be a good thing but there were some real concerns about the affect it may have on families and households where alcohol is a priority.

Young Wales

Anti Bullying

Young Wales is represented on the Welsh Government's All Wales Anti-bullying Leadership group (AWABLG) and Preventing Bullying Behaviour Group (PBBG). Two surveys for young people were undertaken during 2015-16, with 122 responses which informed the development of anti-bullying week 2015.

The first workshop for Young Wales' Young People's Anti-bullying Network took place in Cardiff. 18 young people from groups across South Wales came together to share the work they are doing locally, and to discuss existing work and attitudes to bullying.

An official from the Welsh Government Pupil Well-being Branch also shared the work of the AWABLG. Young people were informed of the activities planned for Anti-bullying Week 2015, *Bullying is everyone's business*. Young people at the workshop were asked for their opinions on the Children in Wales Preventing Bullying Behaviour Group (PBBG) proposal for Anti Bullying week. The idea was further developed into a set of resources and a social media awareness campaign, #saynobullyingmustgo.

In February 2016, the Young Wales Network met to discuss Anti Bullying Week 2016 and have decided to work with the PBBG on designing and distributing a survey for young people on anti-bullying. A further event was held at half-term.

They have also given feedback to Welsh Government on the suggestion to keep 'bullying is everyone's business' strapline for 2016 and the #sayno #bullyingmustgo media campaign with the PBBG.

The Taking Flight forum theatre project, 'Real Human Being' provided two anti-bullying workshops to 30 young people looking at the issues of disability hate crime during 2015.

Online Safety

Children in Wales has held discussions with Welsh Government lead officials to explore ways that Young Wales can engage in their work, and has held meetings with the Digital Learning Division to explore how young people can be involved in their developments. Young Wales is currently linking up with key agencies in this field and looking at research evidence, to inform the development of an action plan, including meetings with Wise Kids to discuss any joint working opportunities that could follow, and meeting with NSPCC to inform their resource development.

UNCRC

Young Wales conducted a Wales-wide survey during the summer of 2015, and the information gathered was used to inform Cymru Ifanc Young Wales' submission to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva in October 2015.:<http://www.young-wales.wales/index.php/priority-areas/uncrc>.

Three young people from Young Wales met with the UN Committee member who visited Wales in the summer of 2015, and presented aspects of the report to the committee at a meeting in Geneva. We will carry out a similar survey every summer as evidence for future reporting sessions.

Young Wales has developed and delivered workshops in schools focusing on creating awareness for the UNCRC in Wales, and will continue to do this work.



Priorities for the coming year

Young Wales has realigned priorities for the coming year to fit with current Welsh Government policies. The priorities for the next year will be:

- Children and Young people's well-being which will include mental health
- Climate change
- Anti-bullying
- PSE and the education developments coming from the Donaldson review
- Children's rights and UNCRC will remain a priority in relation to evidence gathering to inform future UN reports. The UNCRC will also be the underpinning theme for all Young Wales work.



Developing and supporting strong networks

As the newly elected chair of this group I am delighted with my experiences so far. Thank you for your support!
-Chair, Parenting Coordinators network

Children in Wales facilitates networks which bring professionals together to discuss policy and practice issues. They are vital to our work as they help us to understand issues of concern affecting organisations across the children's sector. Through these networks we can inform members of new developments, share good practice and develop appropriate perspectives on policy developments.

The Cywaith Management Board is a collaborative partnership of 5 organisations with responsibility for overseeing the management, operation and delivery of the MEIC telephone, instant messaging and text advice and support service for children and young people. Children in Wales have additional Chairing responsibilities for the Cywaith consortium.

The Advocacy Practice Exchange Group provides an opportunity for practitioners in the field to share practice, experience and knowledge about advocacy and related areas. It contributes to the improved development of advocacy practice across Wales.

The All Wales Children and Young People's Advocacy Providers' Network contributes to and supports the development of effective advocacy in Wales. It aims to promote partnership work and developmental strategies between organisations. It facilitates problem solving and resolves potential conflicts of interest.

The Third Sector Additional Needs Alliance (TSANA) is a group of voluntary organisations which seek to protect and promote the rights of children with additional needs in Wales. The aim of the group is to work with the National Assembly for Wales and Welsh Government to influence policy, to ensure that children with additional needs reach their full potential. Children in Wales chairs and facilitates this group.

The Children and Families' Practice Exchange Group meets regularly in South Wales to enable practitioners to share expertise and information on a range of issues concerning children's rights.

The Children and Young People's Rights Practice Exchange Group enables practitioners in North Wales to meet regularly to share expertise and information on a range of issues concerning children's rights.

The Forum for Integrated Service Delivery brings together professionals across Wales who are leading the development of the Team Around the Family, as part of the Welsh Government's Families First programme. The aim of the forum is to offer peer support to managers involved in developing localised services. It also allows professionals to share good practice and information in the development of early intervention and preventive services across Wales.

The Disabled Children Policy Group brings together those with a policy brief on disability to highlight issues and concerns about services for disabled children. The group aims to influence public policy and scrutinise legislation in Wales in the interests of disabled children and young people.

The Looked After Children Health Exchange is a multi-agency group which aims to help guide policy across Wales to promote the health of children who are looked after. It also operates as a forum for sharing practice and information.

The Parenting Co-ordinator's Network is a network for those who have a strategic co-ordinating role for parenting support in their Local Authority. The quarterly meetings give co-ordinators a chance to share issues, solutions, research and policy with their colleagues.

Children in Wales' Preventing Bullying Behaviour Group aims to ensure that policies relating to the anti-bullying agenda, both in schools and communities, are evaluated and joined up. The group supports anti-bullying work nationally and locally. It also provides an opportunity to share practice and identify common concerns.

The End Child Poverty Network Cymru is a coalition of organisations concerned with child poverty. It was set up in November 2001 and works to increase public and professional understanding of child poverty in Wales and measures to end it. It lobbies for policies at all levels of government which contribute to ending child poverty in Wales.

The Flying Start Network meets quarterly, bringing together the Flying Start Co-ordinators from the 22 Local Authorities. Additional meetings and workshops are also organised as needed. The Flying Start Network includes all managers of the programme in Local Authorities as well as Welsh Government managers.

