

Local Authority Designated Officer

09 April 2021

Volume 1, Number 1

In this issue

Welcome note

When to contact the LADO

The role of the LADO

Training dates

I'm Ivan Sullivan the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer). I qualified as a Social Worker in 2003 and have worked for many years across a variety of children's social work services in the South West including practising in Torbay from 2011 to 2013 as a Social Worker.

I was delighted to be appointed to the LADO role in October 2019 and returned to work in Torbay, which in a sense felt like 'coming home'.

The Covid-19 pandemic has and continues to place demands on our services in ways that has been unimaginable. This continues to exacerbate and place pressures in our common goal of keeping children safe. Therefore I would like to thank all of you for working together to safeguard children and young people.

In January this year, as part of Torbay's improvement journey, we looked at how we deliver the LADO service with the view of developing and improving the service for children who are served by the LADO.

WHEN TO CONTACT THE LADO

The LADO should be informed within one working day in respect of all cases in which it is alleged that a person who works with children has:-

- Behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed a child;
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children;
- Behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

THE ROLE OF THE LADO

- Ensuring the child's voice is heard and that they are safeguarded.
- Providing advice, information and guidance to employers and voluntary organizations around allegations and concerns regarding paid and unpaid workers.
- Managing and overseeing individual cases from all partner agencies.
- Ensuring there is a consistent, fair and thorough process for all adults working with children and young people against whom an allegation is made.
- Monitoring the progress of cases to ensure they are dealt with as quickly as possible.
- Recommending a referral and chairing the Allegation Management Meeting in cases where the allegation requires investigation by police and/or social care.

TRAINING DATES

With colleagues in Learning and Development, I am in the process of putting together a new training schedule offering LADO training sessions. The dates for Managing Allegations can be found on i-learn which will offer the aim to:

1. 'Understand the role of the LADO'
2. Target specific learning to 'Understand the Managing Allegation Process'
3. 'Feel confident about your role and responsibilities where the concerns about some who works with children'
4. 'Feel confident about what should and need not be referred to the LADO (i.e. thresholds)'

Contact Details

LADO: Ivan Sullivan

Phone:

07920247310

01803 208541

Email:

ivan.sullivan@torbay.gov.uk

