

Decision Maker: CEF Sub-Committee

Date: 8th October 2019

Decision Type: NOTE

Title: LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATED OFFICER
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018/19

Contact Officer: Penny Davies, Head of Quality Improvement,
Children, Families and Education

Chief Officer: Janet Bailey

Ward: All

1. REASON FOR REPORT

This report updates Members on the activity and performance of the Local Authority Designated Role (LADO) for 2018/19.

The report provides evidence of the effectiveness of LADO services provided to and on behalf of the Bromley's children in care between April 2018 and March 2019.

2. RECOMMENDATION

Members of the Committee **NOTE** the report

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: see report attached

Ward Councillor Views

2. Summary of Impact: see report attached

3. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not applicable

3. COMMENTARY

This report provided Members with background information on the role of the LADO, referral data and highlighted the need to raise greater awareness of the role. See attached report

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|---|---|
| Non-Applicable Sections: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MARKET CONSIDERATIONS• STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION• SUSTAINABILITY / IMPACT ASSESSMENT• OUTLINE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY AND CONTRACTING PROPOSALS• FINANCIAL• PERSONNEL• POLICY IMPLICATIONS• PROCUREMENT• COMMISSIONING AND PROCUREMENT• LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS• FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS |
| Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer) | None |



Local Authority Designated Officer Annual Report for Bromley Children Safeguarding Board

Executive Summary

April 2018 to March 2019

All organisations that provide services for children, or provide staff or volunteers to work with or care for children, should operate a procedure for handling allegations that is consistent with Pan London Safeguarding Children Procedures and Working Together 2018

The national requirement for local authorities to appoint a designated officer (LADO) to manage allegations against adults who work with children as outlined in Working Together and in Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education.

The LADO responsibility sits within the Children, Families and Education Directorate in Bromley Council. Rita Dada was employed (recently left the Council) on a full time basis and had overall responsibility for LADO reporting to Penny Davies, Head of Quality Improvement

The LADO's role is to give advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations; liaise with the Police and other agencies, and monitor the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process. Every agency that works with children and young people should have a Designated Officer whose job it is to liaise with and refer to LADO.

The LADO should be alerted to 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.
- Behaved towards a child in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children.

SOURCES OF REFERRALS

Referrals and consultations come from a range of agencies. The majority of referrals have been from education, early years and social care. These are the agencies where training and awareness of the LADO role have been focussed within the year (faith groups and health). The data highlights the need for the LADO in the coming year to continue to work with the Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership in improving awareness and links within Police and Health but also the voluntary sector given the small amount of referrals received from these agencies but also their underrepresentation within the sector that the employee/volunteer works within.

| 2018/19 | Referrals | Consultations | Met Threshold |
|--|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Number of allegations referred to LADO | 202 | 212 | 29 |

CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The number of referrals has increased during the last year by 32.5%. Of these referrals, 33% were substantiated, 42% were unsubstantiated, 16% unfounded and 2% were Malicious. 19 of these cases were referred to regulatory bodies, agency unions or sporting bodies. There was 1 conviction and 1 police caution. ‘

The activity report attached as Appendix A offers oversight of our LADO service.

Within the report we have made a number of recommendations and areas for focus to continue to improve our service during 2019-20.

The service continues to develop and go from strength to strength.