

Head of Safeguarding, Review and Quality Assurance

Job Outline

- To lead on promoting the safeguarding of children whether within the community, looked after or leaving care within the Tri Borough agreed working arrangements.
- To ensure that the child protection conferencing service carries out its role and responsibilities to the highest possible standard as set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013.
- To ensure that looked after children's services through the independent reviewing service carry out key statutory responsibilities to the highest possible standard as set out in the Care Planning, Placement and Review Regulations and the Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO's) Handbook 2011.
- To ensure that child protection systems are in place for advice, challenge and scrutiny of the quality of practice in all services for vulnerable children.
- To ensure that schools across the tri-borough area are supported, scrutinised and challenged with regards to their safeguarding practice and to ensure the delivery of a cross phase safeguarding training offer.
- To ensure that the IRO services carry out their statutory functions including those set out in Section 118 Adoption and Children Act 2002
- To oversee and advise on complex child protection investigations, children abused through sexual exploitation, trafficking and other specialist child protection issues including allegations against staff and other professionals working with children escalating concerns where necessary
- To chair complex inter-agency meetings relating to investigations, conflict resolution and other enquiries.
- To advise the Senior Leadership Team, Independent Chair of the LSCB, Chief Executives and Members on individual and thematic safeguarding matters and risks, ensuring that responsibilities to protecting children and young people are paramount.
- To co-ordinate quality assurance arrangements both on a single borough and multi-borough basis that help to promote and share high quality practice. This includes the delivery of external audit activity and "mock" inspections.
- To ensure that the voices of children and young people are heard individually and themes are embedded within service planning.
- To develop and support a performance management and quality assurance framework across the Tri Borough partnership that ensures continuous improvement of services to children in need and children looked after with a focus on improved outcomes and permanency planning
- To ensure that the Tri Borough Local Safeguarding Children's Board fulfils its responsibilities in relation to safeguarding children as set out in Working Together 2013
- To develop and maintain effective and efficient multi-agency partnerships that promotes the safeguarding and well being of children in need and children looked after.

- To ensure that the participation and advocacy services for children and young people are available and effective, well promoted and contributing to wider service development.
- To embed lessons learned from local quality assurance activity, case review and national reviews.
- To ensure that safeguarding and quality assurance are considered in all aspects of the Department's service development activity including transformational service reviews.
- To be the Departmental lead on Information Governance including assuming responsibilities as Caldicot Guardian.