

## Appendix 13

### Referrals to Independent Safeguarding Authority

The Independent Safeguarding Authority's (ISA) role is to help prevent unsuitable people from working with children and vulnerable adults.

Referrals are made to the ISA when an employer or an organisation, for example, a regulatory body, has concerns that a person has caused harm or poses a future risk of harm to children or vulnerable adults.

Employers, social services and professional regulators are under a legal duty to notify the ISA of relevant information, so that individuals who pose a threat to vulnerable groups can be identified and barred from working with these groups.

- If your organisation dismisses or removes a member of staff/volunteer from working with children and/or vulnerable adults (in what is legally defined as regulated activity) because they have harmed a child or vulnerable adult you have a legal duty to inform the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA).
- An organisation which knowingly employs someone who is barred is breaking the law.
- A person barred from working with children or vulnerable adults is breaking the law if they work/volunteer or seek to work/volunteer with these groups.

The ISA will receive referrals when:

- there is harm or risk of harm to children or vulnerable adults, *relevant conduct* has occurred or
- an individual has received a caution or conviction for a *relevant offence*.

A full Guidance Document and Referral form are available on the ISA website [www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk)