

Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review

Terms of Reference

Children: C110/C111/C112

July 2024

1. Reason and Context for Review

- 1.1 This review relates a three month old baby, who sadly died on 22/04/2024, and her siblings. The baby who died has been given the pseudonym C110. C110 had a three month old twin sibling, C111, and a two year old half sibling, C112. C110 and her siblings were living with their mother and the father of C110 and C111 at the time of the incident under review. C112 also spent time with his father, including at times overnight contact.
- 1.2 On 22/04/2024 the police contacted Torbay MASH to report that C110 had been in cardiac arrest after being left asleep on the family sofa. The most likely cause of death is believed to be SUDI, linked to the parent's lack of compliance with safe sleeping advice. However, further medical examinations identified healing fractures to C110 and possible healing fractures to C111. Both parents were subsequently arrested by the police on 25/04/2024 and remain under investigation for grievous bodily harm.
- 1.3 C110 and C111 had not been subject to any prior contact with Children's Services in Torbay. C112 had been subject to early help intervention. The mother is a care experienced young adult. The father of C110 and C111 has two older children who reside in Devon, and he is linked to safeguarding concerns in that area under the categories of physical abuse and neglect. The concerning information about the father was not believed to be known by agencies in Torbay until after the death of C110.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 This review will be based on the key lines of enquiry recorded in section four below. However, during the review, if further learning opportunities are identified these will be added at the discretion of the TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel. The key purpose of the review is to prevent future similar harm and learn lessons where appropriate to further safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The review should aim to identify systematic learning, rather than holding individuals or organisations to account for their actions.
- 2.2 If concerns are identified within the review process that fall outside these terms of reference, such as those of a safeguarding or misconduct nature, the

Independent Reviewer will refer to the TSCP who will then consult with the relevant body to consider appropriate responses and processes.

3. Period Under Review

- 3.1 The period under review is from 15/02/2022 until 29/04/2024.
- 3.2 The Independent Reviewer may also request summary background and contextual information outside of this period and analyse as relevant.

4. Key Lines of Enquiry

- 4.1 The following key lines of enquiry have been established, based on the findings of the Rapid Review, and these have been noted by National Panel. Further questions may be agreed by the TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel and will be recorded under their linked line of enquiry if required.

1	Analyse the effectiveness of communication and information sharing between agencies during the period under review and identify if this led to missed opportunities to support/safeguard the children.
2	Review the extent and consistency with which routine domestic abuse enquiries were applied by agencies working with the family.
3	Comment on the pattern of health DNA appointments which did not meet the reported criteria for enacting the DNA policy. Review whether the application of professional curiosity around DNA'd appointments in consideration of the mother's care experienced status, wider environmental and family factors would have improved support and safeguarding.
4	Comment on the quality and consistency of midwifery recording systems in respect of fathers accompanying mothers to appointments.
5	Review the 'invisibility' of the father and any lack of professional curiosity about his involvement with his older children and whether this could have improved safeguarding responses.
6	Review the missed opportunities across the Partnership to enquire about the nature of the parent's relationship and the mother's new relationship.
7	Review and comment on the impact of the lack of clarity and understanding of the role of Personal Advisor versus that of a Social Worker and what impact this had on planning.
8	Review the effectiveness of local safe sleeping guidance/procedures and partnership responses where there is evidence that this is not being followed by parents.

9	Review the effectiveness of the transition process when parent/s move out of the young parent’s provision into their own accommodation.
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5. Methodology

- 5.1 This review will be carried out according to statutory guidance and using best practice to ensure appropriate learning opportunities are identified and analysed. The final report should identify recommendations that can be converted into SMART actions to assist learning. It is anticipated that the review will be conducted remotely, however if ‘face to face’ meetings are required the need for these will be evaluated in advance by the TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel.
- 5.2 The Independent Reviewer will feedback progress to the TSCP at regular planned intervals via the TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel. In situations where urgent/unplanned feedback is necessary, this will be undertaken via the TSCP Business Team.
- 5.3 The TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel will meet monthly, however meetings can be held more frequently if required at the discretion of the Chair.
- 5.4 The TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel will consist of:
 - Divisional Director, Safeguarding (Chair)
 - Children’s Social Care
 - Police
 - Designated Health Professionals (ICB and NHS Trust)
 - Midwifery
 - Independent Reviewer
 - TSCP Business Team
 - Additional members as deemed necessary
- 5.5 Legal advice will be provided by the Local Authority Legal Department.
- 5.6 Communications/PR support will be provided by the Local Authority communication lead for Children’s Services.
- 5.7 Final learning from the review will be presented by the Independent Reviewer in the form of a full CSPR report that will be completed to timescale as far as is practicable. The final draft report will be agreed by the TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel before being presented formally to TSCP Executive Group for review and sign off via partnership business channels. Any agreed amendments to the report will be required to be undertaken by the Independent Reviewer.

- 5.8 The timescale for completion and publication of final version of the CSPR report is six months from the date the TSCP made the decision to initiate the review. This decision was made on 17th May 2024. The last submission date to National Panel is therefore considered to be 6th November 2024, seven working days prior to publication.

6. Review of Existing Materials and Papers

- 6.1 The Independent Reviewer will identify the information they require to undertake the review with the support of the TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel. The information will be sourced and provided by the TSCP Business Team and partner agencies will be expected to comply with information requests (where legally permitted) in a timely manner.

7. Involvement of Practitioners and Staff

- 7.1 The Independent Reviewer will identify and engage with relevant practitioners, managers, and key workers to ensure any learning opportunities are fully incorporated into the reviewing process. It is anticipated that there will be at least one 'practitioner event', combined with the offer of 1:1 or small group sessions for workers to meet.

8. Involvement of Families/Other Parties

- 8.1 Parents, carers and family members of the siblings will be notified of the review by the TSCP and invited to participate at an appropriate time.
- 8.2 Involvement of other interested parties will be considered as appropriate by the TSCP C110-C112 Review Panel.