

Serious Incident Notification Process

Serious child safeguarding cases are those in which:

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

“Serious harm includes (but is not limited to) serious and/or long-term impairment of a child’s mental health or intellectual, emotional, social, or behavioural development. This is not an exhaustive list. When making decisions, judgement should be exercised in cases where impairment is likely to be long-term, even if this is not immediately certain [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023]”

Working Together 2023 also outlines the expectations in terms of the non-mandatory reporting of the death of care experienced young people up to age 25 and the fact that the local authority should notify the Secretary of State for Education and Ofsted of such a death. This is to improve learning and outcomes for this young people.

TSCP receive a Serious Incident Notification referral.

Children’s Services become aware of an incident which may meet Serious Incident Notification threshold (typically through the Need to Know process) or the death of a care experienced young person.

TSCP Business Manager, HOS Early Help, Safeguarding, Reviewing and Business Intelligence and Divisional Director of Safeguarding notified, as well as statutory partners. Formal multi-agency meeting takes place on day 4 or 5 to consider known information.

If Serious Incident Notification threshold is met, Rapid Review process is initiated. This decision is noted on the Tracker. If this relates to the death of a care experienced young person, notification sent to Secretary of state and Ofsted.

If Serious Incident Notification threshold is **not** met, record of decision is noted on the Tracker, consideration to After Action review and formal feedback is