

**Job Title:** Regional Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

**Reports To:** National Safeguarding Lead (Ice Hockey UK/EIH)

**Supports:** Club DSLs within assigned region

**Location:** Remote/Field-based within designated region

**Type:** Voluntary (with travel and training costs covered)

**Term:** Three-year term

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## **Role Purpose**

The Regional DSL plays a vital leadership role in the national safeguarding structure by supporting, mentoring, and monitoring the safeguarding activity of Club DSLs within their designated region. This role serves as a bridge between local club safeguarding practice and national safeguarding strategy, ensuring consistent implementation of safeguarding standards and procedures across the sport.

The Regional DSL will work closely with the National Safeguarding Lead and Case Management Group (CMG) to provide expert advice, monitor compliance, and help foster a culture of safeguarding best practice across their clubs.

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## **Key Responsibilities**

### **1. Policy Delivery & Oversight**

- Support the implementation of national safeguarding policies and procedures across all clubs in the region.
- Ensure Club DSLs understand and apply safeguarding policies and escalate any concerns around non-compliance to the National Safeguarding Lead.

### **2. Safe Recruitment Oversight**

- Monitor club adherence to DBS checks and safe recruitment protocols.
- Provide support and guidance to clubs regarding eligibility, DBS renewal, and volunteer vetting processes.

### **3. Conduct & Behaviour Support**

- Promote awareness and consistency of club Codes of Conduct across the region.
- Advise Club DSLs on addressing conduct breaches and ensure escalation routes are understood and applied.

- Supporting Club DSLs with or leading investigations into conduct breaches and reporting where appropriate (e.g. to Club DSL/National Safeguarding Lead/LADO etc).

#### **4. Training & Development**

- Support the National Safeguarding Lead in coordinating and delivering safeguarding training and CPD to Club DSLs.
- Monitor completion of mandatory training and identify clubs or individuals needing further support.

#### **5. DSL Network Leadership**

- Serve as the direct line of support and mentorship for all Club DSLs within the region.
- Facilitate regular regional safeguarding meetings or drop-in sessions to encourage knowledge-sharing and community support.

#### **6. Case Support & Escalation**

- Provide initial advice to Club DSLs managing concerns or disclosures, ensuring accurate record-keeping and appropriate action.
- Escalate relevant cases to the National Safeguarding Lead or CMG and assist with follow-up if required.

#### **7. Agency & Stakeholder Liaison**

- Signpost clubs to relevant local authority or statutory services where required (e.g., LADO, social services).
- Feedback any emerging regional trends to the National Safeguarding Lead and support multi-agency partnership working where appropriate.

#### **8. Monitoring & Audit**

- Assist in the delivery of regional safeguarding audits and compliance checks across member clubs.
- Report on club performance and safeguarding practice to the National Safeguarding Lead and support improvement planning as needed.

#### **9. Promoting Culture Change**

- Be a visible, proactive safeguarding champion within the region.
- Encourage openness, welfare-first thinking, and safe sport principles in all interactions with clubs and stakeholders.

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## Person Specification

### Essential

- Experience in safeguarding, welfare, or child protection roles (in sport, education, or youth work).
- Knowledge of relevant UK safeguarding legislation, DBS requirements, and safe sport principles.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to support and influence volunteers.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality, accurate records, and act with integrity and impartiality.

### Desirable

- Previous experience as a Club DSL or similar safeguarding role whether in hockey or another sport or organisation.
- Familiarity with the structure of sport environments.
- Experience delivering training or mentoring other safeguarding professionals or volunteers.

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## Training & Support

- Induction, training, and ongoing CPD provided by the National Safeguarding Lead.
- Access to safeguarding documentation, tools, case templates, and escalation pathways.
- Participation in Regional and National DSL meetings.

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## Additional Information

- Enhanced DBS check required.
- Travel within region may be necessary to attend meetings or club visits (reasonable expenses reimbursed).
- Evening or weekend availability occasionally required.