

Summary of Learning from 2015/16 SCRs

Child G

Lancashire LSCB is currently undertaking a serious case review that cannot be published due to ongoing criminal matters. It involves the death of an infant, Child G, aged 13 months. Whilst we cannot share details of the case yet, learning from the review is already emerging as follows:

Key areas for professionals to consider and challenge themselves

- *Question Yourself - Think the Unthinkable*
- *Consider parental history and use it to assess future risk*
- *People may want to change but can they do it (and in the timescale of the child)?*
- *Look for evidence – what you see may not be accurate or the full picture*
- *Show professional scepticism. Beware the "rule of optimism"*
- *Sometimes, people lie – sometimes this can be supported by other people*
- *Remember the impact adult behaviour has on the children they care for – what does the child see, experience, feel, think, fear, do?*

Full learning brief here: <http://www.lancshiresafeguarding.org.uk/media/10038/SCR-Learning-Brief-Child-G-October-2015.pdf>

Child L

This was a combined domestic homicide and serious case review, examining the deaths of a mother and her young child (Child L), and the subsequent attempted suicide of the father who had killed them both in April 2013. It was a tragic and highly unusual incident which occurred shortly after the father had first experienced symptoms of

psychosis and he was due to participate in a mental health assessment just a few hours after he took the lives of his family and attempted to take his own.

Broadly the issues identified:

- *Screening for domestic abuse - consider and explore the possibility even where there are no immediate presenting signs*
- *Information sharing between GPs and Health visitors – ensure all key professionals involved are contacted and information is shared and recorded*
- *Ensure mental health assessments consider risks to any children – discuss with other colleagues and agencies where appropriate*
- *Creating an environment for disclosing that domestic abuse is occurring – display information to reassure victims about disclosure - ensure staff are trained in this*

Full learning brief here: <http://www.lancshiresafeguarding.org.uk/media/8688/SCR-learning-briefing-Child-L-July-2015.pdf>

Current SCRs in Progress

Young Person 'A' – a Child who previously lived in Lancashire and has died in Lincolnshire as a result of his own actions.

Appendix 'A'

Child 'O' - 2 year old found dead in the car in the garage with his mother. Family lived in 4 areas, thought to be fleeing domestic violence.

Child KG – a near miss involving a child who was smothered and strangled by his mother 3 times but survived.

You can view all SCRs published in the last 12 months on our website at this link:
<http://www.lancshiresafeguarding.org.uk/resources/serious-case-reviews.aspx>