

## **Role of National Lead Child Protection Officer**

### **Knowledge**

- Legislation, government guidance. National framework for safeguarding children
- Role and responsibilities of statutory agencies including Local Safeguarding Children Boards
- Planning processes – children ‘in need’ – child protection enquiries/investigations
- Behaviour which is harmful to children – thresholds of ‘poor practice’ – ‘abusive behaviour’
- Own organisation’s role and responsibilities. Boundaries of the Lead Officer role
- Organisation’s policy and procedures related to safeguarding and protecting children
- Core values/principles of work with children
- Equalities issues and safeguarding
- How abusers target and groom organisations in order to abuse children
- Best practice in prevention.

### **Skills**

- Child-focused approach
- Administration and systems (records) management
- Ability to promote and demonstrate anti-discriminatory practice
- Advice and support provision – all levels within the organisation
- Communication skills
- Ability to develop and produce national level guidance and resources
- Influencing skills and ability to work with conflict and with emotionally distressing matters.

### **Recommended**

- Ability to deliver core training through different levels within the organisation.

### **Tasks**

- Lead role in development and establishment of the organisation’s approach to safeguarding children and young people. Key role within organisation
- Management of cases of poor practice/abuse reported to the organisation – including records system
- Management of referrals to Children’s Social Care services and Police
- Central point of contact for internal and external individuals/agencies
- Represent the organisation at external meetings related to child protection
- Coordinate dissemination of policy, procedures and resources throughout the organisation
- Provide advice and support to Regional/County Welfare Officers and a lead role in their recruitment, selection and training
- Advise on the organisation’s training needs and development of its training strategy. Provision of training where appropriate
- Lead role in maintaining and reviewing the organisations’ Implementation Plan for safeguarding and protecting children
- Ensure ‘Standards’ are met
- Keep up to date with own knowledge and skills.