

Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) and Rapid Reviews

Background:

SCRs are commissioned by the Safeguarding Partnership Board (SPB) where abuse or neglect of a child or adult at risk is known or suspected and where either a child/adult at risk has died or been seriously harmed and there is cause for concern about the way in which organisations and their staff have worked together to safeguard the child/adult at risk.

Why It Matters:

SCRs help to identify where local practice and inter-agency working needs to improve to reduce the risk of future harm to children and adults at risk. They ensure that areas of good practice are identified and shared. They should provide an understanding of the contextual factors underlying decisions and actions with the aim of improving

Information:

Rapid Reviews were introduced in *Working Together 2018* which Jersey follows as best practice. The first stage is usually to hold a 'Rapid Review' (RR) where information is quickly gathered and a panel decides next steps which could be to progress to an SCR, or consider other reviews, audits, meetings or the learning recommendations from the RR can be implemented. The decision to progress to an SCR rests with the independent chair. SCRs are not about apportioning blame and are not part of any disciplinary process relating to an individual. They are about reviewing whether there are lessons to be learned about multi-agency working and if procedures are effective.



Consider:

1. Has there been multi-agency involvement with the child or adult at risk to which serious harm has been caused?
2. Are there concerns about how multi-agency partners have worked together to safeguard the child or adult at risk?
3. Do you feel lessons could be learnt about the way multi-agency partners work together?

If so, please submit an [SCR Referral](#).

What To Do:

Jersey's SCRs are archived after a period of time. Current SCRs and Learning Reports, as well as the criteria for SCRs and referral forms, are available at [Serious Case Reviews | Jersey Safeguarding Partnership Board](#)

In the UK, SCRs are often made public (and anonymised). In Jersey the SPB assumes all SCRs will be published unless their publication would result in possible identification of the subject of the review or their family. The SPB may consider publishing 'Learning Reports' instead that highlight the learning from the SCR.

Any agency that has been involved with the child, adult at risk or their family will be required to contribute information to the review by way of a chronology & analysis. This information will then be reviewed by an independent author for a SCR or Panel Chair for a RR. A detailed summary will then be produced from all the information gathered and conclusions and recommendations made to improve multi-agency practice.