

Child Death Arrangements & Rapid Response Protocol.

Arrangements for Notification of a Child Death

This covers all deaths of children under the age of 18 years who are residents of or within the London Borough of Brent.

Notification

- 1** Notification of all child deaths must be made to the SPOC/Administrator of NHS Brent CCG, Safeguarding team for child deaths – to the generic e-mail address on BrentCCG.BrentCDOP@nhs.net.
 - 1.1 Notification must take place on the same day or within 24 hours subject to contact as above.
 - 1.2 Notification should **not** be delayed because of lack of information as per Form A* attached.
 - 1.3 Where the death occurs between 5pm – 9am or weekends and Bank Holidays the SPOC must be notified by e-mail as soon as possible- to the generic e-mail: BrentCCG.BrentCDOP@nhs.net
 - 1.4 Notification will be made by the 'senior Consultant Paediatrician' or 'clinician certifying the death' to:
 - The single point of contact, the CDOP Coordinator/NHS Brent CCG, Safeguarding Administrator
 - Lead Paediatrician for Child Death for NHS Brent CCG. (See P6 for contact details)
 - Brent Family Front Door BFFD or Children and Young People's CYP Duty Team, if out of hours, who will carry out Children and Young People's Team checks.
 - The Police Child abuse Investigation Team (CAIT) or Territorial Police.
 - The Coroner
 - Relevant hospital personnel – as per local procedure
 - 1.4.1** Paediatrician may also need to complete the Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health (CEMACH) Child Death Review Data Collection Form.
 - 1.5 The **Rapid Response** procedure should be triggered for unexpected death (except for most neo-natal deaths), suspicious deaths, including expected deaths.
 - 1.6 The single point of contact – will make a record and inform:
 - Lead Paediatrician for Child Deaths for the Borough of Brent
 - Children and Young People's Head of Safeguarding Children and Quality Assurance
 - Chair of Child Death Overview Panel
 - Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Coordinator
 - BFFD- MASH
 - CAIT Police
 - Child health information systems
 - GP
 - 1.7 Further discussion and planning will take place following the initial post mortem findings approximately 5-7 days.

- 1.8 Where there are no suspicions or concerns surrounding the child death, the procedure for child death reviews should be followed. These reviews aim to improve the understanding of how and why children die in order to prevent these deaths happening.

Arrangements for Notification of an unexpected Child Death

RAPID RESPONSE

This covers all unexpected child deaths or lack of clarity about whether a child death is unexpected.