The Young Carers Workers' Network meets three times a year, and also holds sub-group meetings on specific topics. The network is open to all those who work with young carers in Wales. The Network shares issues, concerns and supports the development of good practice. The Network also supports a young carers network who meet to identify key issues of concern and has the opportunity to present their concerns to the Deputy Minister for Social Services on an annual basis.

Producing and disseminating information

Children in Wales produces a wide variety of information to help keep its members informed and up-to-date.

Children in Wales website

The Children in Wales website (www.childreninwales.org.uk) is updated daily. It provides news updates from ourselves, our members and the wider children's sector. The policy section of the website contains updates on legislation and other developments affecting children and young people in Wales and the UK.

Young Wales website

The Young Wales website, www.youngwales.wales, supports our participation work. It is a hub of information on the work being undertaken by youth forums, schools, partner organisations and individuals. The website also allows us to share information on Young Wales' work and opportunities for young people to get involved and have their voices heard.

E-briefing services

Our members' e-briefing is circulated monthly. It keeps our members up-to-date with the latest policy

developments and news. The Policy e-briefing is distributed to over 3000 individuals, and feedback from members shows that it is also shared much more widely within the children's sector in Wales. We also produce regular e-briefings for the End Child Poverty Network and the Family Information Services network.

Twitter

Children in Wales uses Twitter to promote our activities and resources, as well as new policy and documents using our accounts, @childreninwales and @plantynghymru. At the end of March 2016 we had 3560 followers in English and 386 in Welsh.

Our Young Wales account, @youngwalesCIW, has 767 followers and we have also developed a Facebook page, which can be found at [Facebook.com/Young-Wales-Cymru-lfanc](https://www.facebook.com/Young-Wales-Cymru-lfanc).



“The broad scope of the information within the ebriefings enables me to read highlights and signposts for areas that impact on my own ‘specialism’ and enables strategic thinking.”

Children in Wales member

Children in Wales magazine

Children in Wales' magazine is published on a quarterly basis. It provides a round-up of the policy developments from the National Assembly for Wales and the UK Parliament, as well as the latest news from Children in Wales and our members. It contains in-depth features and interviews on important topics and regular columns from the Children's Commissioner for Wales and MEIC Cymru.



Spring 2015

- Young Wales
- Investing in Children project
- Youth Ambassadors
- White Paper proposals for Additional Learning Needs
- Child Death Review Board
- Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Bill
- CAFCASS Cymru update



Summer 2015

- Family Information Services
- Arrangements for care leavers
- Social Services reform
- Family Point Cymru
- NSPCC project: Fighting 'Porn zombies'
- Confidence in care
- Deaths from dog bites and strikes



Autumn 2015

- A vision for looked after children
- National Energy Action
- Access to play
- Our Health, Our Health Service
- Together for children and young people
- How safe are our children?



Winter 2015

- Positive parenting
- Financial capability project
- Child Death Reviews
- Fostering and adoption
- Fuel poverty Coalition Manifesto
- Tackling Female Genital Mutilation
- Permanence in foster care

Policy, practice, development and research

Much of Children in Wales' work involves promoting policy and practice development. During 2015/16 we carried out a whole spectrum of activities promoting policy and practice development across a range of areas. These included:

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

Prior to the Act coming into force, Children in Wales delivered training (via the Care Council Framework) on Part 3 and 4 of the Act – meeting and assessing needs of the individual, in three local authorities in Wales. It was noticeable that not all managers or practitioners had fully appreciated the cultural change required by the Act with the emphasis on prevention and early intervention, well-being, voice and control of the individual and partnership/coproduction. This will take some time to be achieved.

Children in Wales also delivered training to the Family Information Services across Wales on Part 1 Introduction and 2 General Functions of the Act. A particular focus was the development of the Information Advice and Assistance Service and how the Family Information Service could link into this provision.

Children with Additional Learning Needs

Children in Wales is chair of TSANA (The Third Sector Additional Needs Alliance) a group of voluntary organisations which seek to protect and promote the rights of children with additional needs in Wales. Throughout 2015/16 we have worked with the Welsh Government and other organisations to influence legislation, policy and practice in Wales to ensure that children with additional needs can access the support they need to reach their full potential. This included meeting with then Minister for Education, Huw Lewis to discuss the proposals in the draft Additional Needs

and Education Tribunal Act and completing a response to the subsequent consultation. TSANA was also a member of the Welsh Government Additional Learning Need Code Content Development Group which developed the draft Code of Practice and prepared papers on advocacy, development of the Individual Development Plan, specialist services etc.

National Children's Charities Manifesto for the National Assembly for Wales Elections 2016

In February 2016, ahead of the National Assembly elections in May, Children in Wales was one of six leading children's charities who launched a joint manifesto making recommendations for the next National Assembly for Wales of developments they would like to see for children and young people. Amongst the recommendations, the charities – NSPCC Cymru / Wales, Action for Children, Save the Children, Children in Wales, Barnardo's Cymru and Tros Gynnal Plant – called for a Minister for children to be included in the next Welsh Government to have oversight of children's issues; a new Children and Young Person's Bill; and greater powers for the Children's Commissioner for Wales. The manifesto called for robust structures in Government; driving positive local action; and a strong legal framework.

Talk, Learn, Do: Parents, Kids and Money

Children in Wales is facilitating a pilot study into financial capability called Talk, Learn, Do: Parents, Kids and Money. The project started in October 2015 and will run until April 2017.

The Money Advice Service (MAS) in partnership with Big Lottery Wales is conducting ground breaking research in Wales through Children in Wales. The pilot will test the effectiveness of programmes designed to improve children's financial capability through working with parents.

The aim is to produce rigorous evidence on the impact and cost-effectiveness of parenting programmes. The pilot will raise awareness to parents of the important role they play and equip them with the desire, confidence and ability to develop the next generation of financially capable adults.

Child and family poverty

Following our report on child and family poverty in 2014, in Autumn 2015 we surveyed members and the wider workforce, revisiting the issues that were raised to find out whether things had changed since the publication of the report.

