



## 01 Purpose of this Briefing

A multi-agency spotlight audit on children on a child protection plan and in receipt of CAMHS, was carried out by the Leicester and Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Children Partnerships (LLR SCPs) between March and May 2025.

This briefing shares the good practice and learning identified.

## 07 Resources to support practice

[Leicestershire Partnership Trust CAMHS website](#)  
[Child Protection Plan procedure](#)

## 06 Reviewing Practice

- Are you sharing minutes and invites to meetings with CAMHS to all children known to them on the waiting list and who are actively engaged with CAMHS?
- Are you in receipt of the care plan from CAMHS?
- Are you telling CAMHS when the plan has ended?

## 05 Learning Points

- Where CAMHS Care Plans can be shared, this would be useful if done routinely, particularly when CAMHS are not able to join meetings.
- There is evidence that CAMHS practitioners are not always invited to Strategy Discussions, Child Protection Conferences or Core Groups. If a child/young person is on the CAMHS waiting list, Local Authorities should always still invite CAMHS.
- Child protection minutes and Plans are not always forwarded to CAMHS or visible in records.
- CAMHS practitioners are not always made aware when a Child Protection Plan has ended to enable removal of the child protection icon from System 1 records.
- Social Care should not be reliant on waiting for a mental health diagnosis. There should be a focus on supporting the child/young person everyday and the presenting issues and needs, as these are unlikely to change as a result of a diagnosis.
- Agencies should ensure that they understand the impact of a child's mental health on their siblings. It could have a parenting impact on siblings, as well as an emotional impact. Time, attention, and energy can be taken up by the mental health of one child.

## 02 Background to Audit

The theme was agreed to support Business Priority 2 on Child Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing, and Safeguarding in the 2023-25 LLR SCP Business Plan.

This audit seeks to provide a follow up on the previous audit completed in 2021.

## 03 Audit Scope

Cases were identified as being involved with CAMHS and on a Child Protection Plan within the last 6 months. The scoping period was 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025. A total of 11 cases were reviewed – 5 from Leicester City, 5 from Leicestershire and 1 from Rutland.



## 04 What worked well

- Where CAMHS were informed and invited to child protection meetings, they attended, or sent apologies and provided a report.
- The voice of the young people and parents / carers is evident in the records.
- There was evidence of good information sharing about a child's child protection/child in need status at GP Practices' MDT meetings.
- Where children had multiple 'Was Not Brought', GPs were persistent in continuing to offer appointments.
- One of the Leicestershire cases involved a young person moving between placements and they ensured that safety plans were in place.
- In the City perplexing presentation case, there was coordination of a range of health services ensuring that the family were involved throughout. There was professional curiosity regarding potential Fabricated and Induced Illness (FII).
- In the Rutland case, they worked jointly with Police to reduce missing episodes and agree a joint approach for de-escalation when the child was found.
- In the Rutland case, the Police included an extra flag on their database regarding the child's mental health to alert officers to a need for a tailored response.
- In two cases, where the child was born a girl and now identifies as a boy, preferred pronouns and names were recorded and used by partnership agencies and appropriate support was provided around gender identity and transitioning.