

2021-03 Rapid Review 7 Minute Briefing

1. Learning: Professional Curiosity

This review took place in response to concerns about a non-accidental injury to a baby. Professional curiosity and more open questions on routine assessments could have prompted more in depth discussions about the parents' own social history and their current circumstances. This could have led to agencies seeking out further information from other professionals involved with the family to inform a more robust assessment.

2. Learning: Knowledge of parent's childhood

Knowledge about a parent's childhood and history of involvement with Children's Services including adverse childhood experiences would have triggered concerns for the Health Visitor about non access visits at home. This would have prompted different ways of working including unannounced visits or contacting other professionals to see if they had any concerns.

3. Learning: Antenatal and postnatal pathway

The use of the [Early Help](#) antenatal and postnatal pathway for new parents could have led to a different assessment of need for the family and provided them with more support.

4. Strengths in Practice

[ICON](#) messages (how to cope with a crying baby) were given to the mother at an early stage by Manchester Midwifery Services.

The transfer of universal health services between areas was done in a timely manner.

Supported Tenancies did a lot of positive work with the family.

5. Recommendations

The homelessness assessment should be reviewed to include specific questions about parents' historical involvement with Children's Services and more open questions to prompt professional curiosity.

6. Recommendations

Clarity and assurance should be sought about the process and communication pathways between midwifery services for cases where parents move across local authority borders.

The policy for cases where children have not been seen at home by universal health services will be reviewed to identify when to escalate, when to undertake unannounced visits and when to involve other professionals.

7. Impact of the review

Staff in Supported Housing and other agencies will be reminded about the Early Help antenatal and postnatal pathway for new parents.

The ICON programme (how to cope with a crying baby) is currently being rolled out in Salford.

Staff in all agencies will be encouraged to be more professionally curious to ask about parents' history and consider how this may impact on current circumstances

Additional Information

Visit: <https://safeguardingchildren.salford.gov.uk/>

Email: SSCP@salford.gov.uk

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