

1 Background and Concerns

Child 2 aged three lived with her mother, referral was made to CSC when she was six months old alleging mother was using drugs and the Child was neglected. A further referral was made when she was eighteen months old re a drug related assault on mother. The case became CIN, there were ongoing reported concerns and numerous contacts and visits by the police. There was a six-month gap in service provision with agencies responses being reactive. A single assessment was undertaken and concerns/ worries identified, there was progression to child protection and the Child being accommodated. Drug testing as part of the court process where the child tested positive for, a number of substances

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 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 sufficient consideration was given by agencies of the impact of criminal exploitation on the child
- Whether the child's lived experience was understood
- Was there a clear understood assessment of risk and need across involved agencies
- Was interagency communication and working effective
- Recording by the police whether the child was present during reported incidents

7 Further information

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

6 Progress/Impact

- An action plan has been developed and implemented
- The guidance for health visitors is being reviewed to ensure consideration of neglect where there is developmental delay
- The learning from the review will be shared with the MACE
- Re referral clinics were introduced in March 2021 and will identify and address any potential inter agency practice issues
- An audit of police crime reports has evidenced that children were seen and referrals were made to CSC and operation encompass as appropriate

5 Learning

- Professional curiosity is needed and to think the unthinkable
- Ensure staff dealing with any incident consider the impact on the children in the household.
- Ensure children be included in any police report as children in the household
- Check and challenge meetings be used by the Front as an earlier identification of practice issues
- Ensure all involved agencies take part in Line of Sight Events

4 Key Practice Episodes

Expected good practice

- Accessibility of health visitor for Mother
- Good outcomes for the child Following becoming subject to a child protection plan/ looked after.

Areas for improvement

- The child was not recorded as being in the home by the police and was not seen as a victim
- The risk to the child as a result of the organised crime/ drug activity was not initially recognised or understood by agencies
- Development delay was noted but not followed up or explanation sought.
- The risk of physical, sexual and emotional harm to the child not recognised by all professionals
- A number of changes in social worker resulted in being unable to build a relationship with mother or getting to know the child in any way

