Multi – Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (Mash) operational group have been undertaking bi monthly audits on the quality of the information received in referrals in to MASH. The audits are completed by multi agency partners including representatives from Education, Health, Early Help, Probation and Children’s Social Care.

The audits focus on identifying themes to be shared with partners to improve the quality of information and enable decisions to be made in the best time possible without having to go back to partners for further information.

We thought it would be good to share some of the initial findings and themes from the audits:

- Basic information to be included in all referrals - where, when, to whom and what was the impact of this happening to the children.
- More information to be included on the context of the incident or worries this could include previous work undertaken and the impact, which other agencies are or have been involved, the make-up and any relevant background information for the family.
- The use tools to identify risk and clarify concerns e.g. NIMT, Threshold Document and Child Exploitation Risk Assessment tool. These help to clarify the risks and highlight your worries.
- Ensuring where possible the child’s voice is captured and included, so there is an understanding of how the worries behaviour.

It would be really helpful if when making a referral this information could be considered and included to help MASH make the right decision in the most timely way.

If you would like to be part of the audit process please contact Rachel Tandy – Early Help MASH Manager – Rachel.Tandy@Westsussex.gov.uk