

What is a LADO (Local Authority Safeguarding Officer)

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) has responsibility for independent management and oversight of allegations against people who work or volunteer with children.

Working or volunteering with children is described as someone who meets children as part of their role and would be seen in position of authority or trust by children when in their work or volunteering role.

The LADO provides advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations, liaising with the police and other agencies and monitoring the progress of allegations against people who work or volunteer with children in the city of Hull. Each agency which employs people to work with children is required to have a Designated Officer who should liaise with the LADO when a concern arises about a member of their workforce.

For volunteer organisations or smaller community organisations, an individual who will act as the single point of contact for the LADO during this process should be identified.

All organisations providing services for children, including those who provide paid staff or volunteers to work with or care for children should inform the LADO if an allegation or serious concern is raised within 1 working day of the concern coming to their attention.

Referral of a professional to the LADO

Consider calling the LADO for advice on

(Hull) 01482 790 933 or prior (Hull) referral form

(NEL) 01472 326118 or

(NEL) <https://www.safernel.co.uk/report-a-concern/>

However, if the LADO is not immediately available for consultation this should not prevent you from submitting a referral for consideration.

[What happens when an allegation has been made about you leaflet](#)

Duty of Care

Employers and voluntary settings have a duty of care to their employees or volunteers. They should ensure they provide effective support for anyone facing an allegation and provide them with a named contact if they are suspended.

Where there is more than one employer of an individual, each employer (or community project) still has responsibility to ensure allegations are dealt with appropriately and that they liaise with relevant parties (this includes supply teachers, agency staff, volunteers, sports coaches, foster carers who may have a second role with children).

It is essential that any allegation of abuse made against a staff member, foster carer or volunteer is dealt with very quickly, in a fair, consistent, and transparent manner that provides effective protection for the child and, at the same time supports the person who is the subject of the allegation who should always be offered the right of reply to the allegations under consideration.

Urgent child protection concerns

If you are worried about a child that might be at immediate risk of harm or if the situation is an emergency do not wait to contact the LADO and contact either [Children's Services](#) and or the police straight away. The LADO can then be contacted after the child is safe.

Children's Services

(Hull) Early Help and Safeguarding Hub - [01482 448 879](tel:01482448879) option 4

(Hull) Out of hours Emergency Duty Team - [01482 300 304](tel:01482300304)

(NEL) Integrated Front Door- 01482 326292 (Option 2, option 2)

(NEL) Emergency Duty Team- 01472 326292 (Option 2)

Humberside Police - 999 or 101

Further guidance on managing allegations against people work or volunteer with children can be found in the following Government Guidance -

- [Working together to Safeguard Children 2018](#)
- [Keeping children safe in education 2021](#)