



Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Subject: Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews – Update for Corporate Parenting Board

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Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update the Worcestershire Corporate Parenting Board on the current child safeguarding practice reviews within Worcestershire, and the timescales for their completion.

Current Position

Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership (WSCP) currently has two child safeguarding practice reviews (CSPR's) in progress. Both reviews are being overseen by the Worcestershire Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group on behalf of the WSCP. This group is chaired by Ellen Footman, Head of Quality and Safeguarding, Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults and Children with NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire CCG.

Case 1

This case involves a 17 year old female who was a Looked After young person and who died from a cardiac arrest following an epileptic seizure. There were child protection concerns relating exploitation regarding an adult male

The independent reviewer, Mr Jon Chapman, was commissioned in November 2019 and the review was progressing as normal until March 2020 when it was placed on hold as a result of the Covid restrictions and the impact on front line services in responding to increased operational demand. The decision has recently been taken to recommence this review, and the next stage of this, virtual learning events for practitioners involved in the case, are being arranged. It is anticipated that this review will be published in early 2021.

Case 2

This case involves a five week old baby boy who was found to be unresponsive at home in the early hours of the morning and was taken to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The follow up Sudden Unexpected Death in Childhood (SUDIC) meeting later received information in relation to the child having suffered injuries which were possibly non accidental.

The family were not open to or known to children's social services prior to this incident, however they were known to universal services for healthcare.

The decision to commission a CSPR into this case was only taken on 20th August 2020, and the National Review Panel informed of this on 10th September 2020. The terms of reference, which will include the timescales for this review and the commissioning process for an independent author are yet to be agreed by the Worcestershire Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group, and this is to be done at their next Meeting on Monday 14th September 2020. As such, it is too early in the process to provide a provisional completion date for this review process.

Recommendations:

1. Worcestershire Corporate Parenting Board note the contents of this report.