



Rapid Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

Guidance on processes used across Derby and Derbyshire

Principles underpinning how reviews should be carried out originated from processes for Serious Case Review that have evolved to now include processes for Rapid Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPR). These changes are set out in current national guidance Working Together that has captured key points set out originally in the Munro Review of Child Protection (2011).

[Working Together \(2018\)](#) sets out the expectation that **the method by which the review should be conducted, takes into account this guidance and the principles of the systems methodology recommended by the Munro review. The methodology should provide a way of looking at and analysing frontline practice as well as organisational structures and learning.**

The guidance sets out that reviews “should be proportionate to the circumstances of the case, focus on potential learning, and establish and explain the reasons why the events occurred as they did.”

In addition, there is an explicit expectation that:

- “practitioners are fully involved in reviews and invited to contribute their perspectives without fear of being blamed for actions they took in good faith
- families, including surviving children, are invited to contribute to reviews. This is important for ensuring that the child is at the centre of the process. They should understand how they are going to be involved and their expectations should be managed appropriately and sensitively.”

The Munro Review of Child Protection provided the foundation for the national guidance setting out, in chapter four, key principles that should be incorporated into the methodology of reviews and emphasised the need to move forward from the prescriptive methodology of Serious Case Reviews.

The DDSCP will enable the use of methodologies that consider the circumstances of individual cases and work with independent authors and agency representatives to ensure that the following principles set out in the Munro review are achieved. The following key points will inform the methodology used:

“The complexity of the multi-agency child protection system heightens the need for continual and reliable feedback about how the system is performing. This is in order that organisations can learn about what is working well and identify emerging problems and so adapt accordingly. Such a learning culture is needed both within and between agencies. It needs to include people at all levels in organisations, from

the frontline workers engaging with families, to the most senior managers in hierarchies.”¹

Whilst Munro references a particular model developed by the Social Care Institute for Excellence, the report illustrates more generally the underlying principles to be achieved by reviews as follows:

“the focus of a case review using a systems approach is on multi-agency professional practice, not the particular child(ren) and family. The goal is to move beyond the specifics of the particular case – what happened and why – to identify the ‘deeper’, underlying issues that are influencing practice more generally. This involves exploring, among other factors, the local rationality of those involved. It is these generic patterns that count as ‘findings’ or ‘lessons’ from a case and changing them will contribute to improving practice more widely.”¹

The DDSCP will work with independent authors to determine for individual cases how best to promote the use of learning events with practitioners and managers to draw out what works and what could be improved across the safeguarding system in Derby and Derbyshire.

In this way, local methodology for completing reviews will endeavour to promote a learning culture that is rigorous and involves organisations through their practitioners and managers relevant to the individual case and overseen by the case review panel.

“Using a systems approach for studying a system in which people and the context interact requires the use of qualitative research methods to improve transparency and rigour..... The importance of understanding local rationality – of learning how people saw things at the time and exploring with them ways in which aspects of the context were influencing their work – requires those involved in a case to play a major part in the review in analysing how and why practice unfolded the way it did and the broader organisational relevance.”¹

Establishing a proportionate and timely process

The national guidance sets out the expectation that “Depending on the nature and complexity of the case, the report should be completed and published as soon as possible and no later than six months from the date of the decision to initiate a review.”

Focussed action is being taken by the DDSCP to complete outstanding review activity and the nuances of each individual case will sometimes need to be addressed through adapting the process to capture learning in a flexible way.

This will include taking action with partners whilst reviews are in progress to:

- capture points from the case about improvements needed, and
- take corrective action and disseminate learning

¹ The [Munro Review of Child Protection](#): Final Report: A Child Centred System (May 2011).

Rapid Review Process following a Notification by the Local Authority

Local Authority identifies case concern. Criteria - *'Where a local authority in England knows or suspects that a child has been abused or neglected, the local authority must notify the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel if –*

(a) the child dies or is seriously harmed in the local authority's area, or

(b) while normally resident in the local authority's area, the child dies or is seriously harmed outside England' (Working Together 2018 p.86)

Local Authority notifies Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the DDSCP within 5 days of incident

Working Day 1

DDSCP Team:

- Liaise with CSPR subgroup Ind. Chair (or DDSCP Ind. Chair in their absence) to confirm timescale period for review (This is 12 months from date of incident unless specified)
- Circulate Request for Information document to Derby and Derbyshire integrated Care Board (ICB) which included Glossop, Police and CSC and forward the full details to Legal Services (where child lives). Partners determine which additional providers / agencies should provide reports to them – including schools, Cafcass etc
- Confirm with partners the timeline and deadline dates for rapid review process
- Invitation to be sent to agency leads for meeting on Working Day 11

Working Day 5

3 Statutory Partners and any other relevant Partner Agency:

- Return completed Request for Information reports to DDSCP team. Reports must contain factual, relevant, and qualitative analysis of this information
- **NB.** Agencies to be mindful that this information will be shared with the National Panel

Working Day 7

DDSCP Team:

- Circulate Combined Agency Information report to all partners involved with the rapid review and Legal Services

Working Day 9

3 Statutory Partners confirm (from Combined Agency Information report):

- Their decision (with rationale) about whether the criteria has been met for a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review or a National Safeguarding Review (Working Together 2018) - to help inform meeting discussion on Working Day 11.



