



In this leaflet we have tried to answer some of the most frequently asked questions families have about Serious Case Reviews. However, each case is different and you may have other questions you would like to ask. If so, please contact the chair or your personal contact.

**Chair:**

**Your personal contact:**

**Other contacts you may find useful:**

PSCB Administrator                      tel: 01733 863744

PSCB Business Manager                tel: 01733 863745

*If you want to know more about Serious Case Reviews, please look at **Working together to safeguard children, 2010 – Chapter 8.***

*A link to this document can be found on our web site:*  
<http://www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk>

## Serious Case Reviews

## Information for families

If you require this information in another format, please contact the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board (PSCB) Business Manager on: 01733 863745 or by email at [pscb@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:pscb@peterborough.gov.uk)

### ***What is Peterborough Local Safeguarding Children Board (PSCB)?***

The PSCB brings together all the main organisations who work with children and families in Peterborough, with the aim of ensuring that we work together effectively to keep children safe.

### ***What is a Serious Case Review?***

A Serious Case Review looks at how local professionals and organisations worked together to look after the child or young person at the centre of the review. It will also look at how they are working with other children in the immediate family.

The review considers what was done, what lessons can be learned for the future and what changes may need to be made. It is not a criminal investigation or public enquiry and its aim is not to blame but to learn.

### ***Why are you carrying out a Serious Case Review?***

The law states that Safeguarding Boards must carry out a Serious Case Review when a child has been seriously harmed or has died and abuse or neglect is suspected or confirmed.

### ***Who will carry out the review?***

A panel of people from children's services, health services, police, Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service, and sometimes other organisations such as housing are led by an expert in safeguarding children (the chair). They will meet to review information presented to them and prepare a report.

### ***What will I / we have to do?***

You do not have to do anything. However, you will have the opportunity to give your views if you would like to. We will make sure there is someone who can help you to do this (see back page).

### ***Who will see the report?***

Normally the report will be kept confidential to those who represent organisations on the PSCB, or have contributed to the review, and the staff within those organisations who worked with the child and their family. However, sometimes the coroner asks to see the report and to use parts of it during an inquest.

Your personal contact and/or the chair of the review will meet with you and tell you what is in the report.

The summary of key messages – called an Executive Summary - outlines the key findings and recommendations of the review without giving personal details. It is available to anyone who wants to read it and will be on our web site. We will give you a copy of this summary.

### ***How long will the review take?***

If the review is straightforward it should be completed within six months. However if it is more complex it can take up to nine months from the date of the event that triggers the review, to publication of the summary of key messages.