



Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (formerly known as Serious Case Reviews) should be considered for serious child safeguarding cases when abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected, and a child has died or been seriously harmed. This may include cases where a child has caused serious harm to someone else.

There are two types of reviews:

- Local reviews – where safeguarding partners consider that a case raises issues of importance in relation to their area
- National reviews – where the [National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel](#) considers that a case raises issues which are complex or of national importance. The Panel may also commission reviews on any incident(s) or theme they think relevant.

A review is not about blaming those involved but rather it is about looking at what happened to the child and learning from this.

Reviews should seek to prevent or reduce the risk of recurrence of similar incidents.

Who is responsible for the review?

For local reviews, the responsibility lies with the three safeguarding partners (Local Authorities, Chief Officers of Police, and Clinical Commissioning Groups) who must:

- Identify and consider serious child safeguarding cases which raise issues of importance in relation to their area
- Commission and oversee child safeguarding practice reviews of those cases, where they consider it to be appropriate
- Undertake a rapid review of the case to identify any immediate action to ensure a child's safety, consider the potential for identifying learning and help inform a decision about whether to undertake a child safeguarding practice review
- Send a copy of the rapid review to the child safeguarding practice review panel along with their decision about whether to carry out a local child safeguarding practice review and whether they think a national review may be more appropriate.



For national reviews, the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel is responsible for:

- Identifying serious child safeguarding cases that raise issues that are complex or of national importance and overseeing the review of these cases
- Identifying a pool of potential reviewers who can undertake national reviews, a list of whom must be publicly available
- Agreeing the potential scope and methodology of the review with the local safeguarding partners and engaging with them and others involved in the case

Local Reviews

Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership (KSCP) sees changes set out in Working Together 2018 as an opportunity to address some long-standing issues with the review process. This guidance sets out how we will meet our statutory obligations and improve the quality and timeliness of our reviews at every stage. The process re-focuses those involved on learning and real change to practice. It recognises that for the learning to be meaningful it must be gained and shared quickly.

It has been agreed that the decision to undertake a review will be made transparently and the rationale shared with all relevant partners, including families. Reviews will:

- Be conducted in line with good practice and the principles of the 'systems methodology' recommended in the Munroe Report
- Place the child at the centre of the process
- Be proportionate to the circumstances of the case and focus on potential learning
- Establish the reasons why the events occurred as they did
- Identify recommendations that will improve outcomes for children.

Additional Resources:

[Working Together 2018](#)

[NSPCC National Case Review Repository](#)
[Kirklees CSPR Improvement Framework](#)

[Analysis of Serious Case Reviews 2014 -2017](#)

[Kirklees How we learn from Serious Case Reviews](#)