



Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Media Statement: Serious Case Review ADS18

The Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership today publishes the serious case review report into the case of serious injuries to a young baby, known for the purpose of the review as child A. The report is published on behalf of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board.

Child A was only a few weeks old at the time they were taken to Hospital with serious injuries. This was the third attendance at the Hospital within a couple of weeks. At the time of the serious incident Child A was living with their mother. The father of Child A was convicted of causing grievous bodily harm to Child A and was sentenced to a period of imprisonment.

The aim of the serious case review was to examine closely the work of individual agencies and their inter-agency process.

Steve Atkinson, Independent Chair of the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership says:

“Firstly, it is reassuring to all involved to be able to report that the baby who suffered the serious injuries identified in the report has now made a good recovery.

Having said that, we asked that a thorough independent review be undertaken, and this identified a number of areas where improvements were necessary and made recommendations to that effect; all of which were accepted and have been implemented.

In particular, the review highlighted the importance of early assessment of difficulties emerging in families. In this case, there was an optimistic view taken by practitioners about the situation in the family, based on discussion with the mother, and this did not consider fully the history of the family or the vulnerabilities of the parents. Opportunities were missed also to understand fully the bruises to Child A at an early stage.

These and other issues identified in the review have resulted in Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership requesting urgent action on the recommendations as they emerged as a consequence. The Partnership will continue to monitor the implementation of this work to ensure that progress is sustained.”

Action has been taken to address all the recommendations set out within the review.

Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership will be reviewing specific actions already completed for the recommendations and ensure that assurance is obtained over the coming year to demonstrate sustained progress.

End

For further information please contact: news@derbyshire.gov.uk

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