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Background

Seven minute briefings are based on a technique borrowed from the FBI. It is based on research, which suggests that seven minutes is an ideal time span to concentrate and learn.

The SSCP has developed a range of 7 minute briefings to complement the variety of ways people learn rather than to replace the additional benefits that multi-agency training can provide.

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Why it matters

The SSCP is aware of increasing pressure on services, which can make it difficult to identify training priorities and release staff to access training, in order to keep learning and development integral to maintain a skilled and confident workforce. These, briefings can be a helpful way to support learning, particularly in the absence of traditional face to face training.

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What will the briefings cover?

The briefings are separated into safeguarding themes, learning from case reviews and service information. The content of the briefings will be a mixture of up to date information, research, key reminders and further links. There will be points for reflection and challenge points to think about the application into practice in the team.

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How do the briefings work?

The briefings can be used in a variety of ways:

- Individuals can use the briefing independently for their own learning and development and choose to share with others.
- Teams/Managers encourage circulation and use for information and development and share learning amongst their team i.e. team meetings, supervision, peer support to reflect and improve practice and systems.
- Use at a structured event during training development sessions to complement overall learning and development.

The brief duration should also mean that they hold people's attention, as well as giving managers something to share with their staff e.g. during team meetings, supervision. Clearly the briefings will not have all the answers, but it is hoped that they will act as a catalyst to help teams and their managers to reflect on their practice and systems.

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What to do next?

Reflect on and embed learning from the 7 minute briefings into practice in conjunction with other learning identified. Practitioners and managers are encouraged to also access multi-agency [training](#) and become familiar with the [procedures](#), resources and tools available to address learning and strengthen practice in Salford. If you or your team have suggestions for future briefings you would find helpful, please send your suggestions to the SSCP at sscptraining@salford.gov.uk



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How should the briefings be shared?

The [7 minute briefings](#) are regularly updated and accessible to all agencies. Managers are encouraged to disseminate new briefings to their teams to support continued learning and development and ideally, they should be delivered face to face, where possible, for the opportunity to ask questions, enhance learning and identify development areas. The expectation is that managers/team leaders will share briefings with their staff when new briefings become available. It will be important to make the topic relevant to your service. The briefings should not be mixed in with the ordinary day to day issues of the team, as this will diminish their impact.

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Time for reflection?

The briefings will be an invitation to think about the presenting issue/theme and will end with discussion points which individuals/teams can use to enhance learning and take further action to inform practice. The briefings give the opportunity ask questions and identify areas for development of team members and systems.