



Hampshire  
**Safe**guarding  
**Children**  
Partnership

**Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership**

**Response to the Recommendations from the**

**Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review – Baby Amelia**

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. 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:**

**a) HSCP has previously published and promoted online practitioner-based toolkits to support working with unidentified adults and adopting a family approach. HSCP to consider the re-promotion of these and other toolkits as part of its work to improve communication with agencies.**

HSCP is undertaking a review of the 'Understanding Unidentified Adults' toolkit and 'Adopting a Family Approach' joint toolkit. Once the review has been undertaken, the toolkits will be disseminated across partner agencies. HSCP includes training on both toolkits within the HSCP Virtual Training Offer. This training is available to professionals from all partnership agencies.

**b) Hampshire Children's Services and Southern Health Foundation Trust to re-share both toolkits directly with front line-staff and ensure both are included in training for newly recruited staff and trainees.**

Southern Health Foundation Trust include both toolkits in the training for newly recruited staff. The toolkits can also be shared with the Trust's whole workforce via communications and can be referenced within safeguarding supervision and learner sets as required. Children's Services have shared both toolkits with frontline professionals.

**c) Children's Services to continue with their existing work under their transformation programme to seek internal assurance on the implementation of agreed tools and policies.**

Children's Services have continued with their transformation work. There is a quality assurance framework in place to quality assure the work that is taking place. The quality assurance programme includes a range of audits including thematic audits, peer inspections, and practice observations. Policies, documents and tools are regularly reviewed and included in the social work toolkit. Internal workshops/lite bite sessions will be held to look at learning from reviews.

### **Recommendation Two:**

**HSCP to include a reference in future audits of multi-agency practice to review agency record keeping and ensure that records are clear what information has been shared by service users, and what information has been passed to other agencies for further action.**

Record keeping and referencing is a feature of all HSCP multi-agency audits. HSCP has developed e-Learning on record keeping to support professionals in their practice.

**Recommendation Three:**

**The understanding and use of agreed escalation routes have featured in other learning reviews and audits of practice undertaken by HSCP. HSCP to:**

**a) develop a short briefing guide that partner agencies can share with staff in staff training and briefing sessions.**

HSCP have developed a practitioner guide on escalation, which will be made available to all partner agencies. HSCP will ask partner agencies to share this practitioner guide through staff training and briefing sessions.

**b) include information on escalation in either of the 2020 rounds of Regional Practitioner Briefings.**

Escalation is a theme throughout a significant number of current and previous training sessions, including the regional practitioner briefings.

**c) request that all external trainers reference the agreed escalation protocol in all HSCP training.**

HSCP have built an e-Learning course on Professional Challenge and Escalation, which is available for professionals from all partnership agencies to access. This e-Learning introduces the principles and process outlined in the Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton (HIPS) Joint Working Protocol for the Professional Challenge and Resolution of Professional Disagreement. HSCP also include reference to the importance of using the agreed escalation protocol in webinars as part of the HSCP multi-agency Virtual Training Offer.

**Recommendation Four:**

**As part of existing audits of practice and peer review programmes, HSCP to continue to seek assurance that the voice or perspective of the child is included in case files and safety plans.**

HSCP include a focus on the voice or perspective of the child in all audits and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews that are undertaken. HSCP's Scrutiny Group has the voice or perspective of the child as an ongoing, rolling agenda item.

**Recommendation Five:**

**HSCP to share the learning from this case with all its external trainers to inform its ongoing multi-agency training programme. HSCP to share the learning of this case in its next round of Learning Lessons sessions. HSCP to publish this case in both the 'Understanding Unidentified Adults' and 'Adopting a Family Approach' toolkits.**

Learning from this review has been added to themed webinars as part of the HSCP Virtual Training Offer. Once the report is published, it will be linked to the ['Understanding Unidentified Adults'](#) and ['Adopting a Family Approach'](#) toolkits.

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