Background

F20 lived with his family and siblings. He had good school attendance and was described as doing well there. In the last vear of F20's life concerns had been raised about his behaviour which could have been consistent with involvement in criminal

exploitation.

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## Safeguarding concerns

'ment in 'een ''ve Concerns had been raised about F20's involvement in criminal exploitation. Multi agency support had been offered to the family but this was not accepted. Alternative support which may have been accepted by the family was not pursued. Focus on involvement from agencies appeared to reflect pursuit of a criminal conviction for F20 rather than his behaviours being seen as him being a victim of criminal exploitation.

Agencies continued to monitor F20 through observation. Information was not always shared for the purpose of

Identify and outline the steps you and your team will take to improve practice in line with the findings and recommendations

### Recommendations

Agencies should utilise the Early Help Assessment and Team Around the School approach at the earliest opportunity when responding to signs of exploitation.

Agencies should ensure that staff are able to recognise and respond to the early signs of exploitation and promote the complex safeguarding offer.

Facilitation of a Practitioner Forum on 'developing trusted relationships' to share good practice and develop alternative ways to engage families.

Strategic partners (LSCP and Community Safety Partnership) should agree and implement a contextual safeguarding response that will engage and empower members of the community.



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## The incident

F20 tragically died in a road traffic incident

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# The findings

F20 appeared to be viewed by agencies as a criminal rather than as a child who was vulnerable to criminal exploitation. The need for him to be protected from harm appears to have been missed with agencies making referrals to specialist teams at a later stage.

His increasing involvement in criminal activity was not viewed as a safeguarding matter and was not afforded the same level of urgency as intra familial abuse. There was inconsistency between practitioners of the understanding of F20's behaviours which resulted in an

inconsistent view of the risks to his safety. Practitioners do not necessarily perceive exploitation of children as being synonymous with accepted definitions of child abuse.

# The review

The review considered the following themes: Processes in place for gathering, analysing and sharing of multi-agency information.

Reasons for a delay in offering services to F20 and his family. Agencies' recognition and response to poor engagement with families

Practitioner understanding of child criminal exploitation and contextual safeguarding.







Name of Organisation	Team Manager
Name of Section & Team	Contact Details
Identify the learning or recommendations that are relevant to your to	eam and summarise your leams discussion on those points
2.	
3.	



Please ensure you keep a copy of this discussion and plan for your records. Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership will ask teams to provide evidence of the discussion, agreed actions and for evidence of improvements to practice.



What actions have been agreed to improve practice?

What needs to happen?	Who will do it?	By When?	How will you know when it has been done?	How will you know if it has worked?



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