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## Managing a Local Possession Authority

### This information is intended to help Qualified Workers understand the requirements for managing a Local Possession Authority LPA.

Each LPA must have a Possession Protection Officer (PPO) responsible for obtaining the LPA, managing protection arrangements, and managing rail traffic movements into and within the LPA.

One or more worksites and their associated rail traffic and equipment may occupy the portion of track defined by an LPA.

Each established worksite within an LPA must have a Protection Officer (PO) on duty.

Where an LPA has only one worksite, the PPO can also act as the PO if managing both roles does not interfere with the primary responsibilities of either role.

Before a worksite is established and before work starts, the PO must check and confirm the safety assessment and all related worksite protection documents on site.

If the LPA has only one worksite and the PPO is acting as the PO, the PPO is responsible for carrying out this on site check and confirmation.



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A PO manages worksite protection and worker safety by:

- making a safety assessment, and
- being the only person to brief workers about worksite protection and safety measures:
  - before work begins, and
  - if protection and safety measures change, and
  - before additional workers join the worksite.
- making sure that the rail safety aspects of the work is done safely, and
- keeping records about the methods used for working safely on track and protection arrangements.

### Protecting one worksite

Where an LPA has only one worksite, protection must be provided with railway track signals and possession limit markers placed either:

- at the LPA limits, or
- 2500m from each end of the worksite, if this is more practicable.

### Protecting multiple worksites

Where an LPA has multiple worksites, each worksite must be protected in accordance with the requirements specified in NWT 302 Local Possession Authority and NPR 700 Using a Local Possession Authority.

For more details about managing worksites, refer to SafeTracks 2026-03, Managing Worksites Within a Local Possession Authority.

### Can multiple workgroups work within one worksite?

Yes, multiple workgroups may work within one worksite, provided that the PO is satisfied that all the responsibilities of a PO can be met and the work can be done safely.

Some factors that should be considered are:

- the number of separate work groups, and
- the type of work to be performed, and
- the geographical location and separation distance between each workgroup.

If the PO determines that multiple workgroups cannot be effectively managed within one worksite, then multiple worksites must be established with a PO on duty at each worksite.

### Does each workgroup need a PO?

No. A PO is only required for each worksite, not for each workgroup.

If there is only one worksite, only one PO is required to be on duty for that worksite regardless of the number of workgroups within it.

### Can an LPA with only one worksite have both a PPO and a separate PO?

Yes, an LPA with only one worksite may have separate Qualified Workers performing the PPO and PO roles.