

Multi Agency Quality Assurance Audit: Sexual Abuse within the family

Organisations that audited their involvement with the four cases were: Children's Social Care, BeSafe, EDT, Preventative Services, Education Police, Sirona and AWP/Camhs



Fay is a 12 year old girl whose sister made an allegation of sexual abuse about their father. The incident happened in another local authority and police there are investigating



Fiona is a 5 year old girl who made an allegation against her brother about sexual abuse.

The audit of 26th September 2018 reviewed the records of four children who are subject of child protection plan, or child in need under the category of sexual abuse. This theme was chosen as this is the current theme for JTAI inspections. The aim of the audit was to ascertain whether there were good multi-agency standards for managing cases and whether organisations have implemented a robust and consistent response in line with statutory and good practice guidance, SGSCB policies and procedures



Faith is a 4 year old girl who said her father had hurt her 'down below' when she visited him and it is sore when she has a wee



Finn is a five year old boy who may have been having contact with a grandparent about whom there has been an allegation of sexual abuse with another child



What is Working Well:

- ✓ Evidence of the use of tools although not directly for sexual abuse
- ✓ Evidence of good cross border communication
- ✓ Be Safe service and YOT working closely with children who pose a risk
- ✓ Green house Counselling support for victims of sexual abuse



What Needs to Happen?

- Need to hear the voice of the child/ family in the audit
- The administration of the QA process needs to improve
- Agencies need to consider using partners to support communication across borders if problems exist
- Sustainability of the Sexual abuse counselling service to ensure enough resources to meet needs

What are we Worried about:

- How can professionals reduce the impact on children when parents have disagreements and allegations are made against partners
- Both parents need to be assessed not just the resident adult
- Lack of school nurses attending Safeguarding meetings.
- How do children get supported if the criminal case does not progress. How do they feel their voice was heard and valued
- Staff still not confident or aware of the Escalation process