In January this year, we published a summary of the results from this work in Child and Family Poverty in Wales: Results from the Child and Family Survey 2015. This report is divided into six interrelated sections focused on the following themes – the impact of welfare reform, food poverty, debt, cost of living, housing issues, and the 'poverty premium' where those on low income are unable to access the best prices and deals on energy, for example.

In addition, there is a section in the report for other significant issues respondents wished to draw our attention to, which included transport availability and cost, employment and income instability, childcare and the relationship between poverty and mental health. The report also includes a summary of some of the overarching solutions identified by respondents alongside a number of quotes from both practitioners and service users.

The responses to our survey overwhelmingly show that in respect of all six themes, that each continues to be an issue, and each has become more of an issue since 2014.

Fuel Poverty Coalition Manifesto

Children in Wales is part of the Fuel Poverty Coalition led by NEA Cymru and Citizens Advice. The Coalition is supported by a steering group made up of a range of key organisations working to take forward the fuel poverty agenda in Wales.

In December 2015, the coalition published a manifesto, 'Ending Wales' Cold Crisis' for the National Assembly for Wales' election in May 2016. The manifesto introduces five key priorities for action for the next Welsh Government over the next 5 years from 2016:

- Set a new fuel poverty target to improve homes to a minimum energy efficiency standard of EPC C, backed up with the data we need to drive an ambitious new strategy
- Invest in a well-resourced, well-targeted energy efficiency programme for fuel poor households in

Wales as an infrastructure priority

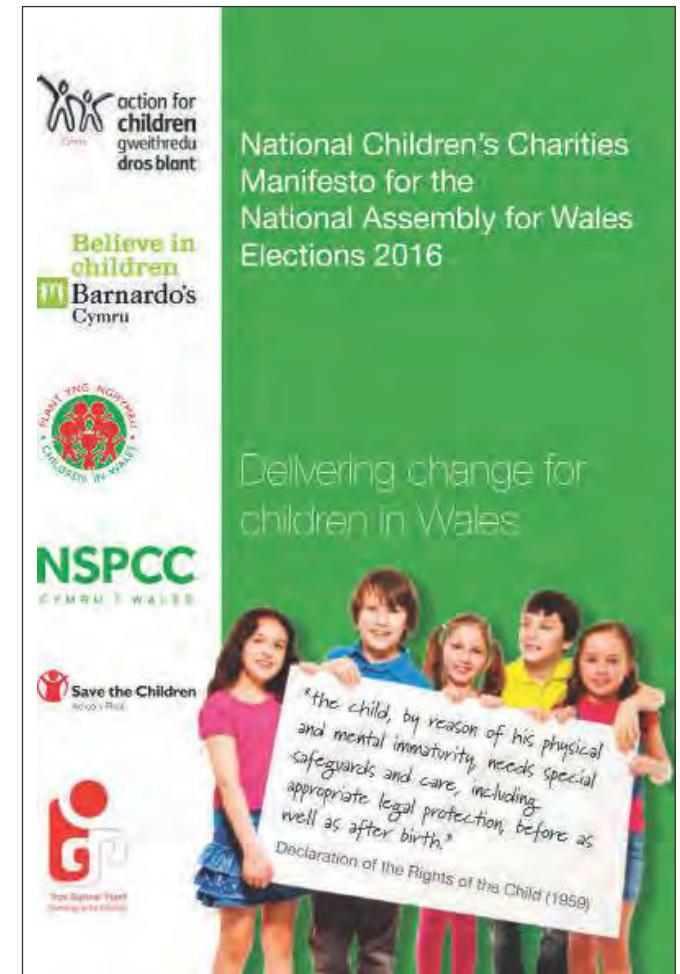
- Save lives by implementing the NICE guidelines on tackling excess winter deaths
- Protect vulnerable households with a crisis fund for emergency heating when their health is at risk
- Fund independent advice services to help and support people in fuel poverty.

Independent Review Mechanism (IRM) Cymru

The Independent Review Mechanism (IRM) has been hosted by Children in Wales as of September 2015, following the closure of BAAF.

The IRM can be asked to review cases by prospective or existing foster carers or adopters. This is when the agency they are applying to or working with are minded not to approve them as foster or adoptive parents; to conclude their approval following a review; or to change foster carers terms of approval without agreement.

The IRM has a central list of professional and lay people with relevant experience and from this it puts together a panel that looks at the application/review and comes to a recommendation. That recommendation goes back to the agency who consider it and come to a final decision. The applicants are able to present written information for the panel to consider and to attend on the day, alongside the agency representatives to ensure that the panel have all the relevant information when coming to their recommendation.

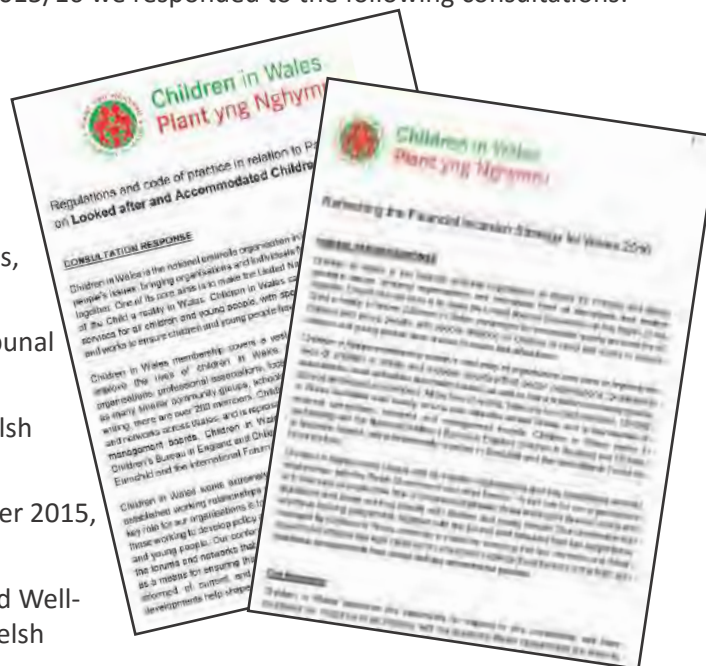


Consultation

One of Children in Wales' main roles is to relay the views of its members to policy makers. We respond to a wide range of consultations and liaise with our members, forums and networks to ensure our responses highlight all the relevant issues for those working in the field. Copies of all our consultation responses are available in the policy area of our website. During 2015/16 we responded to the following consultations:

