



9 January 2024

Agenda Item: 14

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND
RESOURCES**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGING ALLEGATIONS SERVICE: APRIL
2022 – MARCH 2023**

Purpose of the Report

1. The report provides an update on the performance and activities of the Managing Allegations Service from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Information

2. The statutory duties of the LADO and the corresponding requirements on partner agencies are set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. Local Authorities are required to:
 - have arrangements to provide advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations and agencies on how to deal with allegations against people who work with children
 - have a designated officer or team of officers to be involved in the **management and oversight of allegations against people who work with children**. Any such officer or team of officers should be sufficiently qualified and experienced to be able to fulfil this role effectively, for example, qualified social workers
 - have appropriate arrangements in place to liaise effectively with the police and other organisations and agencies to **monitor the progress of cases** and ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process
 - ensure allegations against people who work with children are not dealt with in isolation and that actions are taken to **address the corresponding welfare concerns in relation to the child** or children involved in a co-ordinated manner and without delay.
3. The annual report, attached as **Appendix 1**, contains information in respect of the vision of the service and a reflection on the Council's achievements and the impact of the progress. It also considers the challenges and commitments for 2022/23.

Other Options Considered

4. To not bring this report to the Panel: this option is discounted because this report provides information that forms an important part of the Panel's remit in assisting the Council in fulfilling its legal corporate parenting duties and acting as an effective corporate parent.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

5. The report provides an opportunity for the Panel to consider any further actions arising from the information contained within the report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

7. There are no financial implications arising from the report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Corporate Parenting Panel considers whether there is any feedback that it wishes to give and any actions that it recommends in relation to the information contained in the report.

Laurence Jones
Service Director, Commissioning and Resources

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (KA 19/12/23)

8. This report falls within the remit of the Corporate Parenting Panel to consider, being a panel set up to assist the Council in fulfilling its legal corporate parenting duties to ensure the Council and partner agencies act as effective corporate parents.

Financial Comments (CDS 13/12/23)

9. There are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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