

Chadrack

Statement – Jim Gamble QPM, Independent Chair CHSCB

Over the last three years, the CHSCB has undertaken a range of reviews into the deaths and serious injuries of a number of children. The evidence we have gathered and the experience we have gained reinforces a simple but critical lesson; irrespective of our primary role or the issue being dealt with, we must all think safeguarding first.

This simple yet powerful approach needs to be adopted as best practice. Not only by the professionals and volunteers working with children, but by all of us. Whether you are a parent or carer, a family member or friend, a neighbour or simply a passer-by, you can play a constructive role to help make our children safer.

In the heart-breaking circumstances of Chadrack's death, never has the phrase 'safeguarding is everyone's responsibility' been more pertinent. His death and the lessons set out within our review must become more than a terrible headline; they must map a route to a greater focus on the needs of the family and a response that is fundamentally driven by everyone thinking safeguarding first.