

Safeguarding Reviews

A partnership approach to sustainable service improvement

The death of Baby Peter and the subsequent findings of Ofsted inspections of safeguarding arrangements across the country have highlighted that compliance with PIs alone does not protect children.

This comes as no surprise to us in Reconstruct nor, we are sure, does it surprise you. Recent publications from Lord Laming, *Learning Lessons*, *Taking Actions* and *Learning Together to Safeguard Children* have highlighted the need for a new approach to analysing practice; a move away from audits to qualitative reviews.

In the light of this, we have developed an innovative partnership approach that provides you with a comprehensive but practical and effective safeguarding review. We take Ofsted inspection requirements into account, highlight practice and system issues and the changes required to support sustainable good performance. Our team of senior practitioners, first-line and senior managers, and academics, has solid experience of doing the job with various agencies as well as the specialist skills of reviewing all aspects of service delivery.

From the outset, we agree with you the particular areas we will analyse, using the Ofsted inspection criteria as a baseline framework – annual unannounced and/or triennial safeguarding inspection – and taking into account recent serious case reviews, reports, publications, recognised best practice and your own audits. This joint planning stage is crucial to getting the best out of the review, and to engaging staff at all levels in the outcome.

We then:

- interview staff
- observe practice
- analyse business plans, reports and case records
- develop questionnaires
- conduct focus groups

Finally, we provide you with a comprehensive report highlighting strengths and weaknesses and containing a practical action plan to support service improvement and, where relevant, inspection preparation.

If you would like further information please contact Barry Raynes, email barry.raynes@reconstruct.co.uk, telephone 01225 780145.

Reconstruct has three core activities
Training & development
Independent children's services
Consultancy & project management
www.reconstruct.co.uk