

Summary: Child and Family Practice Review of a Critical Injury of a Child Known to the Director in 2021

Circumstances of the Critical Injury

The review examined the services provided to a child who was critically injured. The child and their family received services at the time of the critical injury.

Findings

The ministry partially assessed and planned for the child's safety and well-being. A report received prior to the critical injury was responded to immediately. The assessment period was extended to allow time to meet with the child's other parent and the practitioner checked in with the family on several occasions. The practitioner encouraged the child's parent to access support services to address the safety concerns. Following the child's critical injury, the ministry responded immediately and developed a safety plan that recognized the family's strengths and addressed any safety concerns.

A thorough assessment of all risk factors did not occur. The secondary parent was not interviewed, and collateral contact checks were not completed.

Actions

The involved Service Delivery Area leadership and the Quality Assurance team developed an action plan to review the procedures for completing child protection incidents, particularly in relation to interviewing all parents/guardians involved in a child's care, explaining to parents/guardians the process of assessing safety concerns, completing Safety Assessments in a timely manner, and completing collateral contact checks.

The review was completed in November 2022. The above action plan is due for full implementation in January 2023.