



Child LD Serious Case Review Learning Brief **Published 12th January 2017**

Case Summary

Lancashire LSCB commissioned a Serious Case Review (SCR) regarding a child known as Child LD, aged 22months. Child LD sustained a suspected skull fracture and other injuries following a fall from an upstairs window of the family home. Parents were arrested on suspicion of child neglect and the criminal investigation is on-going. The child and family were known to agencies and the primary concerns were neglect, which included: poor home conditions, faltering weight, the family's lack of engagement with services and the presence of a 'medium risk' registered sex offender in the home.

The SCR panel concluded that the daily lived experience of Child LD was highly likely to have been neglectful and abusive. The review highlighted key themes which are listed below:

- Hostility and aggressive behaviour was frequently witnessed and the family evaded professional support and interventions. This made it difficult to form a clear picture of the child's needs due to the child being inaccessible. Professionals should be supported in respectfully challenging non-cooperative families.
- Relevant information sharing to inform risk assessments is essential to support the protection of children at risk or experiencing sexual abuse including familial risk indicators
- Professional's duty of care to adults should not obscure their responsibility to safeguard children.
- The report highlights the importance of professional relationships and respect for professional judgement when making and receiving safeguarding referrals.
- When safeguarding concerns are evident, as a minimum 'virtual' multi-agency information sharing/discussion should take place as part of the discharge planning process.
- All agencies should ensure that timely and accurate recording of information is subject to regular review and quality assurance.

The full SCR report will be published to the [LSCB website](#) once all other investigations are completed. The report includes information on practice issues, good practice and recommendations.