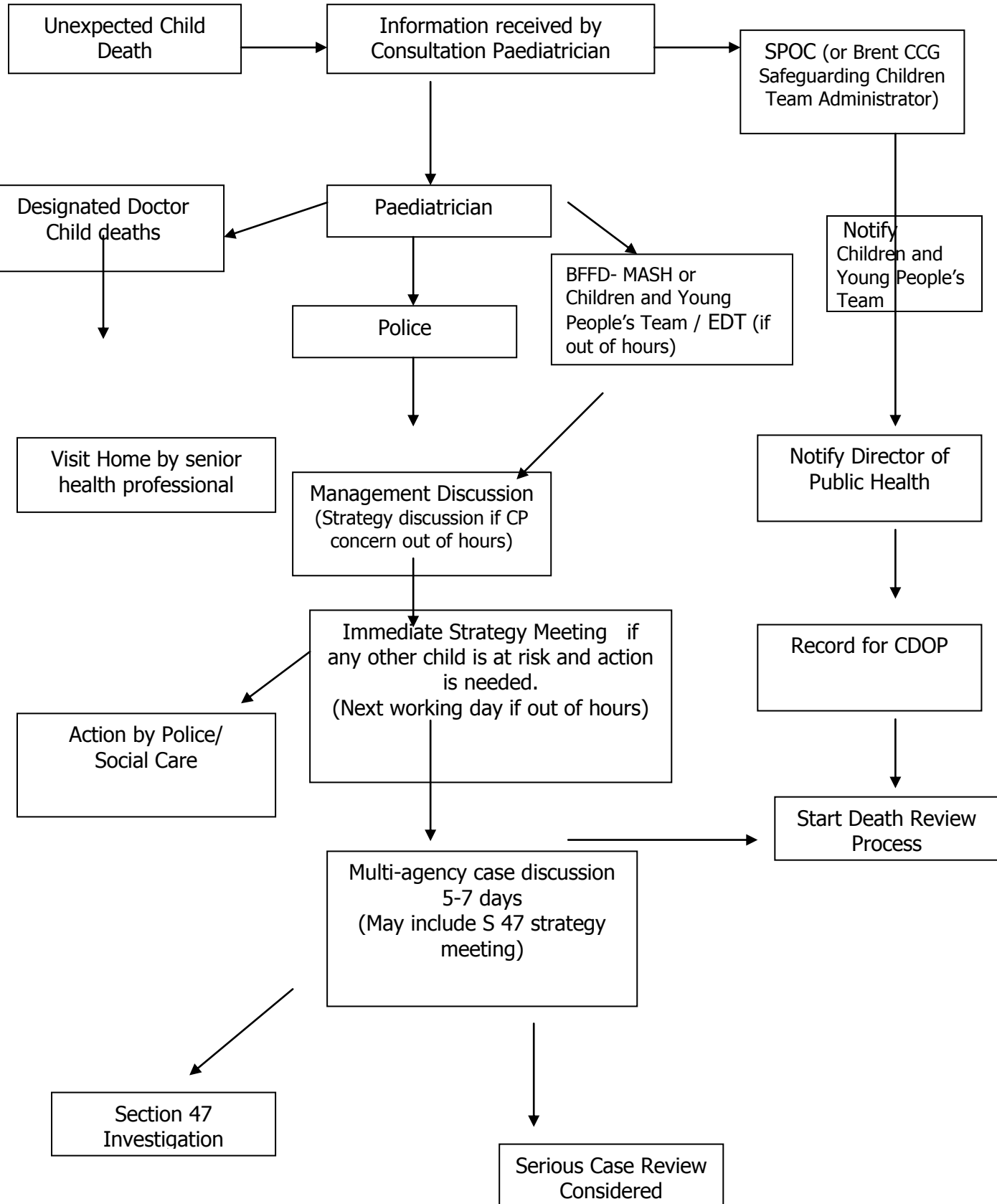
Definition – an **unexpected child death** is the death of a child aged 0 to 18 years (excluding still born babies) that was not anticipated as a significant possibility 24 hours before the death, or where there was a similarly unexpected collapse leading to or precipitating the events that led to the death.

Notification

- 1 In the event of a child being found collapsed or dead, immediate medical attention must be sought. The likelihood is the child would have been brought to accident and emergency.
 - 1.1 Rapid Response begins at the point of death
 - 1.2 Clinician certifying the death OR
In the Hospital, the Consultant Paediatrician on call must manage the process to ensure notification takes place to the relevant agencies
 - The Police Public Protection Desk or CAIT
 - BFFD-MASH *or* Children and Young People's Team/ Emergency Duty Team if out of hours (to carry out checks)
 - Single Point of Contact – or NHS Brent CCG Safeguarding Children Team Administrator
 - Paediatrician for child death for the Borough of Brent
 - Coroner
 - GP
 - CEMACH forms- if required
 - 1.3 Notification in writing must take place on the day and no later than within 24 hours
 - 1.3.1 Completion of the Notification Form is required immediately.
 - 1.3.2 Notification must be immediate in order for the rapid response to commence
The attending paediatrician (or delegated senior health professional) will make this notification and make arrangements for multi-agency coordination and information sharing. This will remain the responsibility of the attending Paediatrician until it is handed over to the designated paediatrician for unexpected deaths in childhood for the borough.
 - 1.4 Immediate management discussion must take place between relevant agencies to determine next steps and the decisions recorded.
 - 1.5 An immediate strategy meeting maybe needed if other children are considered to be at risk and action needs to be taken. If child protection issues emerge in the management discussion out of hours, this will become a strategy discussion followed by a strategy meeting the next working day. The outcomes must be recorded.
 - 1.6 A decision must be taken as to whether the scene where the child dies should be visited. If required, this visit should occur within 24 hours. This is a matter for professional judgement and agreement between partner agencies (i.e. Health, Police)

