

email No 23

From: lormac1053@aol.com
 To: laura.gow@macroberts.com
 Subject: council letter
 Date: Tue, 31 Mar 2009 8:47

hi laura

since our discussion yesterday regarding DCC letter, i've had a couple of thought, read the letter again and done some research. quite frankly, none of it makes sense. they have pulled our work in schools? when we work in schools, the only policies that apply are dundee city council policies so why did they pull the VIP work? maybe now we have their actual complaint and it is only in connection with our policies (allegedly), they should be, as a matter of urgency, writing to schools, education and our social worker (to do with my fostering) to say we can go ahead again? Or do we wait and get the all clear?

also, every organisation has workers that break rules and don't tell the organisation (including them), it is completely unreasonable (and illogical) to assume that supervision could have prevented such a thing. the more i read it, the more unreasonable a statement it is especially since the volunteer broke no laws, did not endanger a child or anything. Their letter reads like he did endanger a child.

also, have checked out with scottish womens aid what the requirements of their childrens workers are. they only require a level 3 qualification in child care (not child protection) and they have substantial one to one with very vulnerable children . this is the guidance of the care commission for those working in a residential setting. 3 of us are better qualified than this even though we don't have to be.

guidance to voluntary organisations issued by dundee voluntary action is to appoint a child protection worker from within and I found the following also.... which would indicate that they expect us to have, for some reason, different policies from everyone else and different from current guidance.

"If your organization has appointed someone to be the Child Protection Lead, this person will be responsible for making decisions about where to take child protection concerns. In the first instance you should take concerns to the Child protection Lead." *Child protection Policies for your Community Group. 2007 Highland Child Protection Committee.*

"It (the child protection policy) should also summarise when it is/is not appropriate to discuss child protection concerns with a child/young person's parent/carer." *The Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003 Suggested core content of organisation's Child Protection Procedures.*

(organizations will) "ensure that all workers understand their obligations to report care or protection concerns about a child/young person, or a worker's conduct towards a child/young person, to the organisation's designated person for child protection;" *The Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003 (Disqualified from Working with Children List)*

regards

laurie

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