

## **Role of the Regional Welfare Officer**

### **Knowledge to be acquired through training Skills Tasks**

- Core legislation, government guidance. National framework for safeguarding children
- Roles and responsibilities of statutory agencies and Local Safeguarding Children Boards
- Local arrangements for managing child protection and reporting procedures
- Poor practice and abuse – behaviour which is harmful to children
- Own organisation's role and responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people
- Organisation's policy and procedures related to safeguarding children and young people
- Core values and principles underpinning good practice
- Awareness of equalities issues and safeguarding.

### **Recommended**

- Basic knowledge of how abusers 'target and groom' organisations to abuse children. Best practice in prevention.

### **Skills**

- Administration
- Advice and support provision
- Child - focused approach
- Communication skills
- Recording skills
- Ability to take responsibility for providing information about local resources such as written material
- Promote organisation's policies, procedures and resources.

### **Recommended**

- Ability to provide basic training on safeguarding at club level where supported and suitably trained by the organisation.

### **Tasks**

- Assist the organisation to fulfil its responsibilities to safeguard children and young people at local level
- Assist the organisation to implement its child protection plan at local level
- Maintain contact details for local statutory agencies
- Make links with local statutory agencies (Police and Children's Social Care) and Local Safeguarding Children Boards
- Liaise with statutory agencies on individual cases in an urgent situation and/or where this is not done by the national organisation or where it is an operational role at county/regional level
- Provide advice and support to local clubs regarding concerns about poor practice/abuse
- Maintain locally held records related to poor practice/child abuse cases, where these are not held nationally
- Ensure confidentiality is maintained
- Advise their national organisation regarding local contacts/procedures during child protection investigation
- Provide support networks for local Club Welfare Officers
- Provide resources and (where appropriate) relevant training for local clubs, coaches and people working with children and sport