

The ten children chosen for this audit were aged between 3 months and 16 years at the time of the audit. Six are boys and four are girls.

The audit of 8th December 2020 reviewed the records of ten children who were Children looked after, and their placement was not in South Gloucestershire. The aim of the audit was to ascertain whether there were good multiagency standards for managing out of authority cases and whether organisations have implemented a robust and consistent response in line with statutory and good practice guidance, and the **Children's Partnership** policies and procedures. This audit was completed following a recommendation from a Serious Case Review.

The children were living in a range of placements including foster placements, children's homes and residential care homes. The children were accommodated under Section 20, Interim and Full Care Orders and one placement order.

What we are worried about? The audit identified that when a child has an emergency placement it is harder for all the processes and information sharing to take place. This was particularly evident for a nursery who remained unaware the child was now looked after.

What can I do differently?

- Ask curious questions to help identify who else is involved with the child who may need information
- Keep in mind the child is still placed 'out of authority' even if they are living in a very close neighbouring authority

What Good Practice did we see?

- Evidence of listening to the voice of the child including use of words and pictures
- Continuation of BASE involvement even though child moved out of area
- Exceptional work by hospital for a preterm delivery with a family whose previous children have been removed.

Multi Agency Quality Assurance Audit: Children Looked After (Out of Area) December 2020

Themes for Learning – Child's Voice overwhelmed by voice of parent

 Barrier for effective working, when a parent speaks for their child and restricts access for professionals to speak to a child about issues and risks

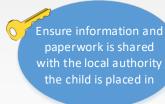
What can I do Differently?

- Trust your professional curiosity if something does not feel right
- Make use of tools to help capture the child's view in creative ways
- Make use of supervision



USE OF LANGUAGE

Children in South Gloucestershire have specifically requested that they are not referred to as LAC – but instead have chosen the phrase **Children Looked After** and this should be adopted by all practitioners with immediate effect



Watch the powerful poem I LAC Nothing by Aimee Williams here

Themes for Learning: Georgia What we found:

There was evidence that the learning from the Georgia SCR is being embedded and there was evidence of multi agency information sharing across boundaries. The audit group found lots of positive practice.

What still needs to happen? It was not always clear, who the lead professional for a child is, and the primary point of contact.



Organisations that audited their involvement with the three children were: Children's Social Care, GPs, Sirona, NBT, Police, YOT, EDT, Preventative Services, Camhs, BNSSG CCG.

The audit identified that there is a gap in provision and therapeutic support for mothers who have had children removed previously and who are expecting another baby Read the Learning Brief for SCR 'Georgia here