

## Serious Case Review Group

### Terms of Reference

#### **Aims**

- To enable the LSCB to undertake reviews of cases that require lessons to be learned, including Serious Case Reviews (SCR's) as detailed in Working Together 2015 and to provide a mechanism for the LSCB to deliver reviews of cases that do not meet the threshold for a SCR.
- To ensure that lessons learned from SCRs and other reviews are shared and acted upon as follow up to the work of SCR panels.

#### **Functions of the Group**

The SCR group will deliver the functions below to meet these aims:

1. Receive referrals of cases to be considered as SCR's
2. Link with the other Southampton LSCB Child Death Overview Panels in addition to the CDOPs from other areas as necessary
3. Consider these cases against the statutory definition of a 'serious case' as detailed in Regulation 5 of the LSCB Regulations and in Working Together 2015
4. Refer cases that are deemed by the group to meet the definition of an SCR to the Independent Chair of the LSCB for decision
5. Monitor and evaluate progress of actions to ensure lessons learned from SCRs once the panel has completed its role and the number of actions is manageable by this means
6. Identify the scope of agencies involved in cases subject to review to be involved
7. Lead the initiation and delivery of reviews of cases that do not meet the criteria for a SCR
8. Ensure proportionality of these reviews in the methodology that is adopted
9. Oversee and monitor actions coming from these (non SCR) reviews
10. Once actions are completed to pass information to the Monitoring & Evaluation group to monitor delivery and impact.

In addition the Committee will:

- Contribute to the development and maintenance of an effective Learning & Improvement Framework for Southampton as detailed in Working Together 2015.
- To work with other Southampton LSCB committees & groups to ensure multiagency activity is co-ordinated and business plan activities are delivered. In particular this group will work closely with Learning & Development, Practice & Policy, and Monitoring and Evaluation groups.

### **Membership**

- Children's Social Care
- Education & Early Years
- Health (Designated Professionals)
- Police
- Housing
- Cafcass
- Youth Offending Service
- Probation
- LSCB manager / business coordinator

Other LSCB members may be invited to attend as necessary.

### **Chair**

The group will be chaired by Fiona Bateman, Local Safeguarding Adults Board Independent Chair

Vice Chair to be decided.

### **Reporting and Accountability**

The group will report to the Executive Group on progress against delivery of business plan priorities. The group will raise issues that need resolution beyond the remit of its members to the executive who will forward to the Board if these cannot be resolved.

### **Frequency of Meetings**

The group will meet every 6 weeks for 2 hours.

### **Roles and Responsibilities of Members**

- To actively participate and take a lead role for their own agency in terms of serious case reviews
- To support the group to achieve its aims and functions
- To promote a culture of learning and improvement in terms of safeguarding children and young people.
- To be a point of contact for information about SCRs
- To share and cascade relevant guidance, tools and other resources in relation the work of the committee
- To monitor and evaluate actions coming from reviews
- To highlight areas of good practice and areas for development.
- To ensure issues relevant to their agency are reported to the responsible senior manager / Board lead / decision makers for safeguarding within their agency
- To positively contribute to meetings and to the work of the group.

**To be reviewed July 2017**