Working Day 11

Meeting held with DDSCP, 3 Statutory Partners and Local Authority Legal Representative:

- Partners to agree whether the criteria for a LCSPR and National Review has been met or not and the rationale for this decision
- Partners to agree whether a LCSPR should be commenced or not and the rationale for this decision. If not – evidence what action is being / has been taken to address any learning from the rapid review
- Legal advice to be given to inform decision making

DDSCP – Provide draft report to 3 statutory partners to inform discussion



Working Day 12

DDSCP Team: Amends Rapid Review Report with the decision of the Statutory Partners:

- Whether a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review is appropriate, or
- Whether the case may raise issues which are complex or of national importance such that a national review may be appropriate. The Independent CSPR subgroup Chair approves the report and forwards to the DDSCP Independent Chair for scrutiny.



By Working Day 15

The DDSCP Independent Chair and Statutory Partners: agree the final Rapid Review Report



Working Day 15

RAPID REVIEW REPORT is sent to the National CSPR Panel.

FOLLOWING SUBMISSION OF THE RAPID REVIEW REPORT TO THE NATIONAL CSPR PANEL

National CSPR Panel: Confirm via email to the DDSCP receipt of the Rapid Review Report and advise the DDSCP the date that the case will be considered by the Panel



The National CSPR Panel confirms (within 10 days of considering the Rapid Review):

- Whether additional information is needed
- Whether they agree with our conclusions detailed in the Rapid Review Report
- Their decision about whether or not a national review should be carried out



Members of the Joint Derby and Derbyshire Child Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup receive a copy of the rapid review report and the written response from the National Panel.

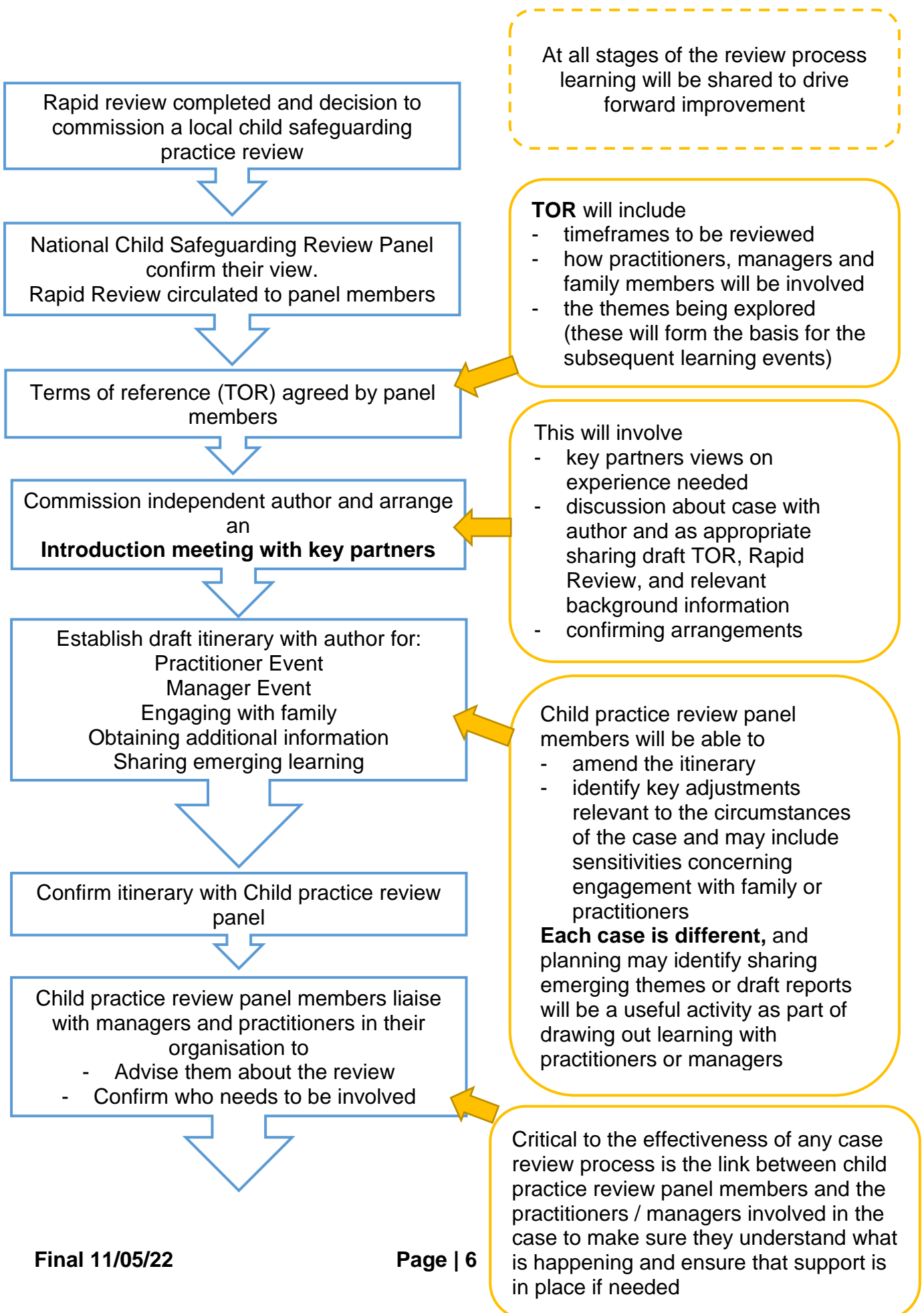
N.B. In the circumstance where the National Panel make a recommendation that is different to the view of the local statutory partners as detailed in the Rapid Review Report, another meeting between the DDSCP, statutory partners and Local Authority Legal Representative will be held to discuss the next course of action and the Partnership response to the National Panel.²

