

Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Response to the Recommendations from the Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review – Baby Lucy

This case was considered by the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) at its Learning and Inquiry (LIG) subgroup on 11 July 2019 under Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) Regulations 2006. The subgroup found that this case met the criteria for a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR) and agreed the commissioning arrangements to meet the requirements of such reviews as laid out in HM Government 'Working Together to Safeguard Children', 2018 (the statutory guidance at the time).

Working Together 2018 allowed LSCPs to use any learning model consistent with the principles in the guidance, including systems-based methodology. Senior professionals from within Hampshire agencies with no involvement in the case were identified to lead the review, 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, senior staff from involved agencies met with the reviewers, to act as a sounding board and, where necessary, to provide context on organisational policies and practice. The LIG subgroup quality assured the final draft before presentation to the Board. This document provides the response from the Partnership Board, and individual partner agencies on the areas of learning highlighted to them (as outlined below).

Recommendations

Recommendation One:

There is a need for multi-agency awareness training around the role of Integrated Offender Management, and the effect of non-molestation and restraining orders.

HSCP will work collaboratively with the Hampshire Constabulary Integrated Offender Management Team to identify training opportunities to promote professional awareness across Partnership agencies about the role of Integrated Offender Management and the effect of non-molestation and restraining orders.

Recommendation Two:

Professionals from all agencies need a greater understanding of how some children can be subject to care orders but continue to live with a parent, and the associated levels of risk.

HSCP will include in their virtual training offer content regarding children subject to a care order at home, and the associated levels of risk, to raise awareness amongst professionals across Partnership agencies.

Recommendation Three:

Agencies need to review their IT systems to assess if the appropriate information is recorded or can be recorded for children on child protection plans and those on care orders but placed at home.

HSCP has requested that all agencies review their IT systems, to establish how this information is recorded and consider how associated levels of risk can be identified.

Recommendation Four:

Hampshire Children's Services will review their process for notifying and involving other agencies of children on care orders at home, to ensure that all relevant agencies are informed of the risks and plans in place and are sharing information adequately.

Children's Services have a clear policy in place, which sets out that children placed on initial care orders / care orders at home should have a robust multi-agency assessment and planning in place (Placement with Parents Regulations). This sets out the requirement for Children's Services to notify:

- · relevant health practitioners including any health visitor known to the child,
- the child's GP,
- the GP and any health visitor known to the person with whom it is proposed the child will be placed,
- the child's current school and the local education service where the child resides.

Children's Services will send out communication to social work teams reminding them of the need to notify key partner agencies of any risks, and the care plan at the point that the interim/care order is made.

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