

# Acting on Learning from Serious Case Reviews: children and adults

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# Nothing new?

... 'there are no new messages to be communicated but powerful lessons to be learned' (Aylett p 9).

Learning the lessons from abuse inquiries in training: findings & recommendations, JAP, 10(4) 2008, pp 7-11,

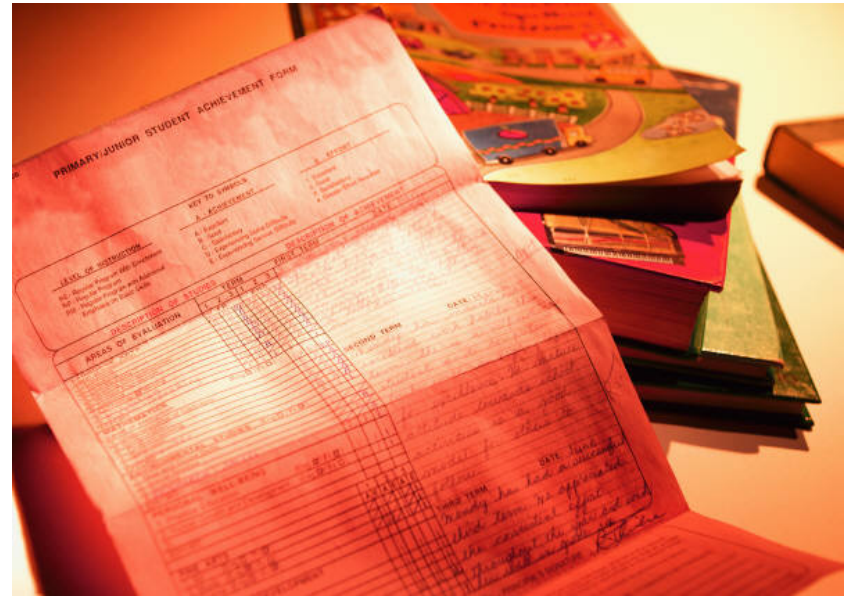


# Adult SCR Lessons

Our analysis of 110  
SCRs found:

Communication problems  
No lead agency  
Training needed  
Whistle-blowing problems  
Poor care

Are you surprised?



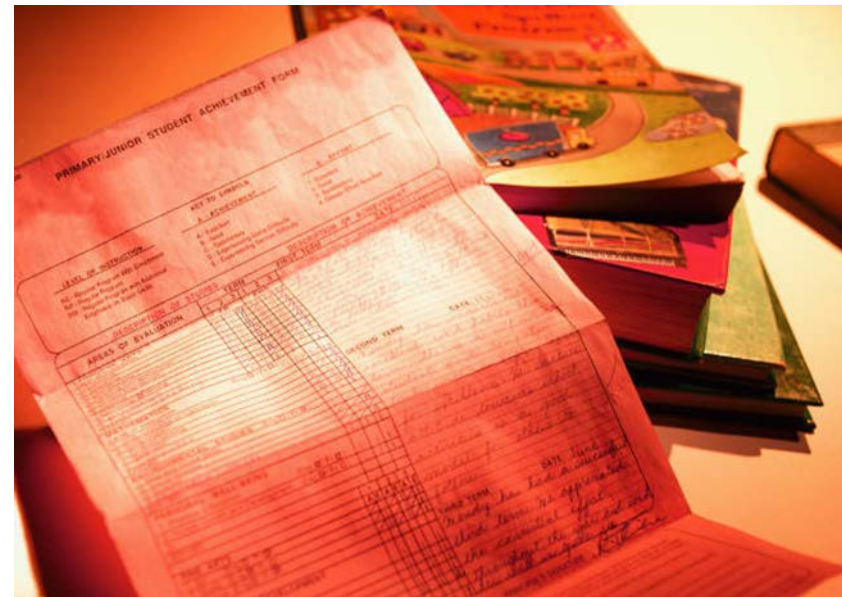
# Using SCRs in training and professional development

Some people have read a SCR

Most know about them through the media

A local one will possibly be circulated or discussed in various ways, possibly with methods and mechanisms for change, possibly with means of follow up

A national one will have wider implementation investment eg Winterbourne View



# Recent Adult SCR – Surrey CC

‘There are certainly **lessons to be learned** here and by implementing the actions recommended, we are looking to ensure the circumstances which caused Mrs Foster to be without care for several days can be prevented from happening again’ - Surrey SAB Chair.



