

29 May 2014

Publication of Serious Case Reviews: Child I & M, Family A, Child L

SOUTHAMPTON LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

MEDIA STATEMENT

THURSDAY, 29 MAY 2014

Publication of Serious Case Reviews: Child I & M, Family A, Child L

The Independent Chair of the Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board, Keith Makin, said:

“The Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board commissioned three Serious Case Reviews relating to the tragic deaths of Bradley and Jayden Adams in 2011, and to the harm and abuse suffered by Child L and the children of Family A.

“On behalf of the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board, I would like to say how sorry we are to those who did not get the help they needed and for the suffering of these children.

“The overall findings of these Serious Case Reviews showed significant failings. There are important lessons for Southampton City Council and our other local agencies to learn. All of our local agencies have participated fully in this independent process and have contributed to the LSCB’s action plan to improve children’s safeguarding.

“The professionals involved with these families failed to communicate adequately with each other and did not follow correct procedures and practice to safeguard children. This level of failure was unacceptable.

“Southampton City Council has already responded to the findings of the Serious Case Reviews and I am pleased to say that they have taken significant action to improve children’s social services over the past year.

“I am confident that while more work needs to be done; significant progress has been made to improve the safeguarding system for children in Southampton.”

Ends

Notes to editors

The Serious Case Reviews and the LSCB’s Learning and Improvement report are available at: <http://southamptonlscb.co.uk/>

Keith Makin was appointed as the Independent Chair of the Southampton Safeguarding Children Board in October 2013. He is a qualified social worker and

has held senior positions in social care services for over 30 years. He has worked as Director of Social Services and as Chief Executive of an independent childcare organisation.

For further information please contact communications@southampton.gov.uk or call 023 8083 2000.

