



Redbridge Safeguarding Children
Partnership (RSCP)

Rapid Review Process Guidance

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1. Introduction

This guidance sets out information relating to the Rapid Review process which is undertaken in line with [Statutory Guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#).

Undertaking and delivery of high-quality and timely rapid reviews with outcomes and learning is a joint function of the delegated safeguarding partners ([Working Together](#), page 29).

The RSCP approach to rapid reviews is that they are a key form of learning and development to support the improvement of safeguarding children practice.

Safeguarding partners are required to promptly undertake a rapid review on all notified serious incidents. The Review timeline is set out in section 4.

2. What is a Rapid Review?

Rapid Reviews are a short, but intense form of case review which is undertaken where a child has died or been seriously harmed, and abuse or neglect is known or suspected. The aim is to learn from what happened, how agencies worked together and consider what improvements could be made to develop safeguarding practice.

Rapid reviews should identify, collate, and reflect on the facts of the case as quickly as possible in order to establish whether there is any immediate action needed to ensure a child's safety and the potential for practice learning.

For safeguarding partners, the rapid review should conclude with a decision about whether or not a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR) should be commissioned using the criteria set out in [Working Together 2023](#).

If the decision is to commission an LCSPR, the key lines of enquiry and the questions that are to be answered by the review process should be set out in the conclusion to the Rapid Review.

The Rapid Review is developed into a Report which is submitted to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review (NSP) Panel within 15 working days of any serious incident notification.

We aim to demonstrate good practice where we identify what has been learnt and how this learning will be disseminated and acted on across the local partnership.

3. Rapid Review Process

Day 1

A referral is submitted to the RSCP, via the Redbridge 'One Panel', for a case identified as potentially meeting the criteria for a Rapid Review and a Serious Incident Notification is submitted by the Local Authority on behalf of the safeguarding partners.

The statutory safeguarding partners consider whether the case meets the criteria for a Rapid Review by holding a 'virtual' panel meeting (see guidance). Where an agreement has not been achieved, consultation will take place with the RSCP Independent Chair/Scrutineer and advice sought, as appropriate, from the London Regional Lead at the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) Panel.

If the criteria is met, a Rapid Review is commissioned chaired by the RSCP Independent Chair/Scrutineer or a senior leader from one of the statutory safeguarding partners with no direct responsibility or involvement with the case.

A list of agencies involved with the child and their family is shared by the Local Authority with the Partnership Manager.

A Rapid Review Information Sharing Form is sent to all of the above with a deadline for return of one week.

A Rapid Review Meeting is convened to take place within the next few days with representatives from each of the agencies involved in the case and also representatives from the statutory safeguarding partner agencies i.e. Local Authority (including Legal Services), ICB and MPS.

Day 6 - 7

Rapid Review Information Sharing forms are returned to the Partnership Manager, including any 'not known' for sharing with the Independent Chair of the Rapid Review. Information Sharing forms should be quality assured and signed off by a manager to ensure accuracy.

Day 8

The Independent Chair/Scrutineer provides a draft Rapid Review Report based on the Serious Incident Notification and information sharing returns. This is sent out to meeting attendees with an agenda.

The Rapid Review Report is based on a template which includes the mandatory information required by the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) Panel i.e.

demographics of the child; family structure and any relevant information about significant physical or mental health issues or learning disabilities; immediate safeguarding arrangements for any other children involved (e.g. siblings); a concise summary of the facts; a clear decision as to whether the criteria for a CSPR has been met on what grounds; any immediate learning and actions.

Day 8 Rapid Review Meeting

Attendance will include:

- Representation from the safeguarding partners (LA, Police, ICB)
- Representation from any other key providers as identified by the Rapid Review reports
- Any specialist organisations that can provide specific knowledge and guidance e.g. on a health condition
- Designated Health Professionals
- Principal Child & Family Social Worker (PCFSW)

The purpose, or terms of reference for the Rapid Review meeting is to:

- Agree the background information on the case, ensuring accuracy;
- Agreement of what is working well and any areas for concerns
- Agree the completion of the Rapid Review report and any themes for the summary/analysis
- Identify any action already taken or required
- Agree any recommendations
- Agree whether the case meets the criteria for a Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR). The lead or senior member for each agency will be asked to lead the response.

Day 11

The Partnership Manager will circulate a revised final draft of the Report which has been developed from the Rapid Review Meeting and any further information shared. A period of two days will be provided for accuracy and final comments.

Days 13 - 14

Lead Statutory Partners (Local Authority, MPS and ICB) agree and sign off final copy with a ratification of the recommendation relating to a local CSPR.

Day 15

Partnership Manager submits a signed version of the final Report in PDF format to the National Panel via Mailbox.NationalReviewPanel@education.gov.uk.

4. Useful Links

Local Information and Guidance

- [Redbridge Safeguarding Children Partnership \(RSCP\) – Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews \(CSPRs\)](#)
- [RSCP Briefing: Purpose of a Rapid Review for Participants](#)
- [Redbridge ‘One Panel’ Guidance, Terms of Reference \(ToR\) and Referral Form, October 2024](#)

National Guidance

- [HM Government Statutory Guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023](#)
- [Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel guidance for safeguarding partners, September 2022](#)

Resources

- [Child Safeguarding Rapid Review Examples](#)