

# Serious Case Reviews: Information for Families

## What is Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board?

- Brighton and Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board brings together the key organisations that work with children and families in the city.
- Working together like this helps to keep children safe.

## What is a Serious Case Review?

- A Serious Case Review will look at how staff have worked with the child and family. It may also look at how staff have worked with other children in the immediate family.
- The review will look at what was done, what lessons can be learned for the future and whether any changes need to be made.
- It is not a criminal investigation or public inquiry and its aim is not to blame but to learn.

## Why are you carrying out a Serious Case Review?

- A Serious Case Review is carried out when there have been concerns about a child who has suffered a potential life-threatening injury or has died.
- It will also look at the events surrounding the incident and raise concerns about the way in which staff have worked together.

## Who will carry out the review?

- Reviews are led by independent lead reviewer, who is not connected with the case or services involved in any way
- They will be helped by a panel of senior staff from Children's Services, Police, Health and other organisations
- They will meet to review the information and prepare a report.

## What will I have to do?

- You do not have to do anything but you will be able to give your views if you would like to. The person who gives you this information will explain the process further.

## Who will see the report?

- The report will be sent to the Department for Education and Ofsted. In some cases where the Coroner is involved they will also have access to the report and use it as part of an inquest.
- Organisations who have contributed to the report will also see the report so they can advise their staff of any learning from the case.
- A report which outlines the key findings of the review without giving any personal details will be available on the Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board website for anyone who wants to read it. You will have the opportunity to discuss the report with a representative of the review group. This report will be anonymised to protect the identity of your family

## How long will the review take?

- The review can take several months to complete depending on how complicated the case is but we will keep you up to date.

**Further Information:** We have tried to answer some of the most frequently asked questions families might have about Serious Case Reviews.

If you want to know more about Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board you can look at our website at: [www.brightonandhovelscb.org.uk](http://www.brightonandhovelscb.org.uk)