14 recommendations + 23 lessons

- ranging from exploring disciplinary action to greater use of Assistive Technology

# Our recent thematic analyses

- Huge problems of distilling SCRs
- Possible to do locally if narrow remit (eg Hampshire SAB review of incidents of choking)
- Problems of 'benefit of hindsight'
- Few Adult SCRs are in full



# Children's SCRs

'Working together to safeguard children' DfE 2013

Does not advocate any particular methodology so need to prepare and get a sense of the process



# Personal & Public Influences

- **Daniel Pelka: Do serious case reviews work?** (still being asked of new system)

Trystan Jones, BBC News, 17 Sept 2013





# What should you expect?

A learning culture's characteristics

Compassion, recognise it's stressful, politeness, offers chance to say one's piece, respect, well conducted...





## Care Act 2014

- Creates local Safeguarding Adults Boards (SAB) which must commission Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) with duty to co-operate
- Each member of the SAB must co-operate in & contribute to the carrying out of the SAR with a view to
  - (a) identifying the **lessons to be learnt** from the adult's case, and
  - (b) **applying those lessons** to future cases.
- Reviews should '*focus on learning from experience and improving services for users*'

# Shaping the future

- Shaping SAR commissioning – Terms of Reference always important
- Duty to co-operate – legal knowledge
- Authoring Internal Management Reviews – or similar
- Supporting users/carers/staff
- How would you know which staff can do this?
- What skill sets are available locally?



# Assurances

‘Professionals must be involved in Reviews and invited to contribute their perspectives without fear of being blamed for actions they took in good faith.’ (DfE 2013)



# Learning the Lessons

Support for staff

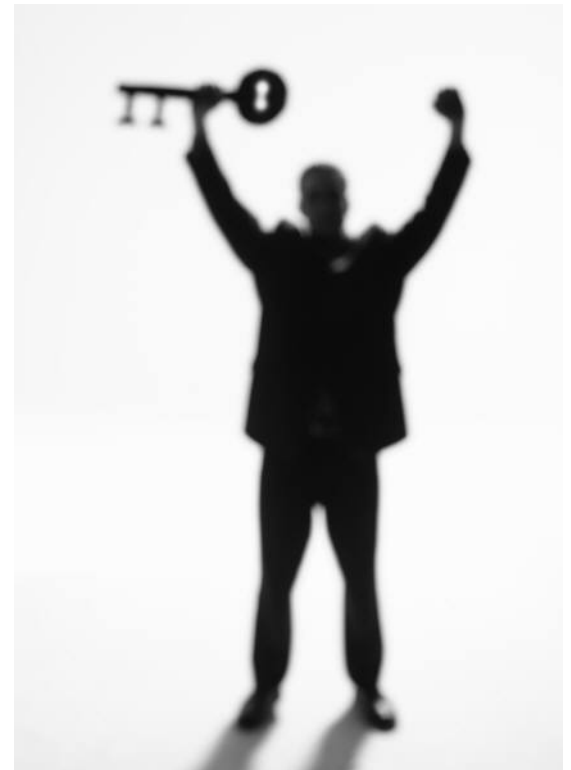
Managing the records

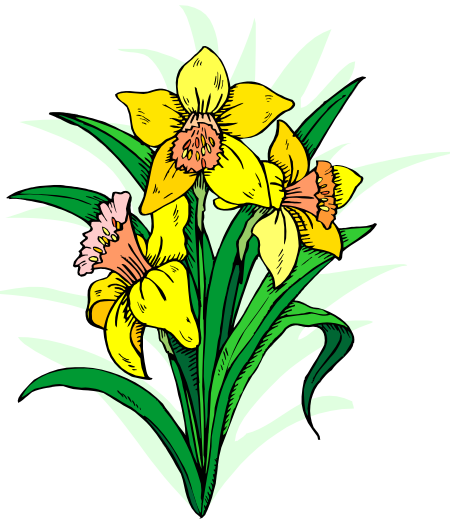
Managing  
communications

Managing relationships

+

Responding to action  
points,  
recommendations &  
implications





# Thanks for listening

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