

**01**  
**Background**  
 Ben is a pre-school age child who lived with his mother and older sibling. Professionals have had longstanding concerns relating to Ben's mother's ability to meet the emotional and developmental needs of her children.

**02**  
**Safeguarding concerns**  
 Concerns have included domestic violence, transient lifestyle, drug use, mother's poor mental health, inappropriate carers and anti-social behaviours in the home.  
 Ben and his siblings all have chronic developmental delay due to neglect and they were subject to child protection plans. Ben's plan was discontinued in July 2020 when mother was reported to have made the necessary changes. He continued to be managed under Child in Need.  
 for the purpose of safeguarding.

**03**  
**The incident**  
 In September 2020 mother attended A&E with Ben. She said that she had noticed that he had not passed urine overnight and that his genitalia was swollen. Further examination identified widespread bruising to his body considered to be non-accidental. The children were made subject to Interim Care Orders.

**04**  
**The review**  
 The review identified the following key themes:

- Strategy Meetings
- Graded Care Profile
- Voice of the Child and Lived Experience
- Information Sharing with GP Surgeries
- Signs of Safety



**05**  
**The findings**

- Lack of knowledge from Professionals from all agencies of the benefit of strategy meetings.
  - Strategy meetings are not consistently held in accordance with Working Together including attendance at meetings.
- The Graded Care Profile is not effectively used by practitioners.
  - Advice of managers/supervisors is not sought.
  - Staff resources did not allow for the social worker to be best matched to the child's circumstances.
  - Professionals are not consistently hearing a child's voice and learning of their lived experiences.
  - Professionals are not consistently including the voice and lived experiences of young, non-verbal children in assessments.
- There is not enough multi agency understanding of the GP role and responsibilities to establish what agencies can reasonably expect of their safeguarding processes.
  - Professionals have some concerns regarding the success of the Signs of Safety model and its use in practice.
- An audit needs to be undertaken to understand why children are being re-referred to services children as being synonymous with accepted definitions of child abuse.

**07**  
**Implementing Change**

- Reflect on the findings and discuss the implications for your service/practice.
- Identify and outline the steps you and your team will take to improve practice in line with the findings and recommendations.

**06**  
**Recommendations**

- The partnership should seek assurance that the GCP training package is completed, evaluated and embedded into practice.
- The Partnership should ensure that consultation is had with a number of GPs to gain an improved understanding of the GP roles and responsibilities to improve partnership working.
- Multi-agency audit reviewing strategy meetings needs to be undertaken.
  - TSCP should seek assurance from partner agencies that staff are being reminded to fully explore the lived experience of a child and to include their findings in all records including assessments, alongside the voice of the child
  - TSCP should contact the service manager at Salford Safeguarding Unit to discuss their Child Protection re-referral and step down processes and consider adopting the same or similar procedures.
- TCSP and partner agencies should consider developing a parent advocate scheme to support families coming to conference.





Name of Organisation .....

Team Manager .....

Name of Section & Team .....

Contact Details .....

**Identify the learning or recommendations that are relevant to your team and summarise your teams' discussion on those points**

1.
2.
3.



**What actions have been agreed to improve practice?**

What needs to happen?	Who will do it?	By When?	How will you know when it has been done?	How will you know if it has worked?