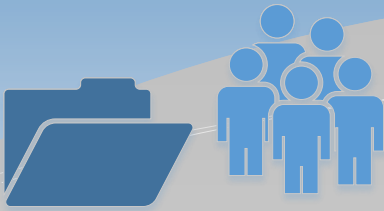


# Multi Agency Quality Assurance Audit: Emotional Abuse September 2022



The ten children chosen for this audit were aged between 2 and 16 years old at the time of the audit.

The children have a range of needs including exposure to domestic abuse, mental health of parents, ADHD, Autism, Neglect, Physical Abuse, Parental Substance Misuse

## What we are worried about?

- Lack of health professional at Core groups, CP Conferences within these audits, important to identify which health professional is best to attend
- Lack of evidence of voice of child
- Connecting Care lists that there is a CP plan, however documents are not available, there
- Actions seen without specific timescales
- Little evidence of work with Father
- Little Evidence of use of tools by professionals
- Delay in Strategy meetings seen, although assurance given that work is underway to address this
- Good multi agency work seen for one audit but should have started earlier
- Commissioning of School Public Health Nurses does not include attendance at CP meetings unless the child is known to their service
- Flag on record stating no safeguarding concerns for a child on a CP plan

## What Good Practice did we see?

- Good evidence of social work co-ordination with other agencies
- Timely work with family
- Links made with Childminder to social worker
- Advocacy report at CP Conference
- CP Conference minutes evident in agency records
- GP report to CP conference seen
- Evidence of right services being involved with a family
- Consistency of worker – preventative services

Organisations that audited their involvement with the nine children were: GPs, Social Care, Sirona, NBT, Police, YOT, EDT and Preventative Services.



## Themes for Learning

### Long Term Work

Through this audit the group saw Emotional Abuse leading to long term involvement of agencies. The audits all showed many years of involvement with the families. Multi Agency Action plans didn't always have timescales which means they weren't SMART. Some evidence of cycles of re-referrals following step down



Remember: Make use of the Neglect Toolkit with families



**Specific Outcome focused work – working towards the family managing without professional involvement**



0-5 Team should be invited to Strategy/ICPC for under twos



Escalation: Resolution of Professional Differences – click here for the policy

## Themes for Learning

### What we found: Voice of the Child not being heard What needs to happen?

- Voice of mother is dominant in recording.
- Need to ensure the views of children are heard and recorded
- Use of observation for younger or non verbal children

### What we Found: Fathers not routinely included What Needs to Happen?

- Work with Fathers should be routine
- Ensure views of fathers are included, and that fathers are included in assessments
- Audit files looking for effective work with Fathers
- When parenting work is happening – make sure this includes both parents whenever possible



Click here to access tools for working with Neglect

Click here to see the Domestic Abuse Toolkit

MARAC details are available here

Click here to contact Connecting Care