Consultation Responses

- Out of school education settings, March 2016, Welsh Government
- Refreshing the financial Inclusion Strategy for Wales, December 2015, Welsh Government
- Draft Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill, December 2015, Welsh Government
- Draft Equality Objectives for 2016-20, Jul 2015, Welsh Government
- Refugee and Asylum Seeker Delivery Plan, December 2015, Welsh Government
- Regulations under Part 10 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (Advocacy), July 2015, Welsh Government
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Bill, May 2015, Welsh Government
- Draft summary for children and young people of 'Code of Professional Practice for Social Care', February 2016, Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales
- 'More than just words.' A plan to improve services in health, social services and social care for Welsh speakers, March 2016
- Public Health Outcomes Framework, February 2016
- Regulations under Part 6 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (Looked after Children) October 2015



Representation

Children in Wales highlights the concerns of our members and facilitates the development of the children and young people's agenda in Wales through representation on a number of groups. During 2015/16 these included:

Welsh Government

- Agored Development Group
- All Wales Posture and Mobility Partnership Board
- Anti-bullying Leadership Group
- CAFCASS Cymru Stakeholder Advisory Group
- CAMHS Delivery Advisory Group
- Council of Wales Alliance of Citizen Directed Support
- Direct Access to the Midwife
- Early Years and Childcare Workforce Network
- Effective Services for Vulnerable Children Delivery Board
- Getting it Right Implementation Group
- Local Authority Performance Measurement Framework - Task and Finish Group
- Literacy and Numeracy Communications and Marketing Steering Group
- Maternity services Implementation group
- MEIC Marketing Group
- Maternity Services Liaison Committee
- New improvement framework and new accord steering group – social services
- Public Services events
- Social Services Partnership Forum
- Social Services Strategic Leadership Board
- Social Services Citizen's Panel
- Social Services National Outcomes Framework Task Group
- Social Services Regulation and Inspection White Paper - Policy Advisory Group Meeting
- Social Services - Strong and Professional Delivery team
- Social Care Accolades CARE Council for Wales

- Substance Misuse Advisory Board
- Talk Care Stakeholder Group – Development of an NHS Outcome Framework
- Tackling Poverty External Advisory Group
- Third Sector Partnership Council and related meetings
- Third Sector Partnership Council Funding and Compliance Group
- Safeguarding and Protection Advisory Network

National Assembly

- Cross Party Group on Disability
- Youth Engagement Group
- Cross Party Group on Fuel Poverty
- Cross Party Group on Looked After Children

UK

- Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission
- End Child Poverty UK
- End Child Poverty Management Board

Statutory Sector

- All Wales Child Protection Procedures Representation Group
- Flintshire Advice Network
- Conwy Core Aim 7 CYPP sub Group
- Derwen - Children's Specialists Services
- Job Centre Plus Customer Representation Group
- Rhwydwaith Cyfranogi Plant a Pobl Ifanc a Theuluoedd Gwynedd



Academic

- Building Blocks Independent Data Monitoring Committee(Family Nurse Evaluation)
- DECIPHER (Development and Evaluation of Complex Intervention for Public Health Improvement)
- Public Involvement Steering Group
- Incredible Years Steering Group

Health

- CAMHS Action
- Planning Group
- ChildMeasurement Programme Steering Group
- NLIAH (National Leadership and Innovation Agency)

- for Healthcare) Stakeholder Reference Group
- Paediatrics & Child Health National Specialist Advisory Group (NSAG)

Multi agency/sector

- All Wales Disability Network Managers Meeting
- All Wales Family Group Meeting Network
- Booktrust Advisory Group
- Early Years Steering Group
- Emotional Wellbeing of Looked after Children steering group
- Flying Start Outcomes Measure Framework
- Fuel Poverty Coalition Group
- JRF Programme Advisory Board – Poverty and Ethnicity in Wales
- Looked after Children Charter Group
- National Childhood Poisonings Steering Group

- National Child Death Review Steering Group and Thematic Review Groups
- North Wales Participation Workers meeting
- SENStatutory reform SEN Multi agency group
- Vale of Glamorgan LSCB - children's rights in safeguarding
- Care Council for Wales Improvement Task and Finish Group
- Care Council for Wales Strategic Training Group
- Confidence in Care Steering Group
- Wales NHS Confederation

Third Sector

- Attachment Network Wales
- Carers Alliance (core contributor)
- Council for disabled children - NCB
- Council of Wales Alliance of Citizen Directed Support

- Cywaith Management Board
- Early Childhood Forum, National Children's Bureau
- Early Support Implementation Group
- Equality and Human Rights Coalition
- Fuel Poverty Forum - South Wales
- Fuel Poverty Forum - North Wales
- Home Accident Prevention Wales Steering Group
- LDAN Stakeholder group
- NEA Cymru Advisory Group
- North Wales Financial Capability Forum
- Play Wales Board of Trustees
- TSANA (Chair)
- UK Qualifications and Skills Community Learning and Development Constituency Panel
- UNCRC Monitoring Group
- Voices from Care Board and F&HR Committee
- Wales Council for Citizen Directed Support
- Wales Tobacco Control Alliance
- WCVA Alliance of Alliances
- WCVA Executive Committee
- WCVA Board
- WCVA Anti-Poverty Taskforce
- ROCK Children's Rights Coalition

International

- Eurochild National Partners Network
- European Child Safety Alliance
- European Child Safety Alliance Steering Group
- International Forum for Child Welfare Executive Committee



Raising public and professional awareness

The Media and presentations

Through the media, Children in Wales is able to publicise our own work and the concerns that we have about issues affecting children and young people in Wales. During 2015/16 we sent out a number of press releases about our events, and important developments, which can be viewed at <http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/news/press-releases/>.