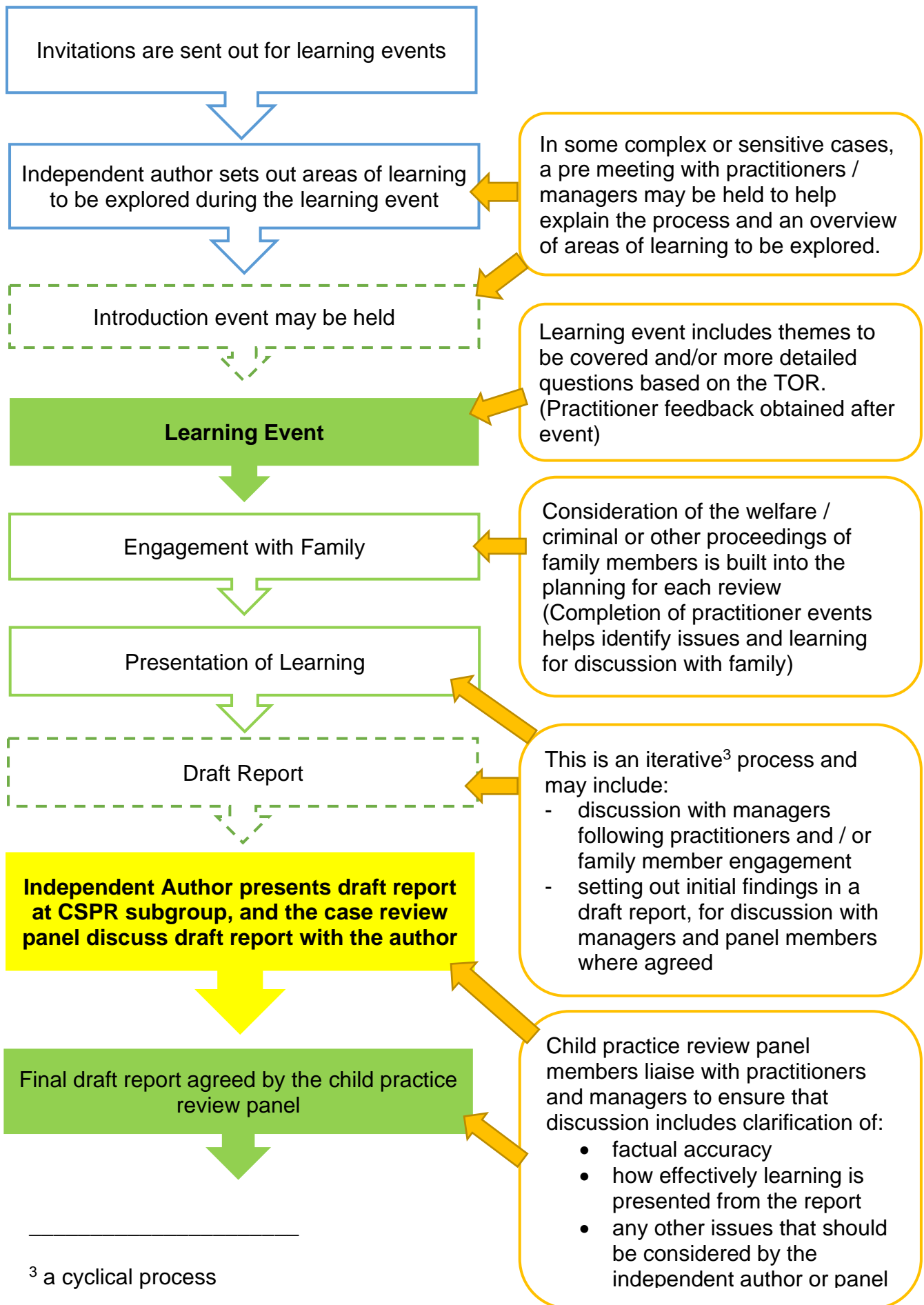


If a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review has been agreed – arrangements commence to identify the Terms of Reference and Independent Author

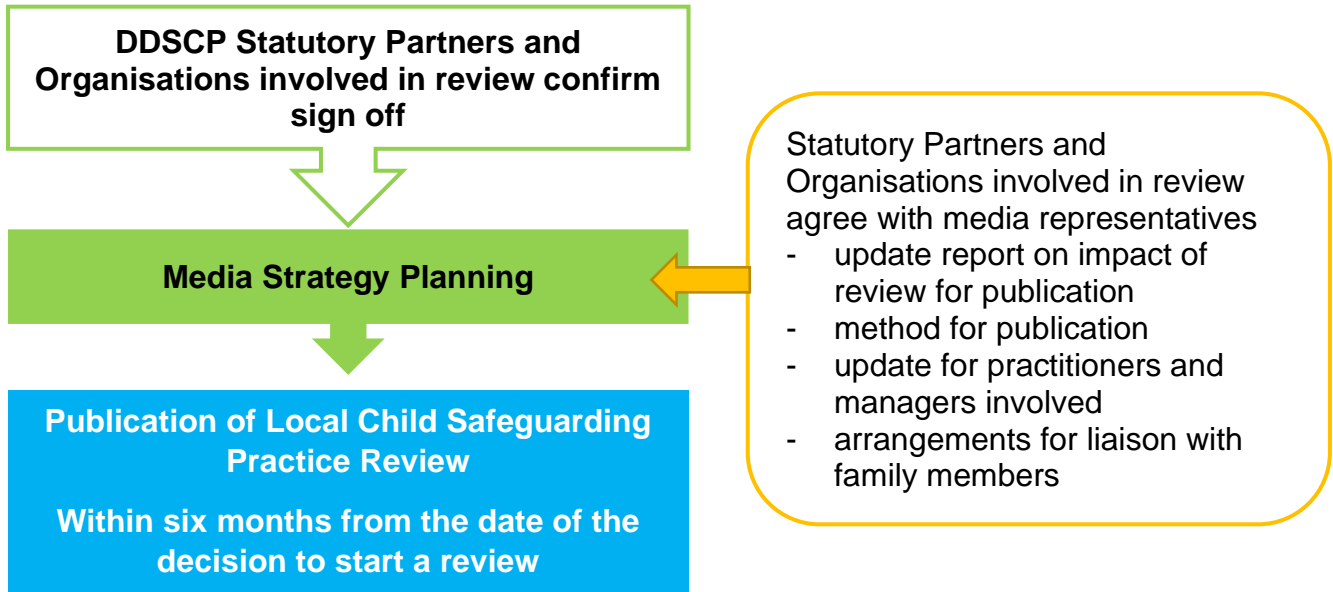
² **Working Together to Safeguard Children (July 2018)** 'Meeting the criteria does not mean that safeguarding partners must automatically carry out a local child safeguarding practice review. It is for them to determine whether a review is appropriate, taking into account that the overall purpose of a review is to identify improvements to practice. Issues might appear to be the same in some child safeguarding cases but reasons for actions and behaviours may be different and so there may be different learning to be gained from similar cases. Decisions on whether to undertake reviews should be made transparently and the rationale communicated appropriately, including to families.' p.87 para.17

Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review Process





³ a cyclical process



Glossary

CSPR Panel	Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. Partner agency leads who represent their organisation during the safeguarding review process.
CSPR Subgroup	Child Safeguarding Practice Review Subgroup. Strategic leads from partner agencies who review child safeguarding cases at local and national level to identify improvements to be made to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
DDSCP	Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR)	A review to identify improvements to be made to safeguard and promote the welfare of children by understanding whether there are systemic issues, and whether and how policy and practice need to change.
National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel	A Panel of eight members appointed by the Secretary of State for Education who's role is to identify and oversee the review of serious child safeguarding cases.
Rapid Review	A rapid review is undertaken by the DDSCP and safeguarding partners following a serious incident notification. Rapid reviews should assemble 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.