- 1.7** The Designated Paediatrician for unexpected deaths in childhood will decide if a multi -agency case discussion meeting is needed. Which they will convene within 5 - 7 days when the initial post mortem findings are available. The meeting will determine if any of the following is required.
- Section 47 Investigation
 - Serious Case Review
 - Agree on plan of action
- 1.8** If following the death or initial post mortem emerging information gives rise to child protection concerns about remaining siblings and other children, there may be a need for a section 47 strategy meeting. This could be held within the multi-agency case discussion (this element chaired by Children and Young People’s Team) or convened by Children and Young People’s Team as a separate meeting.
- 1.9** Inform Child Death Overview Panel on outcome of case discussion/meeting.

Arrangements for unexpected child deaths Rapid Response





LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

People to contact in the event of a child death:

Child Death Overview Panel Coordinator (or the Brent CCG Safeguarding Children Team Administrator). 9am-5pm – who will notify BFFD, Children and Young People's Team and Police if not already aware, CDOP Chair & LSCB Coordinator, CHIS and key health providers.

The Child Death Overview Panel Coordinator will be informed the next working day by 10am by the relevant Paediatrician /health or certifying professional, if the death occurs out of hours.

Children and Young People's Team/Emergency Duty Team (EDT) 5pm-9am, weekends & bank holidays – who will complete Children and Young People's Team Checks.

BFFD - MASH – Family Front Door – 020 8937 4300.

Website link- <https://brent.gov.uk/services-for-residents/family-and-schools/child-protection-and-care/>

Police Public Protection Desk

Local contacts (phone number and e-mail)

Child Death Overview Panel Coordinator – telephone no. 020 8900 5381
BRECCG.BrentCDOP@nhs.net

Designated Doctor for Safeguarding Children and Child Death NHS Brent CCG –
Dr Arlene Boroda – telephone no. 07990 838 513.

Coroner's Office: 020 8447 7680 (Brent & Harrow) If no reply contact Borough Police

Mortuary: Local hospital number

Paediatrician on call for child protection for the hospital via hospital switchboard

Police: Public Protection Desk: 020 8733 3752. CAIT: 020 8733 3505/ 020 8733 3575

Social Services (Emergency)

Brent's Emergency Duty Team after hours on: 020 8863 5250

Children and Young People's Team (office hours)

Brent Children's Children and Young People's Team Services on: 020 8937 4300 during normal office hours (9am - 5pm). The Children and Young People's Team officer to be informed of a child death is the Head of Safeguarding:
Telephone number 020 8937 3518.

***CHILD DEATH NOTIFICATION FORM**

Brent CDOP e-mail: BRECCG.BrentCDOP@nhs.net

Initial notification of the death of a child – to be completed as fully as possible within 24 hours.

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS.

DO NOT DELAY

Family name of child		First and other names of child	
Date and time of death		Date of birth of child	
Ethnicity of child		Carer of child at time of death	
Gender		NHS Number	
Home address of child		Post code	
GPs name		GP address and postcode	
Name/s of persons with parental responsibility i.e. mother, father or other (state relationship)			
Other children in household or affected by the death (including children potentially at risk of harm)	Names		Ages / DOB (if known)
Place / locality of death		Contact number of place of death	
Is this an unexpected death? i.e. not expected in the previous 24 hours	YES / NO	Has this been confirmed by the designated doctor for child death?	YES / NO
Summary description of the circumstances of the death			
PRINT name		Organisation	
Signature		Date and time of notification	

(see www.londonscb.gov.uk/child_death/spoc/ for contact details)

Initial notification Unique Reference Number (e.g. KG/08/0001) – to be completed by LSCB on receipt of this form	
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REFERENCES

- **HM GOVERNMENT WORKING TOGETHER TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN (March 2015) –DCSF Publications (Department for children, schools and families)**

http://www.workingtogetheronline.co.uk/chapters/chapter_five.html

- **LONDON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD PROCEDURES.**

http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/child_death/