Children in Wales has taken part in media interviews to television and radio, both local and national, and to a range of print media outlets. We have also given presentations to smaller groups, as well as larger conferences, about our work and specific areas of concern to a variety of groups both locally and internationally.



Events

Children in Wales' conferences and events provide a forum to bring the workforce together to raise awareness and share best practice. Our events aim to highlight pertinent issues concerning children and young people in Wales.

During 2015/16 conferences were held on parenting and disability. The first Annual Conference for Young Wales was also held this year. We also ran events on accident prevention in the early years and preventing bullying behaviour.

Training

Children in Wales provides a programme of multi-disciplinary training courses that are open for our members and the wider public to attend. These promote an integrated approach for all those working in the statutory, third and independent sectors. The courses draw on the resources of our own specialist staff team and a national network of expert individuals and organisations, to deliver high quality training across Wales. Children in Wales is an accredited training centre though Agored Cymru. We also provide tailored commissioned training for organisations on request.

Help desk and signposting services

Children in Wales has an information and signposting service for members of the public and professionals in the children's sector. During 2015-16 we gave advice on a broad range of issues including advocacy services, childcare provision and accessing the Flying Start programme, child protection, parenting, and contact issues.



Conferences and other events

During 2015/16 Children in Wales held the following events:

Conferences

Parenting Conferences 2015: Supporting the mental health and emotional well-being of children and parents – the contribution of parenting support services, 15 October 2015

Our Parenting Conference this year focused on how to support the mental and emotional health of children and parents, including the relationship between family members.

Market place was so interesting! Met so many new organisations that can help with information, resources and training. Thanks CIW. Nice to have the opportunity to bring everyone together.

-Conference delegate, Young Wales Annual Conference

Disabled Children Conference 2015: Promoting and Empowering the Rights of Disabled Children and Young People, 11 November 2015

Our disability conference looked at how we can work to empower disabled children and young people within a rights based framework.

Young Wales Annual Conference: Young people's participation in Wales today – what does it look like? 5 March 2016

The aim of this conference was to showcase young people's involvement in participation and to identify their aspirations and provide opportunities for the wider and more meaningful participation of young people in Wales.

Other Events

Early Years & Child Accident Prevention seminar, 3 February 2015

This seminar focused on unintentional harm and injuries to children, and delegates also Heard about the Child Death Review programme in Wales.

Preventing Bullying Behaviour – Jigsaw Workshops, 19 May 2015

This workshop looked at attitudes to bullying, and aimed to promote a shared understanding of bullying and preventing bullying practices.



Training

Children in Wales provides training for professionals working in the children's sector in Wales. This includes open training courses and bespoke training commissioned by outside agencies and delivered to staff 'in-house'.

Open training

During 2015/16 Children in Wales ran a comprehensive programme of open training. All courses are advertised through our bilingual website and through e-flyers promoting individual courses. Our training programme featured an ambitious range of training including new topics as well as those which had been run successfully in the past. Topics included child protection, e-safety, working with fathers, cultural awareness in safeguarding, supporting parents, working with groups and building resilience in young people.

Commissioned training

Children in Wales is able to provide commissioned training in a venue of your choice for organisations wanting a course that is tailored to their needs.

Core topics that Children in Wales provide training on include child protection at different levels ranging from basic 'awareness raising' to courses aimed at those providing a Designated Person role. Other popular courses are Cultural Awareness, Children's Rights and Participation, Building Resilience in Young People, and E-Safety. We are happy to develop more bespoke training if the topic required is not on our standard programme.

Child protection training for dental practitioners

Children in Wales continues the successful programme to deliver child protection training to all staff within dental practices and at Post-graduate Centres in Wales. We are contracted to provide Level 2 Child Protection training for the Wales Deanery for Post-graduate

Education for Dentists. We delivered 63 child protection training sessions to dental practitioners across Wales between April 2015 and March 2016.

Cardiff Workforce Development

Children in Wales has built on our relationship with Cardiff Workforce Development, delivering child protection training to child minders and staff working in nurseries and after-school clubs in Cardiff. Helping Cardiff City Council to ensure that those people caring for children are trained to identify and respond to concerns about child abuse and neglect we delivered six 2 day Accredited Level 3 courses in Understanding how to Safeguard the Well-being of children and young people, to over 100 staff. We also delivered 12 half day sessions on raising awareness in child protection to approximately 200 staff working with children.

Accredited Training Centre

Children in Wales centre status means that we can offer Accredited training courses on a range of topics with Agored Cymru as our awarding body. We received an excellent report from Agored Cymru following our first full year as an accredited centre, with the Quality Reviewers noting:

"The centre use an impressive and generally user-friendly online system for learners to capture evidence of assessment, and staff to evidence an effective internal quality assurance process... The role of the internal verifier is straightforward because of the competence, attitudes and professionalism of the assessors. Learners

are well supported and feedback to learners is positive, relevant, constructive and developmental."

Child and Family Delivery Grant - Welsh Government

Under this Welsh Government grant the training team delivered 8 free sessions across Wales to increase awareness and skills in participative techniques when working with children and young people.

In addition, we delivered four free sessions called The Bigger Picture exploring child and family policy and legislation. These multi-agency workshops were aimed at supporting a range of organisations to have greater understanding of how their work fits into the wider policy context evolving in Wales.

The training team has also delivered some direct work on children's rights and participation to young people on request.

