



## **Child LI Serious Case Review Learning Brief** **Published 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018**

### **Case Summary**

Lancashire LSCB commissioned a Serious Case Review (SCR) regarding a child known as Child LI. Child LI was seriously injured, aged four months, whilst in the care of their mother and male partner. Child LI was found to have sustained life threatening injuries with lifelong consequences for their health and development. The injuries were found to be non-accidental and a police investigation commenced. However, following a lengthy criminal investigation, it was found that there were insufficient grounds for a criminal conviction.

### **The review highlighted key themes which are listed below:**

- Over a year prior to the incident, Mother applied and obtained from the family court a ten year non-molestation against her male partner. All professionals must ensure that they understand injunctions such as non-molestation orders and their agencies procedure if breached.
- To ensure that professionals have a more informed and better understanding of the potential risk to children, professionals need to ensure that they review all family history and any previous PVPs before submitting a referral;
- If additional family history is identified, MASH police staff should consider challenging referrals and elevating if necessary;
- Professionals need to ensure that information is shared and recorded appropriately and timely on all agencies electronic recording systems e.g. non molestation orders, PVPs;
- Family courts must ensure that findings, judgements and transcripts are sent to CAFCASS in a timely way to ensure that reports are accurate and appropriate recommendations are made for later hearings.
- All professionals need to ensure that they don't view episodes of domestic abuse as isolated events and be professionally inquisitive about the bigger picture of a pattern of possible control and coercion.
- Professionals must be professionally inquisitive to ascertain whether explanations of injuries (however minor) are plausible;
- All relevant professionals must ensure that they document if parents are offered Safe handling/safer seep training.

### **Good Practice Highlighted:**

- Good practice from the IDVA liaising with Mother and clearly explaining the process.
- Agencies provided Mother with numerous opportunities to speak to domestic abuse services.