

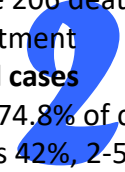
Key themes:

- Complexity
- Service landscape
- Poverty
- Child protection



Some data 1:

Gender: 54% boys
Fatal cases: 79 of the 206 deaths were as a direct result of the maltreatment
Increase in non-fatal cases
Neglect: featured in 74.8% of cases
Children's ages: -1yrs 42%, 2-5yrs 21%, 6-10yrs 5%, 11yrs+ 31%
Ethnicity: 80% white
Disability: 14%



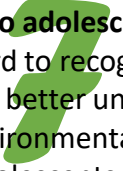
Some Data 2:

Where children were living: 83% at home
Who was involved: Most serious and fatal maltreatment took place within the family home, involving parents or other close family members
Social care involvement: 55% current involvement.; 22% previously known; 16% not known
Child protection plans: 15% on current plan; 15% on previous plan
Parental characteristics: Domestic Violence 64%, Mental health problems 56%; substance misuse 39%, ACEs 40%, criminal behavior 34%



Overarching messages:

- The complex and cumulative nature of neglect, often in the context of poverty.
- The risk of harm to adolescents, which may be hidden and hard to recognise. There is a need to develop a better understanding of the social and environmental context of the risks and harm adolescents face outside of the family.
- The need to focus on thorough assessments and clear plans.



7 minutes briefing: Complexity and challenge: A triennial analysis of serious case reviews 2014-2017

Carla Thomas

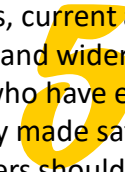
Multi-agency working:

- Effective multi-agency plans
- Strategy or review meetings
- Tools
- Lead professional
- Eliciting information
- Combined chronologies
- Professional challenge
- Supervision
- Relationship-based practice



Adolescents:

- Adolescents' early experiences may contribute to feelings of worthlessness and lack of self-efficacy in adolescence
- Gaining understanding of an adolescent's early years, current and changing family situations and wider social networks
- Children who have experienced trauma are not quickly made safe
- Practitioners should consider complex and contextual safeguarding



Neglect and Poverty:

- It is important not to ignore the impacts of poverty, but also not simplistically to attribute the family's problems to economic hardship alone
- Risk of becoming desensitized
- Need to use clear language
- Pre-birth assessments
- Role of fathers
- Taking into account concerns by neighbours and anonymous referrals
- Combined chronologies
- Assessments of kinship placements.