"I have come away feeling more empowered to safeguard children because of the 'can do' approach practical and proactive activities and ideas and approaches" - Participant on the Keeping Our Children Safe Training

Open training courses during 2015/16:

- Supervision: A Model for Practice, 23 April 2015, Colwyn Bay
- Working Positively with Autistic Children in the Early Years, 24 April 2015, Old Colwyn
- Supervision: A Model for Practice, 5 May 2015, Cardiff
- An Overview of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, 8 June 2015, Newport
- An Overview of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, 16 June 2015, Carmarthen
- Understanding Digital Teens – Safety, Supervision and Sharing, 18 June 2015, Merthyr Tydfil
- Understanding How to Safeguard the Welfare of Children and Young People – Accredited Training Level 2 through Agored Cymru, 1 July 2015, Rhyl
- Understanding How to Safeguard the Welfare of Children and Young People – Accredited Training Level 2 through Agored Cymru, 7 July 2015, Neath
- Brain Development and Positive Parenting, 10 July 2015, Cardiff
- Supervision: A Model for Practice, 16-17 July 2015, Cardiff
- “Keeping Our Children Safe” Training for Designated Person for Child Protection, 10-11 July 2015, Cardiff
- “Keeping Our Children Safe” Training for Designated Person for Child Protection, 16-17 July 2015, Llandudno Junction
- Working with Fathers, 22 September 2015, Cardiff
- Working Positively with Autistic Children in the Early Years, 29 September 2015, Cardiff
- Working with Groups, 30 September 2015-1 October 2015, Llandudno Junction
- Thinking about the Unthinkable: Child Sexual Abuse, 30 September 2015-1 October 2015, Rhyl
- Brain Development and Positive Parenting, 1 October 2015, Llandudno Junction
- Understanding How to Safeguard the Welfare of Children and Young People – Accredited Training Level 3 through Agored Cymru, 6-7 October, Cardiff
- An Overview of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, 8 October 2015, Cardiff
- An Introduction to Action Learning Sets, 13 October 2015, Wrexham
- Understanding Participation Workshop, 20 October 2015, Caernarfon
- Equality and Inclusion of Disabled Children, 21 October 2015, Rhyl
- Thinking about the Unthinkable: Child Sexual Abuse, 21-22 October, Cardiff
- Working Positively with Autistic Children in the Early Years, 23 October 2015, Llandrindod Wells
- Building Resilience in Young People, 3 November 2015, Cardiff
- ‘Bilingualism at work’: developing bilingual services, 4 November 2015, Caernarfon
- Understanding Participation Workshop, 5 November 2015, Merthyr Tydfil
- Understanding Participation Workshop, 10 November 2015, Aberystwyth
- Responding to Attachment Difficulties in School and Early Years settings, 10 November 2015, Cardiff
- Understanding Participation Workshop, 10 November 2015, Aberystwyth
- Working with Fathers, 11 November 2015, Llandudno Junction
- An Overview of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, 17 November 2015, Swansea
- Supporting Parents to Talk to their Children about Growing up, Relationships and Sex, 17 November 2015, Cardiff
- An Overview of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, 19 November 2015, Wrexham
- Equality and Inclusion of Disabled Children, 25 November 2015, Cardiff
- Cultural Awareness in Safeguarding Children, 27 November 2015, Wrexham
- The Bigger Picture – Working with Children and Families in Wales, 1 December 2015, Newport
- Cultural Awareness in Safeguarding Children, 4 December 2015, Cardiff
- “Keeping Our Children Safe” Training for Designated Person for Child Protection, 7-8 December 2015, Cardiff
- Responding to Attachment Difficulties in School and Early Years settings, 8 December 2015, Wrexham
- The Bigger Picture – Working with Children and Families in Wales, 8 December 2015, Clydach
- The Bigger Picture – Working with Children and Families in Wales, 12 January 2016, Wrexham
- The Bigger Picture – Working with Children and Families in Wales, 13 January 2016, Bangor
- An Introduction to Leadership, 20 January 2016, Cardiff
- Getting to Grips with Children and Family Policy in Wales, 11 February 2015, Carmarthen
- Getting to Grips with Children and Family Policy in Wales, 23 February 2016, Bangor
- Understanding How to Safeguard the Welfare of Children and Young People – Accredited Training Level 2 through Agored Cymru, 26 February 2016, Cardiff
- Self harming behaviours: Improving responses and minimising harm, 4 March 2016
- Sexuality, Gender Dysphoria and Mental Health, 9 March 2016, Cardiff
- Eating Disorders in Children and Young People, 9 March 2016, Cardiff
- Self harming behaviours: Improving responses and minimising harm, 11 March 2016, Bangor
- Sexuality, Gender Dysphoria and Mental Health, 18 March 2016, Llandudno Junction
- Eating Disorders in Children and Young People, 18 March 2016, Llandudno Junction
- Supporting Parents to Protect Children Online, 23 March 2016, Cardiff
- Keeping Our Children Safe – Training for Designated Person for Child Protection, 23-24 March, Holywell

Governance

The Trustee Board

The Trustee Board deals with the finance and governance of the organisation and consists of up to 12 members. Nine of these members are elected and a further three are appointees. Trustees serve a maximum of two terms of three years and can be either re-elected or re-appointed at the end of their first term of office. The members of the Trustee Board during 2015/16 were:

- Dr Iolo Doull, Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health in Wales (until October 2015)
- Mike Greenaway, Play Wales
- Professor Jonathan Scourfield, Cardiff School of Social Sciences
- Emeritus Professor Jo Sibert
- Ann Shabbaz, Hafan Saff Cyf
- Dr Dave Williams, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Vice Chair
- Hannah Williams, Tŷ Hafan Family Hospice
- Professor David Egan, University of Wales Trinity Saint David (from October 2015)
- Kara Williams (Treasurer) (from September 2015)
- Emily Warren (until October 2015) Vice Chair
- Jane Newby, University of South Wales (from October 2015)
- Sarah Jones, Public Health Wales (from October 2015)
- John Williams OBE (Chair) (until January 2016)

The Policy Council

Children in Wales has a Policy Council which makes recommendations about children and young people's policy issues to the Trustee Board, but has no governance function. Trustees of Children in Wales also automatically become members.

