# Medr Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

# Monitoring report

# Submission date: Friday 7 March 2025

Please return the monitoring template to orla.tarn@medr.cymru by Friday 7 March 2025.

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| **Section one: University details** |
| University name: |  |
| University senior manager with lead responsibility for VAWDASV name and title (PVC, DVC): |  |
| University contact responsible for submission name and title: |  |
| University contact email details: |  |
| Guidance note* We are asking for this information to inform our policy developments, and to contribute to our engagement with Welsh Government as it implements it [VAWDASV strategy and blueprint for 2022-26](https://www.gov.wales/violence-against-women-domestic-abuse-and-sexual-violence-strategy-2022-2026-html).
* We recognise that violence, abuse and harassment affects people regardless of their gender. This reporting should be framed in terms of VAWDASV but we would like to understand any learning taken from other interventions to tackle violence, abuse, harassment and sexual violence regardless of how a person expresses their identity.
* We would welcome the information provided to us to be in set out in bulleted sentences to minimise institutions’ burden of reporting to us.
* We suggest a maximum of 300 word responses per question. Some responses may require less than 300 words.
* We may share information from your reporting where we consider it to be interesting practice or to inform our reporting to Welsh Government.
* If there is specific information that you wish us not to share more widely please let us know. Please only provide information about services or activities, and not relating to individuals.
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| **Section two: Defining violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence** |
| This section requests clarity of universities’ policy definitions within the VAWDASV policy area. The definitions below are as outlined in Annex A of HEFCW circular [W23/29HE: Tackling violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence in higher education](https://www.medr.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/W23-29HE-Tackling-violence-against-women-domestic-abuse-and-sexual-violence-in-HE-V2-English.pdf). |
| **Terminology** | **Medr definition** | **University terminology (where this differs);****university definition** | **Rationale (if definitions differ)** |
| Sexual harassment | Any unwanted sexual behaviour that makes someone feel upset, scared, offended or humiliated, or is meant to make them feel that way (the [Brook Charity](https://www.brook.org.uk/your-life/what-is-sexual-harassment/)). |  |  |
| Sexual exploitation | When someone is coerced, forced, or manipulated into engaging in sexual activities by a third party, or out of necessity to finance basic needs. This is also known as ‘survival sex’ and includes ‘sex for rent’ agreements. This form of exploitation can take place in several environments including on the street, online or in parlours. Perpetrators usually hold power over their victims, due to age, gender, sexual identity, physical strength, or status. In many instances, perpetrators will groom victim/survivors ([Welsh Women’s Aid](https://welshwomensaid.org.uk/)). Examples of how sexual exploitation of adults can be perpetrated include:* being coerced or forced into sex work by a third party such as a partner ([Welsh Women’s Aid](https://welshwomensaid.org.uk/));
* being coerced or forced to engage in transactional sexual services to finance basic needs such as food or accommodation (often referred to ‘survival sex’ and ‘sex for rent’ arrangements) ([Welsh Women’s Aid](https://welshwomensaid.org.uk/));
* feeling unable to pursue alternatives due to multiple disadvantages such as poverty and substance misuse ([Welsh Women’s Aid](https://welshwomensaid.org.uk/))
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| Modern day slavery | Covers all forms of slavery, trafficking and exploitation (the [Office for National Statistics](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/modernslaveryintheuk/march2020#defining-modern-slavery)).  |  |  |
| The following definitions are as noted in [Welsh Government’s Strategy on VAWDASV 2016-21](https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-05/national-strategy-2016-to-2021.pdf) |
| Violence against women and girls | This encompasses (but is not limited to): * physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family (including children and young people), within the general community or in specific contexts such as higher education, including domestic abuse, rape, and incest;
* sexual harassment, bullying and intimidation in any public or private space, including work;
* commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution, lap dancing, stripping, pornography and trafficking;
* child sexual abuse, including familial sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and online abuse
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| Domestic violence and abuse | Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse: * psychological;
* physical;
* sexual;
* financial; and
* emotional
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| Controlling behaviour | A range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by: * isolating them from sources of support;
* exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain;
* depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape; or
* regulating their everyday behaviour.
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| Coercive behaviour | An act or pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuses that is used to harm, punish or frighten a victim. |  |  |
| Honour based violence | Includes but is not limited to: dowry-related violence, female genital mutilation, forced and child marriages, and 'honour' crimes. |  |  |

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| **Section three: Policy, prevention and involvement of student voice** |
| 1. Does the university have a specific violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (or related) policy, separate from other wellbeing/conduct policies?
 | **Yes/No** (*delete as appropriate*)*If* ***yes****, please provide a link to the policy, or submit this as a PDF alongside the monitoring form.**If* ***no****, please explain the rationale behind the decision, and provide links to other policies where this is covered.* |
| 1. How does the university work to ensure policies relating to violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence are kept up to date?
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| 1. How does the university ensure that all students and staff are aware of their responsibilities relating to violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, and the policies that govern this?
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| 1. How does the university ensure that the voices and experiences of staff and students are embedded within policies that relate to violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence?
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| 1. How does the university ensure that the relevant complaints processes and procedures are regularly reviewed, and promoted effectively to staff and students in an accessible manner (e.g. Welsh language resources, communications for international students)?
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| 1. How does the university promote its expectations of a safe and inclusive campus, and cultivate the necessary culture to achieve this? How does this practice take account of the needs and experiences of all students and staff, including international students and those with protected characteristics (e.g. disabilities)?
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| 1. What interventions has the university put in place to prevent and combat sexual violence? How have these been evaluated to inform of their impact?
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| **Section four: Training and development** |
| 1. What training will the university offer to students and staff throughout the academic year 2024/25?
 | *Please submit the university’s VAWDASV training plan for 2024/25 alongside the monitoring form. Further comments may be outlined in this space.* |
| 1. Does the university mandate staff, or specific groups of staff, to attend VAWDASV training?
 | **Yes/No** *(delete as appropriate)**If* ***yes****, please explain which groups of staff are mandated to attend or receive such training and why**If* ***no****, please explain the rationale behind the decision.* |
| 1. How does the University ensure that training opportunities and campus-wide conversations engage all students and staff, regardless of their gender and other characteristics?
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| 1. How does the university monitor and evaluate its training activities to inform of their reach and impact within the university community?
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