## 7 MINUTE BRIEFING

## **KSCB** Multi Agency Escalation Policy

The document can be found at the following link:

http://www.knowsleyscb.org.u k/professionals/multi-agencytraining/

within the Tri-X Multi Agency procedures.

6

5

7

1

2

3

This new, updated policy has been developed to ensure that all agencies working within Knowsley (including Health, Education, Housing, Children's Social Care, Adult Services, Probation, Police and third sector organisations), have access to a straight forward multiagency policy to quickly resolve and where necessary escalate professional differences where there are concerns that the welfare and safety of children and young people are at risk of being compromised.

Within the policy you will find more detailed information relating to each step of the process and a process map which will aid understanding.

You will also find an escalation template within the annex of the document.

There are 4 stages to the process; each stage has its own specific timescale to adhere to:

- 1. Practitioner to Practitioner
- 2. Line Manager to Line Manager
- 3. Senior Manager to Senior Manager
- 4. Referral to KSCB Chair

**Disagreements between** practitioners can arise at any stage in the safeguarding process and between any of the agencies involved. Some examples of potential areas of disagreement may include: Level of need/threshold, Concerns in relation to an agency's response to safeguarding concerns, Roles and responsibilities, Interagency communication, Step up step down decisions and Practice case management issues

4

The aim of this policy is to promote a culture of partnership working, whereby all agencies working with children, young people and their families feel confident, able and supported to address concerns in situations where there are differences in professional judgements around the response to the well-being and safety of children and young people.

The child's safety and wellbeing must be the paramount consideration at all times and professional differences must not distract from timely and clear decision making.

This policy is not designed to replace the statutory complaints processes established within individual partner agencies. All agencies are responsible for ensuring that their staff are supported and know how to appropriately escalate and resolve interagency concerns

For more information regarding 7 minute briefings, please email <u>sarah.herron@knowsley.gov.uk</u> Knowsley Safeguarding Children Board, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Nutgrove Villa, Westmorland Road, Huyton L36 6GA Tel: 0151 443 3859 www.knowsleyscb.org.uk