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## Background

There have been several recent knife crime incidents in Salford which involved four young males aged between 15 and 17 years which have prompted multi-agency case reviews.

Three of the young males were known to Children's Services and were being supported by Child in Need plans.

There were elements of criminality in the history of the cases prior to the stabbing incidents.

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## Safeguarding Concern and Incident

Three separate stabbing incidents resulted in one young male losing his life and the other males being injured.

The multi-agency case reviews focussed on the safeguarding concerns for all four young men whether they had been referred as a victim or perpetrator.

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## Findings

Key information which would have affected risk assessments was not shared between partners.

The cultural identity and the lived experience of the young people may not have been fully explored in assessments.

The thresholds for the Young Person's Plan including indicators of risk may not be fully understood.

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## Findings Cont..

There is a need to review the partnership approach to risk assessment and support where it becomes evident that a young person is possibly carrying a weapon.

The multi-agency approach to the Child in Need plan could have been strengthened and utilised more fully to better support the young people.

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## Implementing Change

An "Adolescent Offer" for young people in Salford is in development and practitioners will be informed about how to respond appropriately to risk factors for young people, including sharing information with key partners, via seminars and publicity materials.

A 7 Minute Briefing has been developed to inform practitioners about [contextual safeguarding](#).

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## Recommendations

Link with the Youth Crime Prevention work to improve the practitioner response to young people carrying weapons in the community.

Remind practitioners of the importance of fully exploring cultural identity issues and how these impact on the daily lived experience of the young person.

Explore how the front door screening process links with events in the community that impact the family.

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## Recommendations

Increase practitioners' awareness and ability to understand and respond appropriately to risk factors, including sharing information with key partners (police, education, health, social care) for young people carrying weapons.

Ensure the [Young Person's Plan](#) is used fully to support plans that aim to reduce contextual harm.

### Additional Information

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

Email: [SSCP@salford.gov.uk](mailto:SSCP@salford.gov.uk)

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Salford  
Safeguarding  
Children Partnership