

Briefing in a minute

November 2015

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is the person who should be notified when it has been alleged that a person who works with children has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates she or he may pose a risk of harm to children.

The detail of the LADO role is highlighted in Working Together 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

What does the LADO do?

The LADO manages allegations or concerns about professionals or adults working or volunteering with children. The LADO will have management and overview of cases from all agencies when the criteria is met; give advice, guidance and information to Senior Managers; monitor the progress of cases in a timely and confidential way and ensure the consistent thorough application of the policies and procedures in organisations. The LADO is the single point of contact for all agencies, statutory, private or voluntary sector, to discuss concerns and make referrals that meet the above criteria.

Who should contact the LADO?

Anybody who has concerns about professionals or volunteers working with children should inform the LADO within one working day. If you have immediate child protection concerns contact Northumbria Police 999; or Children's Social Care, Initial Response Service, 0191 2772500; Children's Social Care, Emergency Duty Team on 0191 2787878 outside of office hours.

For more information or to make a referral contact

Melanie Scott, LADO, 0191 2774636 melanie.scott@newcastle.gov.uk

NSCB Website: http://newcastlescb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_man_alleg.html