Knowsley Safeguarding Children Board

7 Minute Briefing

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015

1

The Government held a consultation regarding making changes to Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013. In light of this a new version of the document was published in March 2015.

2

There were three proposed changes. These were agreed and see 3, 4 and 5 for more details.

3

The government have removed the proposed expectation that allegations against those who work with children should be routed through children's social care. Instead such allegations and referrals should be dealt with in a coordinated manner. There is a new expectation that those managing allegations should be sufficiently qualified and experienced.

4

New definition regarding notifiable incidents, an incident involving the care of a child which meets any of the following criteria:

- A child has died (including cases of suspected suicide), and abuse or neglect is known or suspected;
- A child has been seriously harmed and abuse or neglect is known or suspected;
- A looked after child has died (inc. cases where abuse or neglect is not known or suspected);
- A child in a regulated setting or service has died (inc. cases where abuse or neglect is not known or suspected).

5

New definition regarding 'seriously harmed' cases where the child has sustained, as a result of abuse or neglect, any or all of the following:

- A potentially life-threatening injury;
- Serious and/or likely long-term impairment of physical or mental health or physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development.

6

A number of clarifications and updates have been made regarding the following policy areas:

- Statement of Safeguarding Responsibility
- Schools
- Child Protection Conference
- Young Carers and Parent Carers
- Child Death Reviews
- Special Educational Needs/ Education Health and Care Plans
- CP for Foreign National Children
- Assessment
- Info Sharing
- Children returning home from care
- Probation
- Health
- Secure Children's Homes
- LSCB Annual report
- Whistleblowing
- Channel Panels

For more detailed changes, visit the Working Together website or click here for a summary.

7

The following documents have also been revised:
What to do if You're Worried a Child is Being Abused: Advice for Practitioners
Information Sharing: Advice
Keeping Children Safe in Education.
These can be accessed on our website - www.knowsleyscb.org.uk (under multi-agency procedures)

For more information regarding 7 minute briefings, please email sarah.herron@knowsley.gov.uk
Knowsley Safeguarding Children Board, 2nd Floor, Nutgrove Villa, Westmorland Road, Huyton, L36 6GA
Tel: 0151 443 4311 www.knowsleyscb.org.uk