PRESS RELEASE 05/12/24

We at PCPW are issuing this press release on behalf of the family concerned.

COURT STOPS ORDER FOR SCHOOL GIRL MASTECTOMY!

An extraordinary case of a forced mastectomy was actioned against the mother of a 15 year old school girl. The case was filed by NHS Wales, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board, and is ongoing at the Royal Courts of Justice, London.

The young girl (who cannot be named for legal reasons) first found a lump in her breast back in September 2023 at age 14. A biopsy was performed that year and the young girl was diagnosed with a fibroadenoma- which is a common breast lump known to be benign.

The health board expressed concern over the size of the lump, stating it had grown and it needs a surgery which will leave severe disfigurement. She was told she would have damage to the breast tissue and she will never be able to breastfeed, and she may well be facing a mastectomy. This was before introducing her to mastectomy bras..

A disagreement has broken out after the school girls’ mother refused to override her daughters decision not to go ahead with the surgery. NHS Wales claimed this was a medical emergency. Because the family disagree with the proposed ‘treatment’ , the health authority referred the family for a safeguarding investigation for abusing her children and threated to take the children into care.

The girl’s mother accepts her daughter is Gillick competent. In a short statement she said "no mother should be forced to override their daughter and sign for a surgery which is, a life changing decision usually made by grown women in life threatening situations...... This does not sit right with me. It feels forced. The pressure on my family is crippling".

The family feels there has been an abuse of power by both parties and are relieved the court has understood the implications of this type of life long disfigurement. The court agrees the family should be free to explore other options whereby focus is on surgery which will save the breast.

The case continues to be managed by the court and is listed for the 16th and 17th December at 10:30am.