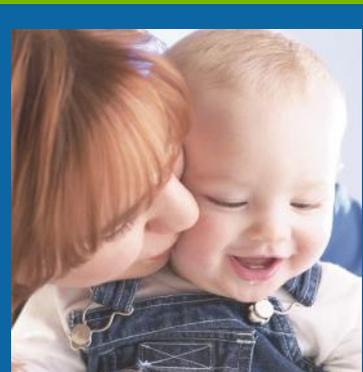




Learning from a multi agency case file review

The SCB found that these are common themes from the last four SCB multi-agency case file reviews. Please share this learning with your staff:

- The accuracy of personal details and general information was an issue in each of the case files reviewed by the SCB. Different spellings of names and incorrect dates of birth were common themes. Chronologies were not always complete; see SCB website for guidance on completing chronologies.
- All agencies must ensure that referrals are sufficiently detailed to allow appropriate decisions to be made.
- Too many referrals are being made to Children's Services without first considering the support that can be accessed through the Locality teams. Please remember to use the Guide to Levels of Need document to determine the most appropriate referral pathway.

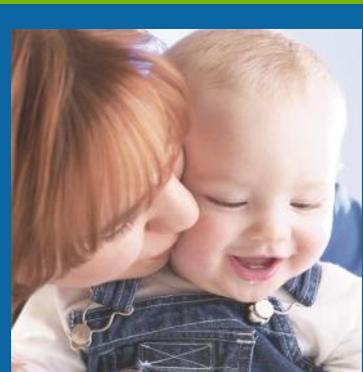




Learning from a multi agency case file review

The SCB found that these are common themes from the last four SCB multi-agency case file reviews. Please share this learning with your staff:

- The journey of the child was not always evident across all agencies recording. Please ensure that you record the child's wishes and feelings clearly and succinctly. Professionals need to ask themselves, "What is it like for this child to live in this home?"
- Where fathers do not live in the family home, or where other men (e.g. mother's partner) do live in the family home, they need to be considered and included in the assessment process. From these reviews, it's not clear that this is happening ("hidden men"). This was an important learning point raised by a previous Serious Case Review. The LSCB offers Level 3 training on Hidden Men; please visit the website for details.





Learning from a multi agency case file review

The SCB found that these are common themes from the last four SCB multi-agency case file reviews. Please share this learning with your staff:

- There were instances when information sharing between agencies was not as robust as it should have been. We need to remember that good information sharing will help all professionals to make informed decisions which will improve the outcomes for children, young people and their families in Stoke-on-Trent.
- Professionals must ensure that robust transition arrangements are in place for all of our looked after young people who are approaching adulthood. Positive communication and information sharing across all agencies is paramount, and this should include Children's Services, Adult Services, Health Services, Disability Services, Localities and Third Sector organisations.

