

## Serious Case Reviews

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## Serious Case Reviews

- Held under guidance contained in Chapter 8 of Working Together to Safeguard Children
- Convened by Local Safeguarding Boards when
  - a child has died or suffered serious harm and abuse or neglect is suspected and
  - the case gives rise to concerns about the effectiveness of local safeguarding services
- Any "agency or professional" may refer such a case to the LSCB Chair
- Aim to identify lessons to be learned



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## Serious Case Reviews

- Conducted by a panel of senior managers drawn from key local agencies
- Final report written by an experienced external consultant
- Examine management reviews prepared by each agency



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### Agency Management Reviews

The aim of management reviews should be to look openly and critically at individual and organisational practice to see whether the case indicates that changes could and should be made, and if so, to identify how those changes will be brought about.



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### Serious Case Reviews

- Produce overview report and action plan
- Executive summary of report becomes a public document
- There is a movement to make full report public
- Executive summaries have varied between 2 and 20 pages long
- As a minimum, they detail the review process, key issues arising from the case and recommendations



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### Some examples

- Eight children suffered serious neglect for 17 years whilst supervised by social workers
- A child was killed by her mother's partner who had not been properly assessed
- A child was allowed to live with a grandfather despite known serious sexual abuse
- A boy went on commit rape after his own experiences of sexual abuse were ignored
- Two girls 13 and 15 known to be prostitutes allowed to live at home alone



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