

Case Mapping Exercise

6 Step Briefing

Child As

The Background

This young child lived with an older sibling and mother and father. The family are very close and spend a lot of time with extended family.

Safeguarding Concerns

There were no safeguarding concerns prior to the incident that led to the child's death.

The Incident

This young child was in the care of an extended family member when an incident took place whereby the child sustained a significant non-accidental injury that led to Child As' death.

The Review

This case was considered by the Serious Case Review Sub Group and whilst it was recognised that this young child had died due to non-accidental injury, due to the lack of agency concerns and therefore learning, it was agreed to undertake a Case Mapping Exercise.

The Findings

Safeguarding concerns

- No agencies could highlight any previous safeguarding concerns regarding this extended family prior to Child As' death.
- There have been no concerns relating to the care of the children.

Level of contact with the family

- Professionals have had very limited, yet appropriate, contact with mother, father, Child As and sibling.
- Professionals have had very limited, yet appropriate, contact with maternal grandmother, step-grandfather and their three children.
- The Health Visitor described mother as quite defensive who has challenged professionals contact, yet accepted this once she understood the reason for the intervention in terms of Universal Services being offered to all families and has contacted professionals direct for advice and guidance regarding her children.
- The family (including extended family) are described as very private and supportive of each other, declining any wider assistance.

Learning Points

Use of Genograms

- This is quite a complicated family and Genograms are essential for professionals to understand the complexities. A comprehensive genogram was developed at the Strategy Meeting following Child As' death, however, the extended family was not well plotted prior to the incident.
- It would appear that Step-grandfather was regularly caring for Child As and sibling.
- Whilst knowing this would not have changed the outcome for this child, it is good practice to know who is regularly caring for a child.

Genograms are a recommendation taken forward by findings from the Serious Case Review for Ref064.

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