The Members of the Policy Council during 2015/16 were:

Representative Body (appointed, up to 10 members)

ACPO

ADEW (represented by Pierre Bernhard Grout, WLGA)

ADSS (represented by Leighton Rees, Denbighshire County Borough Council)

NHS Confederation

Public Health Wales (represented by Rachel Shaw)

Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health in Wales (represented by Dr Nia John)

WLGA (represented by Stewart Blythe, Joanna Davies & Catherine Davies, WLGA)

Elected Members

Brigitte Gater, Action for Children Gweithredu dros Blant
Cherrie Bija, Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Board for Social Responsibility

Deborah Jones, Voices from Care (Cymru)

Des Mannion, NSPCC Cymru

Diane Daniel, Tros Gynnal Plant

Dr Elspeth Webb

Dr Susan Evans, Bangor University & Powys Teaching Health Board

Gwilym Roberts, Relate Cymru

John Gallanders, AVOW

Carl Cooper, PAVO (from Oct 2015)

Mary Powell-Chandler, Save the Children

Paul Glaze, CWVYS (from Oct 2015)

Uzo Iwobi, Race Council Cymru (from Oct 2015)

Helen Mary Jones, Youth Cymru (until Oct 2015)

Lynne Osborne, YMCA Wales Community College (until Oct 2015)

Trustee Board members

John Williams OBE (Chair) (until Jan 2016)

Ann Shabbaz, Hafan Saff Cyf

Dr Dave Williams, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Emeritus Professor Jo Sibert

Hannah Williams, Tŷ Hafan Family Hospice

Jane Newby, University of South Wales (from Oct 2015)

Kara Williams (Treasurer) (from Sep 2015)

Mike Greenaway, Play Wales

Professor David Egan, University of Wales Trinity Saint

David (from Oct 2015)

Professor Jonathan Scourfield, Cardiff School of Social Sciences

Sarah Jones, Public Health Wales (from Oct 2015)

Yvonne Rodgers, Barnardo's Cymru

Observers

CAFCASS Cymru

Welsh Government

Children's Commissioner for Wales

Big Lottery

Youth Justice Board

Membership

During 2015/16 Children in Wales had a total of 256 members, 196 of which were organisational members and 60 were individuals. An additional 18 individuals, who work for organisations already in membership, also signed up as supplementary members.

Organisational Members

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
University Health Board
Aberystwyth University
Action for Children
AFASIC Cymru
Amgueddfa Cymru - National
Museum Wales
Aneurin Bevan Health Board
Anglesey Council - Flying Start
Arad Consulting
ASH Wales (Action on Smoking
& Health in Wales)
Association of Voluntary
Organisation in Wrexham
Atal y Fro
Barnardo's Cymru
BAWSO Ltd
BBC Children in Need
Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board
Bettws Lfhouse
Blaenau Gwent County Borough
Council - Family Information
Service
Bobath Children's Therapy
Centre
Booktrust Cymru
Bridgend Association of
Voluntary Organisations (BAVO)
Bridgend County Borough
Council

BulliesOut
Buttle UK
Caerphilly County Borough
Council
Caerphilly Parent Network
CAFCASS Cymru
Calan DVS
Campfire Cymru
Canolfan Gerdd William
Mathias
Canolfan Plant Jig-So Children's
Centre
CAPIC (Collaboration for
Accident Prevention Injury
Control)
Cardiff & Vale University Health
Board
Cardiff Council
Cardiff Metropolitan University
Cardiff Third Sector Council
(C3SC)
Cardiff University - Department
of Social Work
Cardiff University - Disability
Service
Cardiff Women's Aid
Cardiff YMCA
Carers Trust
Carmarthenshire County
Council
Carmarthenshire Youth and

Children's Association (CYCA)
CaST Cymru
CCPAS
Ceredigion County Council
Changing Faces
Children's Early Intervention
Trust
Citizens Advice Cymru
City & County of Swansea -
Prevention & Early Intervention
City & County of Swansea - Staff
Development & Training Unit
Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs
Coleg Cambria
Coleg y Cymoedd
Compass Children's Homes
Contact a Family Wales
Conwy County Borough Council
Coryton Primary School
Council for Wales of Voluntary
Youth Services (CWVYS)
Cruse Bereavement Care Cymru
Cwm Golau Integrated
Children's Centre
Cylch Meithrin Clydach
Cylch Meithrin Ynysybwl
Cyngor Gwynedd Council
Dangerpoint
Denbighshire County Council
Denbighshire County Council -
The Oaktree Centre

DEWIS Ltd
Discovery Student Volunteering
Swansea
Duffryn Community Link
Dyfodol Powys Futures
Dynamix Ltd
Ethnic Youth Support Team
(EYST)
EyePAT CIC
Family Fund
Family Matters Mediation Ltd
Family Psychology Solutions CIC
First Campus
Flintshire County Council
FNF Both Parents Matter Cymru
Fostering Network Wales
FPA
Full Circle Education Solutions
CIC
Genus Care Ltd
GISDA
Glyncoed Primary School
Gower College Swansea
GroBrain
Grwp Cynefin
Gwent Association of Voluntary
Organisations (GAVO)
Gwerin y Coed/The Woodcraft
Folk in Wales
Hafal
Hafan Cymru

Heart of the Valleys Integrated
Children's Centre
HMP & YOI Parc - Custodial &
Detention Services
Home Start
Iaith Cyf / TWF
Keys Fostering
Landsker Child Care
Learning Disability Wales
Literature Wales
Llamau Ltd
Llanelli Women's Aid
Llwynhendy Children's Centre
Mantell Gwynedd
MENCAP Cymru
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough
Council
Mirus Wales
Monmouthshire County Council
- Acorn Integrated Children's
Centre
National Deaf Children's Society
National Energy Action (NEA)
Cymru
National Foundation for
Educational Research (NFER)
Neath Port Talbot Children's
Rights Unit
Neath Port Talbot County
Borough Council - Flying Start
Neath Port Talbot County

