

CSPR Escalation Process

The Sandwell Learning from Practice and Review (SLPR) Subgroup on behalf on the SCSP, perform the functions as required in section 16B(7) of the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017, which states that the SLPR must make arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding incidents which, in their view, raise issues of importance in relation to their area.

The following process outlines the steps to be taken for escalating concerns which are perceived may impact on progressing the work of the SLPR within the prescribed statutory timeframes, and can be implemented at any stage of the agreed process as outlined in chapter 4 *Working Together 2018*: to review all incidents where a child has been seriously harmed and;

- **abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected and the child has died or been seriously harmed.**

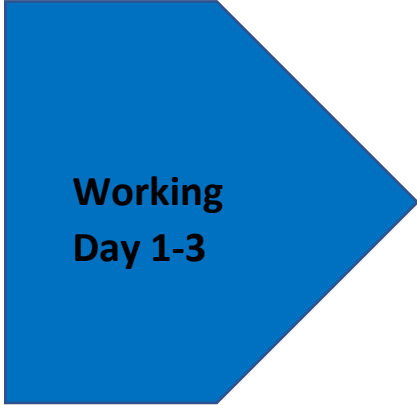
The following timescales are **mandatory**:

- **Notification of serious safeguarding incidents to Ofsted, DfE and National Panel within 5 working days of the incident**
- **Rapid Review meetings to be convened and the outcome sent to the National Panel within 15 days of receiving the incident notification**
- **Independent Child Safeguarding Practice Review to be commissioned and completed within 6 months (published at end of 6 months when possible depending on parallel procedures).**

Where inaction by any agency which is perceived may delay meeting the above timeframes, the first response should begin with an **initial discussion between the involved parties** to try to resolve any issues as swiftly as possible, however where this cannot be achieved, the following stages should be applied:

Stage 1 – CSPR Officer to inform Business Manager and agency representative on SLPR subgroup who will liaise with the service lead for the agency to identify the reason for the delay and to ensure the expectation is clear. Both the SCSP and the agency should record actions agreed and share this with each other for transparency and to ensure the action is completed within the agreed timeframe.

This should take place within 1-3 working days however if the action remains outstanding after day 3, Step 2 must be initiated.



**Working
Day 1-3**

Stage 2 - If no response is received, a meeting between the SLPR subgroup chair and the agency representative on the SCSP to discuss and resolve any issues. The outcome of this step should be completed **no later than day 7** after the issue was initially raised. A record of the agreed actions will be made and maintained/monitored in the SCSP Business Unit

**Working
Day 3-7**

Stage 3 - Where issues cannot be resolved and/or actions agreed are not maintained and there are still risks in achieving the required timeframe as a result of any issues or disagreements, The SCSP Chair will be formally notified.

A meeting with all parties will be arranged, where the SCSP Chair will have ultimate responsibility for making any final decisions regarding multi agency dissent and may liaise with external agencies for further guidance and support.

This will take place **no later than working day 10** following the initial raising of the issue.

**Working
Day 7-10**

Further reading:

Chapter 4: Working Together 2018: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

West Midlands Regional Framework and Practice Guidance:

https://www.ncb.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/attachment/LCSPR_Regional_Framework_and_Practice_Guidance_05_2019_FINAL%2020.06.2019.pdf