



Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Response to the Recommendations from the

Serious Case Review of Child G and H

The case was considered by the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) at its serious case review subgroup on 15 August 2017 under Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Regulations 2006. The subgroup found that this case met the criteria for a serious case review and agreed the commissioning arrangements in order to meet the requirements of such reviews as laid out in HM Government 'Working Together to Safeguard Children', 2015 (the statutory guidance at the time).

Working Together 2015 allowed LSCBs to use any learning model consistent with the principles in the guidance, including systems based methodology. Karen Tudor, an independent safeguarding specialist, was commissioned as the lead reviewer to complete the work using a systems-based methodology to ensure full participation by the front line practitioners who had been involved with the family.

To support the process there was a reference group of senior staff from involved agencies which the reviewer used as a sounding board, and where necessary to provide necessary context on organisational policies and practice. The Learning and Inquiry Group (LIG) subgroup quality assured the final draft before presentation to the Board.

The Hampshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) transitioned to the new Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) in September 2019 in accordance with the new statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. The HSCP, under the joint leadership of the new Safeguarding Partners, have overseen the completion, publication and response to the SCR into Child G and H.

This document provides the response from the Partnership Board, and individual partner agencies on the areas of learning highlighted to them, grouped in the following headings:

Working with Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs)

The Independent Chair has written to the Strategic MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements) Board to highlight learning from this report to their attention, and to seek their support in working together to promote the role of MAPPA and understanding of the offender management process to professionals in Board partner organisations. In response, the Strategic MAPPA Board developed a programme of professional workshops that were delivered over 2019-20 to raise awareness and understanding of MAPPA processes and offender management as well as general information on working with Registered Sex Offenders. Further sessions are due to be held in Hampshire during 2020.

In addition, a member from the MAPPA and Offender Management team attended the spring 2018 round of HSCP Regional Practitioner Forums and provided briefings to multi-agency professionals on MAPPA, the process of risk management for offenders, how the

offender management team work with offenders and their families / partners, the process of disclosure to families, and how and when offender management disclose information to other professionals. These briefings were received positively.

The Strategic MAPPA Board and the LSCPs across Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton (HIPS) have agreed a new protocol outlining how each partnership board will work together and how and when information will be shared. This can be found on the [HIPS Procedures website](#). In addition, the MAPPA Coordinator has drafted a 'One Minute Guide' on MAPPA and Offender Management for all professionals across the HIPS areas. This document is available [here](#).

The National Probation Service (NPS) as part of its safeguarding training includes, how disclosures are managed and assessed on a case by case basis. Including the importance of multi-agency working when families are receiving services from other agencies and the perpetrator has notified NPS of the involvement.

The Hampshire Youth Offending Team (HYOT) have recently agreed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) covering the relationship between the HYOT and MAPPA. Staff within each HYOT team have attended briefing sessions on MAPPA and the roles and responsibilities outlined for each agency.

Risk Assessment and Analysis of Information

The HSCP Board has developed and published an online toolkit to support staff from all HSCP Agencies when working with Unidentified Adults. Whilst this was commissioned and completed separately to this review, the tools are relevant to the learning identified. They support professionals to consider which adults are involved in the life of a child and providing support to them / their family. The [Unidentified Adults toolkit](#) is published on the HSCP website , promoted in regional practitioner briefings, newsletters and Spotlight briefings.

The CRC Probation Service have developed a training package for all staff in Risk of Serious Harm including what information needs to be included to inform a comprehensive risk assessment particularly to assess any risk to children from factors including sexual abuse, neglect and domestic abuse. This will include an assessment as to whether parents are able to protect and safeguard children when these factors are present.

The Process of Disclosure of Abuse

HSCP and its partners will promote the NSPCC campaign – '[Let children know you're listening](#)'. This campaign provides resources to professionals working with children who are or are likely to disclose sexual abuse. As part of this HSCP will signpost to associated guidance on supporting children disclosing abuse, found [here](#)

The Board, with colleagues from West Hampshire CCG (on behalf of the 5 Hampshire CCGs), and in partnership with the other HIPS area LSCPs, has updated the [HIPS guidance on child protection investigations](#) to make it clear when a medical assessment is required. This guidance also includes the need to ensure that the outcomes of medical examinations are recorded in writing and shared with relevant partner agency staff at the time of the examination to inform the timely assessment of a case.

In addition, colleagues from West Hampshire CCGs (on behalf of the 5 Hampshire CCGs), and working with health professionals from across the HIPS area, have developed a proforma to record the outcomes of child protection medical assessments at the time of the assessment. This will provide a timely written outcome of the assessment that will be available to other professionals, for example, social workers, in order to inform care planning assessments, and avoid delays whilst formal medical reports are drafted. This proforma is now in use across the HIPS area.

Children's Services have updated their child protection procedures in light of the recently published updated Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 statutory guidance. This update has included the learning from this review. To inform this, Children's Services have led a multi agency review of the section that refers to strategy discussions. This element has been updated to reflect the need for strategy discussions that take place outside of the MASH (multi agency safeguarding hub) environment to include a wider range of professionals. To enable this to happen in a timely way and include key health professionals who are hospital based, agreement has been reached to involve professionals via conference calling and other means rather than in person attendance. The Partnership has written to all member agencies to share the revised procedures and ask them to include this in their separate single agency procedures.

Anonymous Referrals

HSCP has asked Children's Services and the Police to ensure that the learning highlighted from this review in relation to anonymous referrals is included in their staff training and relevant organisational policy.

Learning from this report was included in the autumn 2018 round of Regional Practitioner Briefing that took place across the County. In addition, learning from this review and others commissioned by the HSCP has been included in the Spring 2019 round of HSCP Learning Lessons workshops. Both programmes are free to attend and open to all professionals from agencies who work with children and their families in Hampshire.

In addition, learning from this review has been included in a number of the HSCP's multi-agency training courses