

Child Safeguarding Practice Review Roles and Responsibilities for practitioners involved with the family

Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR)

Following receipt of a Serious Incident Notification (SIN)¹ the Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) held a Rapid Review. Following the review, it was agreed by the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, that we will proceed to a statutory Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review.

'The purpose of serious child safeguarding case reviews, at local and national level, is to identify improvements that can be made to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Learning is relevant locally but has a wider importance for all practitioners working with children and families and for the government and policymakers.

Understanding whether there are systemic issues, and whether and how policy and practice need to change, is critical to the system being dynamic and self-improving'.

Working Together 2023

The CSPR will commence with the appointment of an Independent Lead Reviewer and during the review that Lead Reviewer will hold one or two practitioner events.

Benefits of attending practitioner events have told us that:

- Practitioners feel more valued
- They have a better understanding of the process for CSPRs
- It helps them to be more reflective, and
- Helps them understand the roles and responsibilities of others, as well as their lived experiences whilst working in some very complex and difficult circumstances
- They feel better informed overall

If you have been invited to attend a CSPR Practitioner event, the following information will guide you through the process

As an attendee at the practitioner event:

- You will be given the opportunity to enter into open and honest conversations about your experience, thoughts and feelings without judgement, bias or blame.
- Your thoughts and feelings will greatly assist the Lead Reviewer in gaining an overall picture of events as they unfold through your eyes working on the front line
- You will be given every opportunity to share your experience of being involved with the family and the review itself and encouraged to do so
- You will be given the opportunity to share what went well and lessons learnt
- You will help to ensure the voice of the child and the child's lived experience is always at the centre of the review
- You will identify and take responsibility for acting on, and sharing, any learning from the event as soon as it emerges within your team
- You will be supported throughout the review by your review team member, including before and after the practitioner events

¹ Chapter 5, Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2023

What will happen at the practitioner event?

- The event is informal and will be led by the Lead Reviewer
- Its format will be conversational where the Lead reviewer will outline the purpose of the event and ask you all to take part without judgement or blame
- The Lead Reviewer may go through the timeline leading up to the incident that triggered at Rapid Review and ask for your experiences during that time, and what involvement you had with the child and family and how you felt at the time
- The event will be attended by practitioners from other agencies who were also involved with the child and family. This helps practitioners understand the varying roles and responsibilities and allows the lead reviewer to understand what multi-agency working looks like
- Everyone is bound by confidentiality, and it will be a safe space for sharing your experiences, thoughts, and feelings.
- The Lead Reviewer is supported throughout by members of the SSCB business team, some of whom will be present at the event to assist with administration and any questions you may have about the process.

Please be assured that the purpose of a CSPR is to identify system and process learning across the multi-agency safeguarding landscape and is not to hold individuals to account.

For more information about the CSPR process, the practitioner's event, your attendance or anything else please contact:

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