

Statement from Cheshire East Safeguarding Children's Partnership following publication of the Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review for Jez

Cheshire East Safeguarding Partnership are publishing the findings of a local child safeguarding practice review into the death of a 17-year-old boy called Jez (not his real name).

As the chair of the partnership, I would like to take the opportunity to extend my condolences to Jez's family for his tragic death. As a partnership we are committed to make sure that any learning from this review is embedded in practice and makes a lasting and positive impact for children and adults, their families, and the communities in which they live.

An independent safeguarding practice review was undertaken, engaging with Jez's family and the staff who were involved with him, his siblings and the family. The purpose of the review is for agencies and individuals to learn lessons to improve the way in which they work, both individually and collectively, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Reviews like this are difficult to read, and today, as this report is published, our thoughts are with Jez's family and friends.

The Cheshire East Safeguarding Children's Partnership fully accepts all the report's recommendations. Steps have been taken to learn from these events and measures put in place to ensure that agencies come together to work more effectively as a team in cases such as this.

- There is currently work being proposed to review the domestic abuse strategy- with a focus on victims and meeting the needs of children. The findings from this review will need to inform this work. Assurance will be provided to will report progress to the Quality and Impact Executive board.
- The findings of this review will be built into the current working group look at the integration of the i- THRIVE¹ approach to children's wellbeing. i-Thrive has been designed to enable a move towards delivery of a population health model for children and young people's mental health and promotes the use of Quality Improvement techniques.
- The findings of this review will inform the current quality assurance framework, particularly focussed on the quality of assessments, the use of analytical chronologies and taking a holistic and trauma informed approach to children and their family's lives. All agencies should make every effort to understand a child's history, through discussion with the family and other agencies. This history should be analysed and shared with all agencies to prevent the 'start again' process, to understand the impact of history and therefore needs. Agencies need to give thought to how history and trauma impacts on the engagement of

children and families and how to make reasonable adjustments which enabled engagement to take place.

All partners continue to work together to recognise, respond and fulfil our responsibilities to ensure that children, young people, and families are effectively safeguarded, and their welfare promoted.

If you need help and support on any of the issues covered in the report, there are services that can support you. Visit www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell

If you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child call 0300 123 5012

If you have any questions about this review please contact the Council's Press Office at media@cheshireeast.gov.uk