

Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review Briefing

Overview

- ◆ Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews are a statutory requirement for Safeguarding Partnerships as outlined in Children and Social Work Act 2017 (S17) and Working Together To Safeguard Children Statutory Guidance 2018 (Chapter 4).
- ◆ A review may be commissioned when abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and the child has died or been seriously harmed.
- ◆ The Statutory Safeguarding Partners (SSP) determine if a case meets the criteria for notification, the Local Authority has a duty to notify the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (CSPRP). The CSPRP will share all notifications with Ofsted and Department for Education.
- ◆ Once decision has been made that notification criteria met, a Rapid Review Panel is convened. Purpose of Rapid Review is to gather facts about the case, discuss any immediate action needed to ensure children's safety, identify improvements which may need immediate action, along with deciding next steps and recommendation to SSP whether LCSPR criteria has been met.
- ◆ The purpose of a LCSPR is to identify improvements to practice. Areas identified where lessons have been learned will be explored and changes to practice or policies may occur. Partnerships have 6 months to complete a LCSPR.

How Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews work in Darlington

Darlington Safeguarding Partnership is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how relevant organisations in Darlington will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in its area. A key function is to undertake reviews of serious cases. Any professionals or agency may refer a case to the Statutory Safeguarding Partners if they believe there are important lessons to be learned.

The statutory process is outlined in Chapter 4

[Working Together to Safeguard](#)

Children 2018


HM Government

Working Together to Safeguard Children

A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children

July 2018


Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel

Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel guidance for safeguarding partners

September 2022

Individual Agency Process

Staff identify a case for the notification of a Serious Child Safeguarding Incident – consulting with Manager or Safeguarding Lead within own organisation

Agency Decision

Agency agreement that it meets the criteria for notification including relevant information and rationale - agency to submit Notifiable (Serious) Incident Referral Form

Agency agreement that the case does not meet the criteria for a notification but there may be learning from the case

Refer to the Chair of the Learning and Development sub-group DSP@darlington.gov.uk - agency to submit Notifiable (Serious) Incident Referral Form

Notify the Local Authority within **1 working day** of becoming aware that the event occurred. Submit the Notifiable (Serious) Incident Referral template (Appendix 1) and email to DSP@darlington.gov.uk

1 day

Partnership's Business Unit to record submission and detail of the referral and inform the Statutory Safeguarding Partners (on behalf of the Local Authority) within **1 working day** of receiving

1 day

The **Statutory Safeguarding Partners** must meet within 5 working days to consider whether the case reaches the criteria for a serious child safeguarding incident notification

1-5 days

If the Statutory Safeguarding Partners agree the case reaches the criteria for serious child safeguarding incident notification, the Local Authority has a duty to notify the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel/Ofsted/DfE no later than **5 working days** of becoming aware that the event occurred

5 days

If the criteria are met, the **Statutory Safeguarding Partners** will convene a **Rapid Review Panel** within **7-10 working days** of acknowledgement from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel

7-10 days

The **Statutory Safeguarding Partners** will inform the **Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel** of their decision whether a Child Safeguarding Practice Review or national review is appropriate within **15 working days**.

15 days

The **Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel** will consider the recommendation and review the case at the next Panel meeting to decide whether the case reaches the criteria for a national review and will advise the Statutory Safeguarding Partners in writing of the decision

If decision is made to undertake a Child Safeguarding Practice Review it should be completed within **6 months** of date of decision to hold

6 months

Points to note:

- There is an expectation that all agencies with involvement in the child(ren) engage and provide information to support the review. There will be an agreed timeframe for all of the information to be gathered.
- For Education Settings—as the CSRP share all notifications with Ofsted and DfE, to be mindful they may be contacted by Ofsted who treat the information in the same way as they would if it were a complaint about the school, even if no indication the school is at fault
- A Rapid Review Panel is convened within fifteen working days of a notification to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel to consider the information and to make recommendation to the Statutory Safeguarding Partners on next steps and whether criteria for LCSPR has been met.
- The Notifiable serious incident notification referral form and the Child Safeguarding Practice Review and Serious Child Safeguarding Incident Procedures are available to download on the [Safeguarding Partnership website](#).