

Safeguarding – getting it right

Background

Key changes have come about as a result of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006. The Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) has been created, whose remit is to help to prevent unsuitable people from working with children and vulnerable adults in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The previous lists of barred individuals (POVA list, POCA list, List 99 and various other lists) all now come within the jurisdiction of the ISA who will administer two barred lists, the ISA Children's Barred List and the ISA Vulnerable Adults Barred List.

Employers (or Regulated Activity Providers as they are known under the Act) are under a duty to make a referral to the ISA in certain situations. There is a new single ISA Referral Form and ISA Referral Guidance.

Employers will need to get to grips with the new requirements and to understand when a referral must be made, and also the risks of getting it wrong.

Objectives of the course

The aims of this course are to help managers understand the key obligations and risks associated with this difficult area and to gain more confidence in dealing with a referral situation. The following questions will be answered :

- What are the key obligations under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006?
- When is it appropriate to make a referral to the Independent Safeguarding Authority?
- How do I make a referral?
- How does this relate to suspension and ongoing disciplinary proceedings?
- What are the risks of making a referral and what do I need to consider?
- Where can I get help?

Course content

The course is highly interactive and we will deal with a mixture of presentations and practical case studies designed to cover the following areas.

- The background to the law and the current position including the latest on Vetting and Barring
- The duty to refer – when it arises
- The sorts of situations that would satisfy the “harm test” and “relevant conduct” under the regulations
- How to carry out an investigation and to assess when a referral should be made
- Practical steps in carrying out an investigation
- Data Protection issues and other areas of key risk
- What happens after a referral is made?

This course will be suitable for....

- Operations managers and Human resources managers
- Home managers
- Care services managers
- Senior carers

Please contact Lee Jefcott on 0161 618 1538 or e-mail lee.jefcott@blueskylaw.co.uk for more information.

Information provided for general guidance only and does not replace the need to obtain specific advice about any given situation.