

REPORT TO: Children, Young People and Families
Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 8th September 2025

REPORTING OFFICER: Executive Director of Children's Services

PORTFOLIO: Children, Young People and Families

SUBJECT: Annual Report of the Local Authority
Designated Officer (LADO)

WARD(S) Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To present a summary of the work of the LADO service over the reporting year of 2024-2025 and an analysis of the same.
- 1.2 Additionally, the report details progress made against objectives set previously and provides information relating to key developments and emerging issues that have arisen during the reporting period.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board

- 1) receive the LADO Annual Report for 2024-2025;**
- 2) consider the progress, the performance information, and raise any questions or points for clarification; and**
- 3) highlight any areas of interest and/or concern where further information can be reported at a future meeting of the Board.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The national regulatory framework provides a clear outline of the function and scope of the LADO service. Departmental objectives provide a clear statement on how the service is delivered locally and what the service is planning to achieve. The report demonstrates how the service contributes to the Council's strategic priorities.
- 3.2 This information is part of the Council's performance management arrangements and the Policy & Performance Board has a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

There is a requirement to have a strong, robust and timely framework for action in identifying and responding to allegations against people in a position of trust across all agencies. This is key to supporting children and young people, and ensuring that all partners are clear about their responsibilities and role in working together to promote safe environments for children & young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

The LADO service goes some way to promoting a strong and robust framework to ensure that children & young people are supported in their learning and future employment and skills development by contributing to a safe and aware culture within educational and learning settings within the Borough.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Children and young people whose health needs and level of development is potentially compromised are identified, protected, and can continue to access services that help them in the knowledge that the LADO service promotes safer multi-agency working.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

No are such implications associated with this report.

7.0 Risk Analysis

7.1 Not applicable.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 Not applicable.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Not applicable.

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

'None under the meaning of the Act.'