

RESPONSE FROM DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL MONITORING OFFICER

As you are aware this was before both my time and the current DCC's LADO'S time but, I can confirm that shortly after my appointment I had it confirmed that LADO processes has been considered and improved. DCC had the LADO responsibility to call a multi agency meeting but as you are aware Mr Humphries was not a DCC Councillor or employee and the responsibility for Mr Humphries position and the criminal matter sat with EDDC and the police to manage.

It maybe that a meeting with you, me and our LADO to talk though processes now would be useful for you? I have commented where I am able to provide a response below

- 1) Would the same approach (the Monitoring Officer being advised to maintain complete confidentiality) take place now or have procedures been revised? If so, please can we have details.

The LADO usually advises the meeting attendees that the LADO process is in confidence and information is only shared on a need to know basis whilst ensuring that all parties are protected. Speaking from experience as an MO when I am required to attend a LADO meeting if I assess that information is required to be shared outside of the process or attendees of the meeting then I simply raise this with the LADO at the meeting and seek such approval, which has never been refused, especially on the basis of ensuring that children and vulnerable adults are not at risk. The LADO has no control of the information that the police dictates may be shared in relation to criminal matters.

- 2) Would the Safeguarding Lead for EDDC have been a more appropriate or additional attendee to the Monitoring Officer at that time? What is the established current practice?

This would be a matter for EDDC to determine. Upon invitation it would be for EDDC and the MO to determine if the attendance was right or if they should ask the LADO to invite additional representative from EDDC.

- 3) Will you be looking to revise the joint safeguarding policy to set out the actions that can be taken by an organisation to mitigate the safeguarding risks posed by any individual and particularly elected members?

I believe that the Current LADO may have already considered that and would be more than happy to facilitate a meeting with them so that you are able to discuss.

- 4) Will the concerns regarding the shortcoming in records be considered and addressed moving forward?

I believe that this has already been reviewed.