

# HILLINGDON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP 7-MINUTE BRIEFING SERIOUS CASE REVIEW: CHILD X

## 2. Key Details

- Child X's parents were acrimoniously separated, there were concerns about the impact of this on his wellbeing
- Mother worked as an agency Nurse, she had a history of alcohol misuse and poor mental health and had reported an alleged rape
- Father had reported alleged harassment from mother

## 1. Introduction

Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership has published a Serious Case Review following the death of 7 year old Child X in 2016; Child X was killed by his mother who then died by suicide.

The SCR highlighted a number of recommendations for agencies that are summarised here.

Agencies involved included: Police, Social Care, Education, Cafcass, GP and a Private Health Provider

## 7. Practice Implications

Now take some time to consider how you will implement the learning from this case into your practice.

- Be curious
- Think family
- Be reflective
- Record accurately and ensure any concerns are shared, and received
- Ask others about their agency role and remit
- Be familiar with your internal and multi – agency escalation process

Further briefings are available for these areas.

## 3. Information Sharing

The review found that agencies could have communicated more accurately and effectively:

- Across agency and geographical boundaries
- Between private and public Health Services,
- Professionals did not always understand the role and remit of other agencies

## 4. Whole Family Approach

Agencies providing adult focussed support must ensure that the impact of adult issues on parenting capacity is considered.

Assessments of children must Consider the views of all relevant adults in the child's family.

Practitioners need to ensure that they look beyond the presenting issue to consider the potential implications for family members – this could be as a parent, as a carer or for any other child or adult in the family.

## 5. Third Party Information

Information provided by family and friends should be carefully considered

Members of the public may find it difficult to report concerns to statutory services.

Agencies should proactively signpost to the NSPCC:

- Helpline: 0808 800 5000
- Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)
- Website: [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

Posters advertising the helpline are available for free download from the NSPCC resources page.

## 6. Safer Recruitment

Employers have a duty of care to staff and to members of the public.

Where employment agencies notice Recurrent breakdowns in employee/employer relationships the underlying reason for this should be considered. If appropriate, regulatory agencies should be informed.

