

1 Background and Concerns

Child 1 aged four lived with his parents and two younger siblings. Two previous contacts to CSC, re children left unsupervised, concerns re home conditions. He was removed from parents care and became looked after sustaining a fractured femur, parents explanation did not match the injury. The strategy meeting evidenced previous A&E attendances with injuries and school reported the child presenting with injuries on several occasions.

2 Purpose of the Review?

The purpose of a Line of Sight review is to identify learning for the multi-agency partnership which will strengthen the safeguarding children system. Beyond individual cases, reviews also often provide a window into wider systems (ways of working/ processes) which may need to be changed.

3 Key Lines of Enquiry

- Whether the voice of the child was listened to and acted upon.
- Whether presenting concerns were viewed holistically by agencies or on an episodic basis.
- The use of professional curiosity by agencies in respect of parental explanations for childhood injuries.
- The use and quality of the graded care profile 2 in understanding neglect.

7 Further information

- ❖ [Threshold of Need](#)
- ❖ [Referral Pathway](#)
- ❖ [Graded Care Profile 2](#)
- ❖ [SCP Training](#)
- ❖ [Line of Sight process](#)
- ❖ [SCP Policies & Procedures](#)

4 Key Practice Episodes

Expected good practice

- The child's voice was captured well by agencies
- Effective use of the strategy discussion

Areas for improvement

- Parental explanations for cause of injuries appeared plausible and were taken at face value
- The child's voice was heard but not acted upon, more weight was given to parents views
- Identified communication issues with school not being informed the child was subject to child in need
- Potential missed opportunity to consider previous presentations at A&E as non-accidental

6 Progress/Impact

- An action plan has been developed and implemented
- The SCP neglect strategy and effectiveness of the local use of the graded care profile 2 is being reviewed
- The non-mobile baby policy has been revised and has informed supervision and training within health
- The importance on acting on the voice of the child and the need to consider all episodes of harm within agencies assessments were key elements within the SCP practice month workshops
- Practice guidance on hearing the voice and understanding their lived experience of the child has been developed by the SCP

5 Learning

- Agencies should gain the context of childhood injuries in assessing if the injury matches the explanation
- Where the voice of the child is in conflict with parents views this needs to be understood and explored.
- Professional curiosity is needed and to think the unthinkable
- Further training needs to be explored in understanding disguised compliance
- Practice guidance is required on listening to and acting on the voice of the child and understanding their lived experience

