# Request for a Serious Case Review

Before submitting the referral please discuss with your agency representative on the Serious Case Review sub-group or your agency Board member. The criteria for SCR can be found in **appendix 1.** Once completed, please send this form to [bscb@bristol.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:bscb@bristol.gcsx.gov.uk).

## Referrer

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name: |  | Email: |  |
| Role: |  | Tel: |  |
| Agency: |  | Date submitted: |  |

## Details of child or young person

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of child: |  | Date of birth: |  |
| Home address: |  | Date of death or critical incident: |  |
| Carer: |  | Location of incident: |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ethnic origin:** | | |
| 1. **White** | 1. **Mixed** | 1. **Asian or Asian British** |
| British  Irish  Any other White Background | Asian and White  Black African and White  Black Caribbean and White  Any other mixed background | Indian  Pakistani  Bangladeshi  Chinese  Any other Asian background |
| **(D) Black or Black British** | **(E) Other Ethnic Groups** | **(F) Not Declared** |
| Caribbean  African  Any other Black background | Please specify | Not Declared |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Faith:** |  | **Disability:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Child protection plan:** | Yes  No  Has been  Not known |

## Composition of family and significant others

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Relationship to child** | **DoB** | **Address** | **Ethnic origin** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## SCR criteria

Please demonstrate how you believe the criteria for Serious Case Review to be met. The criteria can be found in **Appendix 1.**

Is the child deceased? Yes  No

Is the child seriously harmed? Yes  No

Is abuse or neglect known to be a cause of the death or harm to the child? Yes  No

Is abuse or neglect suspected to be a cause of the death or harm to the child? Yes  No

Is there a cause for concern as to the way in which the authority, their Board partners or other relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child? Yes  No

## Summary of events

Please provide a summary of the events leading to the death or harm caused to the child, making clear why you believe that these circumstances meet the criteria for SCR.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## Other information

If you are aware of any other agencies involved in the care of this child please list below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Agency | Contact details | Are they still involved? |
|  |  |  |  |

If you aware of any other processes that this case is currently subject to, ie. Coroner’s inquest, Child Death Overview Panel, criminal proceedings, etc. please list below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Process | Current status |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## Appendix 1: Criteria for referring cases to the BSCB

## Statutory guidance from Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015

### Serious Case Reviews

Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2008 sets out the functions of LSCBs. This includes the requirement for LSCBs to undertake reviews of serious cases in specified circumstances.

Regulation 5(1)(e) and (2) set out an LSCB’s function in relation to serious case reviews, namely, 5(1)(e) undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(e) a serious case is one where:

(a) abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; and

(b) either – (i) the child has died; or (ii) the child has been seriously harmed and there is cause for concern as to the way in which the authority, their Board partners or other relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child.

“Seriously harmed” in the context of paragraph 18 below and regulation 5(2)(b)(ii) above includes, but is not limited to, cases where the child has sustained, as a result of abuse or neglect any or all of the following:

* a potentially life-threatening injury;
* serious and/or likely long-term impairment of physical or mental health or physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development.

This definition is not exhaustive. In addition, even if a child recovers, this does not mean that serious harm cannot have occurred. LSCBs should ensure that their considerations on whether serious harm has occurred are informed by available research evidence.

Cases which meet one of the criteria (i.e. regulation 5(2)(a) and (b)(i) or 5(2)(a)and (b)(ii) must always trigger an SCR. Regulation 5(2)(b)(i) includes cases where a child died by suspected suicide. Where a case is being considered under regulation 5(2)(b)(ii), un less there is definitive evidence that there are no concerns about inter-agency working, the LSCB must commission an SCR.

In addition, even if one of the criteria is not met, an SCR should always be carried out when a child dies in custody, in police custody, on remand or following sentencing, in a Young Offender Institution, in a secure training centre or a secure children’s home. The same applies where a child dies who was detained under the Mental Health Act 1983 or where a child aged 16 or 17 was the subject of a deprivation of liberty orde4r unde4r the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

The final decision on whether to conduct an SCR rests with the LSCB Chair. LSCBs should consider conducting reviews on cases which do not meet the SCR criteria. If an SCR is not required because the criteria in regulation 5(2) are not met, the LSCB may still decide to commission an SCR or they may choose to commission an alternative form of case review.

The LSCB Chair should be confident that such a review will thoroughly, independently and openly investigate the issues. The LSCB will also want to review instances of good practice and consider how these can be shared and embedded. The LSCB should oversee implementation of actions resulting from these reviews and reflect on progress in its annual report.