

OUTCOMES

At the end of an investigation an outcome is required. The possible outcomes are:

- **SUBSTANTIATED:** Evidence was able to prove that what was alleged did happen.
- **UNSUBSTANTIATED:** There is insufficient evidence to prove that the allegation did or did not happen.
- **UNFOUNDED:** Evidence was available to prove that what was alleged didn't happen or couldn't have happened or information has been misinterpreted
- **MALICIOUS:** A deliberate act to deceive. For an allegation to be classified as malicious, it will be necessary to have evidence which proves the Intention to deceive.

The outcome of any investigation is final. Unfortunately, detailed information regarding the full extent of the investigation may not be able to be shared with you further than action has been taken and appropriate safeguarding measures have been implemented.

This is due to data protection requirements and is not about withholding this information from you. You can be assured that the Wirral Safeguarding Children Board provide independent scrutiny to all investigations to ensure they are clear and transparent, considering all safeguarding issues to reach a conclusion and that appropriate action is implemented without delay.

PERSONAL SUPPORT

The meeting will consider what the best support would be and who is best person or agency to provide it if the child or young person you are caring for is in need.

A named person will be identified to keep you informed throughout the process of any developments. You will be informed when the matter has been concluded.

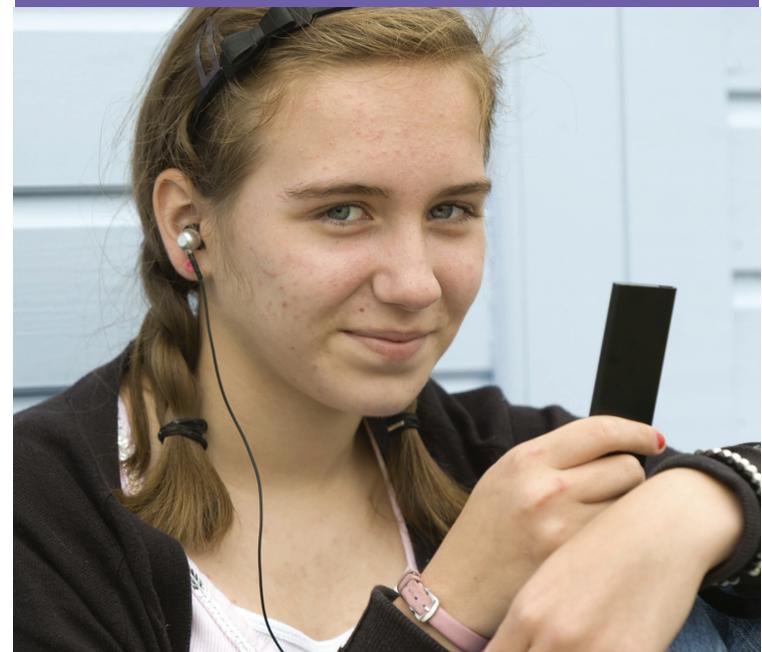
This named person could be the lead within the investigating agency, such as a Social Worker or Police Officer; or it could be a Manager within the agency employing the professional whom concerns have been raised.

FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find Wirral Safeguarding Children Board procedures for Managing Allegations at:
http://wirralscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_man_alleg_vol.html or
<http://wirralscb.proceduresonline.com/>

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Raising safeguarding concerns regarding professionals who work with Children and Young People



WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS LEAFLET?

You are receiving this leaflet as information has been received which alleges the child or young person you care for may have been harmed by an adult working in a position of trust. A safeguarding allegation is not the same as a complaint about a service.

The majority of people who work with children or young people act professionally and aim to provide a safe and supportive environment for them. However, sometimes the behaviour of adults who work or volunteer with children and young people can result in allegations being made against them.

It is never acceptable for an adult in a position of trust to harm a child or young person and therefore, allegations or concerns about behaviour raised regarding staff, workers or volunteers in relation to children or young people are taken seriously.

Wirral Safeguarding Children Board view all safeguarding allegations regarding people who work with children seriously and will work with agencies to ensure they are investigated. This may include also working with Wirral Children Services Child Protection Procedures.

WHAT IS THE LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATED OFFICER ROLE?

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is responsible for overseeing all safeguarding allegations about individuals who work with children and young people. The work can be paid, unpaid or voluntary.

A concern can be in relation to the person's behaviour at work or outside of their workplace.

The LADO will not be able share specific information regarding the alleged person involved with you, but will ensure that a nominated person in the agency undertaking the investigation will keep you informed throughout the process.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Allegation reported to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

The LADO will consider whether a discussion or meeting should be held to decide if further action is needed

If it is necessary to investigate further, a decision will be made whether this will be undertaken by the Police, Children's Social Care or the professionals employer or a combination of agencies

An appointed investigating officer may wish to meet with your child or young person to discuss the allegation. This will be discussed with you beforehand

Following the investigation a decision will be made to conclude the outcome of the investigation as: Founded, Unsubstantiated, Unfounded or Malicious.