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| **TITLE:** | **BRIEFING: CSPR Panel Annual Report 2020** |
| **DATE:** | 22nd June 2021 |

**A summary of key messages from the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel’s annual report looking at rapid reviews, local child safeguarding practice reviews and serious case reviews in England during 2020.**

# Background to the report

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel are responsible for identifying and overseeing the review of serious child safeguarding cases that raise issues of complex or national importance in England.

Following a serious safeguarding incident, local safeguarding partners are required to submit a rapid review to the Panel within 15 working days. This should set out, in detail, the circumstances of the event.

Local child safeguarding practice reviews (LCSPRs) are commissioned by safeguarding partners in response to a serious safeguarding incident. They provide learning in order to avoid similar incidents occurring in the future. The system of rapid reviews and LCSPRs replaced serious case reviews following a transition period, which ended in September 2019.

This is the Panel’s second annual report (Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, 2021). It highlights the key messages from a range of sources including:

**National reviews, thematic analysis and commissioned reports also formed the evidence base for this annual report.**

# Serious incident notifications

The Panel received **482** serious incident notifications between 1 January and 31 December 2020, relating to 514 children.

## Age, gender and ethnicity of children

Of the **514** children and young people involved in serious incidents reported to the Panel:

## Child deaths

206 fatal incidents were reported to the Panel, of which:

## Non-fatal incidents

**276** non-fatal incidents were reported to the Panel, of which:

## Case characteristics

Information on the context in which incidents occurred was also recorded for all 482 serious incident notifications. Common characteristics included:

# Coronavirus pandemic

The report also looks at the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on child safeguarding in 2020. Serious incident notifications to the Panel in the period April to September 2020 were 27% higher than the same period in 2019.

# Key practice themes and learning

The Panel has identified *six key practice themes* to make a difference in reducing serious harm and preventing child deaths caused by abuse or neglect.

# Work programme for 2021

The Panel has agreed priorities which will inform and shape its work over the next one to two years. The Panel has plans to deliver a range of national reviews, thematic and practice analysis and research in 2021-22 on a range of topics, including:

# Looking forward – System leadership, learning and improvement

The Panel will develop further its system leadership role through its communication and stakeholder engagement programme. To date it has done this through a quarterly newsletter, creating a Twitter account, and running a series of webinars. In the next year, they will build on that work by providing more opportunities for engagement through quarterly practice briefings and Panel-run virtual events, as well as stakeholder channels.

# Reflective questions for local leaders

**For further information:**

* [Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel: 2020 annual report](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/984767/The_Child_Safeguarding_Annual_Report_2020.pdf)
* [Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel: 2020 executive summary](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/984769/The_Child_Safeguarding_Annual_Report_2020_executive_summary.pdf)