

SUMMARY: FILE REVIEW

Of the Death and Critical Injury of Children Known to the Director in 2019

Circumstances of the Fatality and Critical Injury

The review examined the case files of two children, one who died in an accident and their sibling who was critically injured in the same accident. The director was providing services to the children and their family at the time of the death in relation to concerns of neglect and abuse.

Findings

The director received multiple child protection reports concerning the children's safety and well-being during the period reviewed. The reports were not promptly responded to and several were minimized, screened out, or incorrectly coded as 'previously assessed'. The director did not collaborate with the service providers or family members that were identified as supports to the family to mitigate the concerns. On several occasions the completion of the required assessment tools was performed outside of the prescribed timelines, which led to the children being at an increased or unknown level of risk.

Prior to the review being finalized, the involved staff took part in training related to issues identified through the review. Additional training, resulting from a recent practice audit and a separate file review, was scheduled.

Actions

No actions were required to address the findings of the review.

The review was completed in March 2020.