

Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire  
Child Death Overview Panel

What we are required  
to do when a child or  
young person dies

**INFORMATION FOR  
Parents, Families and Carers**



The death of a child is a very difficult time for parents, families and carers.

As professionals working with the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Child Death Overview Panel, we recognise this and extend our sympathies to you at this sad time.

**The following information helps to explain what has to happen following the death of a child or young person under 18 years of age.**

## **What is a review and why is it needed?**

Government legislation requires that every Local Safeguarding Children Board has a Child Death Overview Panel to review the death of every child and young person from their area. By doing so we may find ways of doing things differently that will help children and families in the future.

## **How does a review happen?**

Information about your child and how they died is collected and summarised in a report. The information comes from records held by Hospitals, GPs, Health Professionals, Schools, Police, Children's Social Care, Education and other agencies who may have known your child. The report also includes some information about your family circumstances so that the panel can ensure you are being supported appropriately.

The Child Death Overview Panel includes Doctors, other Health Specialists, Children's Services and the Police who meet regularly. They will look at the circumstances of your child's death and will decide whether to recommend any changes or improvement to services for children that might prevent similar deaths in the future. Any recommendations are passed on to the organisations that are responsible for planning and managing services for children locally, as well as to other relevant agencies.

## What happens when your child's death is reviewed?

Your Child Death Overview Panel will be informed of your child's death and when all of the information has been collected they will be given information about what happened. It will take some months before all the information is ready as the panel will wait until all investigations have been completed.

All of the information gathered is treated with the greatest respect and in strictest confidence. The information provided is anonymised so the panel will not know your child's or your family's identity and we promise that none of our findings, recommendations or reports will name or identify your child or family.

## Can you contribute?

The panel welcomes you to share any information you may have or give your views. You can do this through the professional who handed you this leaflet or whoever is supporting you or you may wish to contact the panel in writing at the address given overleaf.

Lessons learned and recommendations made will be included in our annual report which can be found on the following websites:

**Coventry:** [www.coventrylscb.org.uk/home\\_useful.html](http://www.coventrylscb.org.uk/home_useful.html) - click on 'Local Publications'

**Solihull:** [www.solihull.gov.uk/staysafe/cdop](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/staysafe/cdop)

**Warwickshire:** [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wscb](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wscb)

## Sudden and Unexpected deaths:

As well as the review which takes place following every child's death, if your child has died suddenly and unexpectedly, there are other important things that need to be done. A group of professionals will work together to find out why your child died and identify any factors that may have contributed to their death. They will work closely with you and may wish to visit where your child died. They will keep you informed of their findings and will ensure that you are supported. Your child's death may be notified to the Coroner who may decide to hold an Inquest. You will be notified of the Inquest and will have the opportunity to attend and ask any questions. Your local Coroner's Office will be able to tell you more about the role of the Coroner and Inquests.

### Your specific point of contact is:

Name:

Contact Details:

# Helpful Support Groups

## Bliss

(Support after bereavement of a premature baby)

Helpline Tel: **0500 618 140**

Email: [hello@bliss.org.uk](mailto:hello@bliss.org.uk)

Website: [www.bliss.org.uk](http://www.bliss.org.uk)

## Child Death Helpline

(Answered by bereaved parents)

Tel: **0800 282986**

## CRUSE Bereavement Care

(Telephone and face to face bereavement support)

Helpline Tel: **0844 477 9400**

Email: [helpline@cruse.org.uk](mailto:helpline@cruse.org.uk)

Website: [www.cruse.org.uk](http://www.cruse.org.uk)

Website for young people: [www.rd4u.org.uk](http://www.rd4u.org.uk)

## Edward's Trust

(Counselling for parents, siblings and anyone affected by the death of a child)

Tel: **0121 454 1705**

Email: [admin@edwardstrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@edwardstrust.org.uk)

Website: [www.edwardstrust.org.uk](http://www.edwardstrust.org.uk)

## Guy's Gift

(Support for children & young people)

For South Warwickshire Only

Tel: **0845 467 3035**

Website: [www.guysgift.co.uk](http://www.guysgift.co.uk)

## The Lullaby Trust

Formerly Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths (FSID)

(Helpline for bereaved families and carers)

Helpline Tel: **0808 802 6868**

Email: [support@thelullabytrust.org.uk](mailto:support@thelullabytrust.org.uk)

Website: [www.thelullabytrust.org.uk](http://www.thelullabytrust.org.uk)

## S.C.A.R.D

(Support and care after a road death or injury)

Helpline Tel: **0845 123 5542**

Email: [info@scard.org.uk](mailto:info@scard.org.uk)

Website: [www.scard.org.uk](http://www.scard.org.uk)

## Solihull Bereavement Services

(Counselling for adults and children 6yrs and over)

For Solihull Borough Only

Tel: **0121 424 5103**

Website: [www.solihullbereavement.org](http://www.solihullbereavement.org)

## Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity (SANDS)

Helpline Tel: **020 7436 5881**

Email: [helpline@uk-sands.org](mailto:helpline@uk-sands.org)

Website: [www.uk-sands.org](http://www.uk-sands.org)

## Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide (SOBS)

Helpline Tel: **0844 561 6855**

Email: [sobs.admin@care4free.net](mailto:sobs.admin@care4free.net)

Website: [www.uk-sobs.org.uk](http://www.uk-sobs.org.uk)

## Winston's Wish

(Childhood Bereavement Charity)

Helpline Tel: **08452 03 04 05**

Website: [www.winstonswish.org.uk](http://www.winstonswish.org.uk)

---

## Child Death Overview Panel Manager for Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire

Saltisford Office Park  
Building 3,  
Ansell Way  
Warwick. CV34 4UL