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East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership Monthly Digest – January 2023

# This latest roundup of ESSCP news includes highlights from recent publications, information about forthcoming events and training, and other snippets of useful information from across the ESSCP and partner agencies. If you have anything that you would like included in next month's ESSCP digest please email [esscp.contact@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:esscp.contact@eastsussex.gov.uk).

ESSCP learning briefings

Please see below links to the East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership’s latest learning briefings. The ESSCP is committed to creating and strengthening a culture of learning across all agencies in East Sussex who work with children and young people.  To enable this we need to ensure that learning, such as from the below case review work, reaches the right people and that we embed this learning into practice to secure better outcomes for children. Such a lot of effort and resource goes in to completing the reviews, we really want to make sure that an equal effort goes in to sharing and discussing the learning! Please:

* share these briefings with your teams and professional networks.
* Please allow your staff time to read the briefings. Encourage your managers to discuss these briefings in team meetings/group supervision and consider the ‘learning for practice’ questions.
* If you deliver training, please ensure that any relevant learning is incorporated into your training material.

As always, the Case Review Group would welcome any examples of how learning is impacting on practice, or advice on how we can disseminate and embed learning further.

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| **Child V -** 6-month-old with bruising that was considered non-accidental and subsequent investigations identified several fractures of different ages. | Awaiting publication due to criminal proceedings | [https://www.esscp.org.uk//ESSCP-Infant-Injury-Learning-Briefing-2020.pdf](https://www.esscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/ESSCP-Infant-Injury-Learning-Briefing-2020.pdf) |
| **Child Z** – death of an 18-month-old child from a significant brain injury sustained by non-accidental injury. Concerns about information sharing, lack of adequate safety netting and professional curiosity. | Awaiting publication due to criminal proceedings | [https://www.esscp.org.uk//ESSCP-Child-Z-Learning-Briefing-2022-FINAL.docx](https://www.esscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/ESSCP-Child-Z-Learning-Briefing-2022-FINAL.docx) |
| **Child AA** – the non-fatal stabbing of a 17-year-old. Review to explore the robustness of current partnership activity to disrupt criminal exploitation and the impact of missing education for children and young people vulnerable to exploitation. | Published September 2022 | <https://www.esscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/ESSCP-Child-AA-Learning-Briefing-2022-FINAL.docx> |
| **Thematic Review** – considering two cases with similar themes of domestic abuse, poor parental and child mental health, substance misuse and sporadic engagement with services over a considerable period of time. | Published September 2022 | [https://www.esscp.org.uk/ESSCP-Thematic-LCSPR-Learning-Briefing-2022.docx](https://www.esscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/ESSCP-Thematic-LCSPR-Learning-Briefing-2022-DRAFT.docx) |
| **Family CC** – a large family who over the years has had involvement with a large number of agencies and reoccurring issues around neglect and appropriate support and education for all the children, in particular those with additional needs. | Awaiting publication due to criminal proceedings | <https://www.esscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/ESSCP-Family-CC-LCSPR-and-NEGLECT-Learning-Briefing-2022-FINAL.docx> |

ESSCP training and learning opportunities

The new platform for learning and training in East Sussex is now live! Courses may be delivered face to face or virtually so make sure you check the course details when booking**.** Information on all courses available can be found on the [East Sussex County Council Learning Portal](https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/jobs/learning-portal). More information on current courses can be found in the first attachment to this email.

Safer Internet Day and Digital Hive Website

[Safer Internet Day 2023](https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023) will take place on the 7thof February 2023, with celebrations and learning based around the theme ‘Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online’. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees thousands of organisations get involved to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

Digital Hive is part of the Council’s Digital in Care programme which is all about improving the digital resilience of children in care. As part of the programme the [‘Digital Hive’ website](https://www.thedigitalhive.info/) has been developed to support practitioners with the skills and confidence to help young people take advantage of the benefits of the online world, whilst mitigating risks. Please go to the Digital hive website to register for an account to be able to access training and resources.

Sexual abuse and sexual violence awareness week

[Sexual Abuse & Sexual Violence Awareness Week](https://sexualabuseandsexualviolenceawarenessweek.org/) (6 – 12 February) is the UK’s national week to raise awareness of sexual abuse and violence and to provide an opportunity for any organisation or individual to engage in dialogue. Please be reminded that locally, the [Sussex children’s sexual assault referral centre (cSARC)](https://www.nhs.uk/services/service-directory/pebble-house-paediatric-sussex-sarc/N10943631) is part of the system that enables care for children and young people, under 14 years of age, living in Sussex that have experienced sexual abuse or assault. The centre is staffed by specially trained doctors, nurses and support staff. The [Saturn Centre, Sexual Assault Referral Centre](https://www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/services/saturn-centre-sexual-assault-referral-centre-sarc-for-sussex/109052?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=socialmedia&utm_content=sab_eastsussex&utm_campaign=hootsuite_default_campaign_tracking&utm_term=beb6698b-7885-40cb-98b6-d2cf4e5f20c7), provides support for clients aged 14+ following a rape or sexual assault.

