

7 Minute Briefing: Multi-Agency Audit - Neglect one year on

7

What else

- ✓ **If you are a manager, ensure regular supervision** takes place and that sufficient progress of the multiagency plan is being made.
- ✓ Act on drift and delay or professional dispute – **Use the [WSP FaST Policy](#)**.
- ✓ No level of neglect should be left without a response – **Intervene early!**

For further information on neglect see the [WSP Website](#)



1

Why?

- Improving the multiagency identification and response to neglect is a key priority for WSP.
- We regularly review priority areas to seek assurance of the quality of practice and the outcome for children.
- Neglect has featured as a theme in Serious Youth Violence and Child Sexual Abuse
- The contacts and referrals to MASH for neglect in the past 12 months has increased.

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What you can do to improve your practice

- ✓ Talk to other professionals, gain a shared understanding of the impact of the neglect on the child's health, physical, emotional, educational, social and behavioural development. – **understand the child's lived experience.**
- ✓ Children and families need to know what the concern is and what is expected of them – **Develop good multiagency outcome focused assessments and plans.**

2

What did we do?

- 'Deep Dive' audit of 5 randomly selected children subject to Child in Need, Child Protection and Child Looked After plans.
- Involved practitioners from Health, Education, Childrens Social Care, Early Help, Voluntary Community Sector
- Considered the findings from regional and national reviews and the learning from serious child safeguarding incidents.



5

What you can do to improve your practice

- ✓ Be clear what is it that you are worried about and what changes you expect – **Use the GCP2 tool to assist and guide your assessments.**
- ✓ Are there other vulnerabilities that may impact on safety such as past trauma, mental health, substance misuse, domestic violence, – **Always 'Think Family'.**
- ✓ **Use multi-agency chronologies** to gain a holistic perspective of what is happening.

4

Areas for Development

- Improve the quality of multiagency assessment.
- Increase the use of GCP2 and multiagency chronologies.
- Identify the specific impact of neglect for each child in a household.
- Prevent delays in protective action being taken.
- Understand when and how to use the professional Challenge Resolution and Escalation Procedure.

3

Good Practice

- Some professionals especially school knew their children well.
- professionals especially social workers were skilled at engaging some parents.
- For one family, difference made to children's lives by engaging with fathers and paternal family.
- Impact for children when partners use the family safeguarding model.