

PARTNERSHIP STATEMENT

Publication of learning from a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review

Date: 17th December 2024

Today we are publishing a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review that identifies the learning for safeguarding partners in relation to a one-month-old baby who sustained non-accidental injuries whilst in his parents' care. Both parents were convicted of causing or allowing serious physical harm to a child. The father received a custodial sentence and, the mother a suspended sentence as she had 'failed to take reasonable steps to protect her baby'.

The baby has made a good recovery, and they have remained in a safe and appropriate home since their injuries came to light.

This independent review explores the devastating consequences of shaking a baby, identifying significant learning for agencies working with and supporting vulnerable families. The review highlighted the importance of fully understanding the parents needs and capacity to care for a newborn baby. The Covid-19 pandemic and lengthy criminal proceedings has delayed completion of the review. However, in the intervening period agencies have embedded the emerging learning to improve services and enhance safeguarding practice.

Developments to the Safeguarding Partnership system include:

- The '[Never, Ever Shake a Baby](#)' Campaign launched in 2022
- [Working Together to Build Strong Family Foundations' Childhood Neglect Strategy 2022/26](#)
- The [ICON Programme](#) targeted at parents and carers to enable them to access support, advice and guidance particularly when a baby persistently cries
- Development of District Hubs, delivering Early Help and Family Support across the city

James Thomas and Richard North
Co-Chairs
Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership



Note to editors

The purpose of an LCSPR is to establish whether any lessons can be learnt by professional services to help ensure children are better protected in future.

The LCSPR is published on the Partnership's website (<https://lscpbirmingham.org.uk>). A copy can be downloaded from the table on the webpage (Case Reference BSCP 2020/21-01). A copy has been forwarded to the National Case Review Repository hosted by the NSPCC.

If you are concerned about a child living in Birmingham, please ring Birmingham Children's Trust's Children's Advice and Support Service on 0121 303 1888.

For any media enquiries or interview requests please contact Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Manager, Simon Cross

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