Borough Council - Training & Development Unit	Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health	Tute Education	Ysgol Maesincla	Mr John Harris
Neath Port Talbot CVS	Rydal Penrhos Prep School	Ty Hafan	Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones	Mr John Valentine Williams
Newport City Council	Safe Families for Children Wales	Ty Hapus Family Centre		OBE
North Wales Centre for Children & Young People	Save the Children	UCAC (Undeb Cenedlaethol Athrawon Cymru)	Individual Members	Mrs Julia Tod
North Wales Deaf Association	Scope Wales	UNICEF UK	Ms Ann Sherlock	Dr Julie Doughty
NPTC Group	SENSE Cymru	United Reformed Church, National Synod of Wales	Ms Ann Bell	Ms Kara Williams
NSPCC	Skybound Therapies	University of Wales: Trinity Saint David	Ms Amodika Sumithraarachchi	Mrs Kathryn Hemmings
NYAS	SNAP Cymru	Vale of Glamorgan Council - Children's Partnership	Dr Anne Crowley	Ms Kathy Cook
Panel Diogelwch Cydenwadol / Interdenominational Protection	Solas Cymru	Vale of Glamorgan Council - Flying Start	Ms Brenda Davis	Mrs Lesley Conran
Pathway Care	South Wales Fire and Rescue Service	Voices from Care (Cymru)	Ms Heidi Falconer	Mrs Lesley Parratt
Pembrokeshire County Council	Sova Cymru/Wales	Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil	Mrs Caroline Woodman	Ms Liz Raynor
Penygarn Community Primary School	Spark Blaenymaes Ltd	Wales Centre for Equity in Education	Ms Catherine Slade	Ms Margaret Hanney MBE
People and Work Unit	St David's Children Society	Wales Council for Deaf People	Ms Catherine Thomas	Mrs Mary Anne Marsden
Plant Dewi	St David's College	Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)	Mr Paul Hopkins QC	Mr Merfyn Roberts
Play Wales	St John Cymru Wales	Welsh Refugee Council	Ms Ann Williams	Ms Nell Warner
Pontypridd Children's Contact Centre	Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Board for Social Responsibility	Welsh Women's Aid	Mr Roger Bishop	Ms Nina Probert
Powys Carers Service	TACT Cymru	Whizz Kidz	Cllr Christine Walby OBE	Mrs Pauline Galluccio
Powys County Council	Taff Housing Association	Wrexham Citizens Advice Bureau	Mrs Claire Mitchell	Mrs Sarah Day
Prifysgol Bangor University	The Beth Johnson Foundation	Wrexham County Borough Council	Mrs Clare McDonald	Mr Richard Hibbs
ProMo-Cymru	The Owl and Pussycat Nursery	Y Bont	Ms Debra Lewis	Dr Ruth Parry
Prospects for Young People	The Place2Be	Y Bont - Cartref Bontnewydd	Mrs Diane Daniel	Ms Sara Evans
Public Health Wales	The Venture	Youth Cymru	Dr Sarah Jones	Ms Sara Reid
Race Council Cymru	The Windfall Centre	Ysgol Brynhyfryd	Prof Jo Sibert OBE	Ms Sarah Coates
RAY Ceredigion	Toadhall Montessori Nursery and Creche	Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw	Ms Kerry Kane	Ms Felicity Fletcher
Reach	Torfaen County Borough Council	Ysgol Gymraeg Melin Gruffydd	Mr Ian Sherwood	Ms Sue Bidmead
Relate Cymru	Touch Trust Ltd		Mrs Glenys Benford-Lewis	Mr Trevor Evans
Right From The Start (Caerphilly)	Trinity Fields School & Resource Centre		Mrs Haley Jackson	Ms Trudi Harris
RNIB Cymru	Tros Gynnal Plant		Mrs Lindy Duncalf	Prof June Statham
			Mr Martin Price	Prof Nigel Thomas
			Mrs Jan Berry	Miss Lucy Hodson
			Mrs Jane Newby	Mr William Bond
			Ms Jan Owen	
			Mr Jason Nancurvis	
			Mrs Joanna Ashburner	

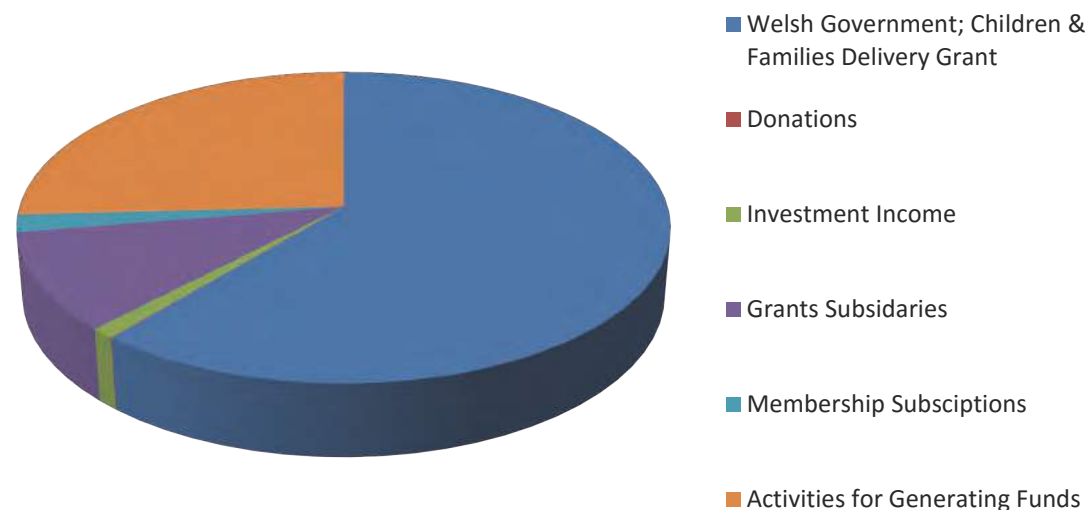
Financial summary

INCOMING RESOURCES	
Welsh Government; Children & Families Delivery Grant (01.10.15-31.03.15)	£699,127
Donations	£463
Investment Income	£11,975
Grants Subsidiaries	£116,999
Membership Subscriptions	£20,853
Activities for Generating Funds	£295,015
Total Incoming Resources	£1,144,432

RESOURCES EXPENDED	
<i>Cost of generating funds</i>	
Membership & Support Services	£40,621
Direct charitable expenditure	£1,061,123
Governance Costs	£33,776
Total Resources Expended	£1,135,520
Net Income for the Year	£8,912

ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE BY OBJECTIVES	
Better Connected Children, Young People & Workforce	£303,210
Influencing Practice, Policy Development & Research through Representation & Consultation	£307,645
Better informed Children, Young People & Workforce	£444,868
Membership Support Services	£46,021
Governance	£33,776
Total Resources Expended	£1,135,520

Incoming resources



Analysis of charitable expenditure by objective

