

THURSDAY



Learning from Reviews, 24 - 28 June 2024

Safeguarding children is complex and reliant on services working together. Ongoing development of knowledge, skills and confidence is essential for multi-agency professionals working with children and families. One key area for strengthening multi-agency practice lies in [Learning from Reviews](#).



DISPROPORTIONALITY

Disproportionality occurs when a group's representation in a specific category exceeds expectations or significantly differs from others in that category. Conscious and unconscious biases shape our beliefs and prejudices about people, that can sometimes lead to harmful generalisations, for example, assuming all ethnic minorities share the same traits and practices. This can impact the level of support and protection provided to children and families.

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RESOLUTION

The National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel describe professional challenge as a "perennial practice challenge". In their assessment of local reviews they highlight a lack of challenge between professionals and an apparent reluctance to escalate concerns. Professional challenges should be seen as part of 'healthy' professional working relationships. Practitioners should give or receive professional challenge in a constructive and positive way to secure good outcomes for children.

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SUPERVISION

Safeguarding supervision promotes positive outcomes for children and families through creating a safe contained environment where practitioners have the capacity to think and reflect. It enables practitioners to take responsibility for their own practice and response to the safeguarding needs of children and families. Effective supervision should take into account the wider family and social context.

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Remember professional challenge should be welcomed. It should always be done in a respectful, supportive and timely way which aids effective multi-agency safeguarding practice and better outcomes for children.