MARAC Triage Pilot

The East Sussex Domestic Abuse Management Oversight Group has agreed to trial some changes to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process locally. This is being piloted for a 12-month period which started in December 2022. The changes will be known as the ‘MARAC Triage Pilot’ and are being introduced because partner agencies are under considerable pressure to resource the increasing volume of cases discussed weekly at MARAC. All high-risk domestic abuse cases require a multi-agency response to implement a safety plan, but not all need a discussion at MARAC to facilitate this. MARAC Partners are being briefed on the changes and a Project Board will oversee the pilot and evaluation.

Local briefings and newsletters

* The Sussex Child Death Review Panel has published its latest quarterly briefing (attached). This edition has a focus on learning from the deaths of children with learning disabilities.
* East Sussex Children’s Services has published their January 2023 edition of the Cost of Living Newsletter for staff working with families (attached to this email). This newsletter is a resource for practitioners to use to support families. It is not something to send direct to families/residents. The content informs work with families during casework, when signposting or referring onwards. Cost of living information for residents: [Support with the cost of living | East Sussex County Council](https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/support-with-the-cost-of-living)
* NHS Sussex produce a monthly ‘Safeguarding and Looked-After Children Newsletter’. All newsletter articles are accessible on the NHS Sussex intranet and all Sussex professionals can request access. If you have not already registered, the please use the following link: [Safeguarding and looked-after children Newsletter September 2022 - NHS Sussex (ics.nhs.uk)](https://int.sussex.ics.nhs.uk/clinical/clinical-guidance/specialties/safeguarding/safeguarding-newsletter/safeguarding-and-looked-after-children-newsletter-september-2022/).

National Updates

* The Public Health Institute at the Liverpool John Moores University has published a report on adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) which looks at current research and how to tackle ACEs. The report explores the impact ACEs can have on: early child development; education; and the health and development of the children of people with ACEs. The report sets out strategies that can prevent or mitigate the impacts of ACEs such as strengthening families and developing safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments for children: [2023-01-state-of-the-art-report-eng.pdf (ljmu.ac.uk)](https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/-/media/phi-reports/pdf/2023-01-state-of-the-art-report-eng.pdf)
* The Children’s Commissioner for England has published a report looking at the issues facing children in care in England. The report includes a literature review and presents an analysis of responses from 2,261 children in care who responded to the Commissioner’s national consultation exercise, The Big Ask. The report looked at the barriers children felt they faced to achieving what they wanted to, including issues around health, jobs, and inequality. The report explains that professionals supporting children in care and care leavers should have high aspirations for them and support them in every aspect of their lives to pursue their ambitions: [Findings from The Big Ask: Children in Care | Children's Commissioner for England (childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/report/findings-from-the-big-ask-children-in-care/)
* Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have published new guidance for inspecting arrangements in the local area for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) in England. Ofsted and CQC will carry out a series of thematic visits each academic year and the guidance includes information on: the purpose of these visits; an overview of visit activities; and handling significant concerns for inspectors: [Thematic reviews of alternative provision in local areas - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/thematic-reviews-of-alternative-provision-in-local-areas/thematic-reviews-of-alternative-provision-in-local-areas)
* Research in Practice has organised a series of events to share learning on responding to child exploitation and extra-familial harm. The events will disseminate findings from their development of a set of ‘Practice principles’, commissioned by the Department for Education, to support coherent, collaborative and creative responses to child exploitation and extra-familial harm. The dissemination events will focus on different regions across England and will take place on various dates from Tuesday 7th March to Thursday 23 March 2023: [Dissemination Events - Tackling Child Exploitation (researchinpractice.org.uk)](https://tce.researchinpractice.org.uk/consultation-events/)
* The University of Bristol has published a study looking at risks and patterns of childhood deaths in England before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. The university’s National Child Mortality Database analysed data from 9,872 child deaths over three 12-month periods spanning 01 April 2019 until 31 March 2022. The analysis found: a significant reduction in all-cause child mortality during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic (2020-2021), with numbers returning to pre-pandemic levels in 2021/22; and, in contrast to most deaths, those from trauma increased during the three years: [Child Mortality in England During the First 2 Years of the COVID-19 Pandemic | Pediatrics | JAMA Network Open | JAMA Network](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2800144)
* The Department for Education (DfE) will be holding a series of webinars to support its guidance on Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) in England. The webinars, aimed at all school staff, will focus on safeguarding topics including: low level concerns; a single central record; safeguarding partners; and sexting/online harms: [Register - Contact Details (orcula.com)](https://orcula.com/kcsie/register/Site/Register)
* NSPCC Learning has updated its briefing on learning from case reviews around neglect, to include learning from reviews published in 2021 and 2022. The briefing highlights the importance of professionals being able to: recognise all forms of neglect, understand its cumulative and long-term impact, and take timely action to safeguard children: [Neglect: learning from case reviews | NSPCC Learning](https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/learning-from-case-reviews/neglect?utm_source=Adestra&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Neglect%3A%20learning%20from%20case%20reviews&utm_campaign=20221219_KIS_CASPAR_December19)
* The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel has published reports looking at learning from serious child safeguarding incidents in England in 2021. Publications include: the Panel’s annual report for 2021, an analysis of local child safeguarding practice reviews (LSCPRs) by the University of East Anglia and the University of Birmingham and guidance providing examples of rapid reviews to illustrate points of good practice.

[Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel: annual report 2021 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-safeguarding-practice-review-panel-annual-report-2021)

[Annual review of local child safeguarding practice reviews (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1123918/Annual_review_of_local_child_safeguarding_practice_reviews.pdf)