

Youth-friendly summary of the Dorset LADO Annual Report 2024–2025

Title of Report

Dorset LADO Annual Report 2024–2025.

Who Wrote the Report

The report was written by the Head of Quality Assurance and Partnerships.

Date Written

The report covers the time from **April 2024 to March 2025**.

Summary of What the Report Is About

This report talks about how Dorset keeps children safe when someone working with them might have hurt them. The LADO team checks out worries about adults who work or volunteer with children, like teachers, foster carers, or sports coaches to name a few. They make sure children are protected and that we understand what the adult has or hasn't done, while making sure the adult is treated fairly.

What Are the Key Messages of This Report

- More organisations are asking the LADO team for help and advice.
- Most worries are about things adults do outside of work that might mean they are still unsafe to work with children.
- The team works with children services, schools, police, and other services to keep children safe.
- Training is helping more people understand what to do when they're worried about an adult's behaviour.

Important Facts and Figures

- The LADO team had **796 contacts** this year – that's more than last year.
- **172 allegations** were serious enough to look into more closely.
- Out of those 172 allegations, **17 allegations** were about Dorset employed Foster Carers
- Out of the 172 allegations, **66 allegations** were proven to be true (called "substantiated"). Out of the 66 proven to be true, **8** were about Dorset Employed Foster Carers.
- Most referrals came from **schools**, but some came from carers, health workers, and others.

- The biggest reason for referrals was **transferable risk** – when an adult's behaviour outside work might still mean they are unsafe to work with children.

Actions or Recommendations

- Keep offering training to help people know when and how to report concerns.
- Make sure police come to more meetings when needed.
- Improve how the team checks that changes are made after an investigation.
- Make the process easier for everyone.
- Start regular checks to make sure the service is working well.

N.B Copilot has generated this summary, and it has been reviewed the responsible officer.