National Hub for Reviewing and Learning from the Deaths of Children and Young People
Flash report – October 2022

The National Hub aims to ensure the death of every child up to age 18, and young person up to age 26 when receiving continuing care or aftercare, in Scotland, is reviewed to an agreed minimum standard.

Our anniversary
It’s 1 year since the launch of the National Hub on 1 October 2021.

We want to thank our implementation leads across Scotland for implementing various governance, processes and engagement activities, as outlined in our National guidance.

We look forward to our continued working together.

Contact us:
his.cdrnationalhub@nhs.scot

Find out more:
healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work

Community website
The National Hub Community website - for professionals involved in child death reviews - has a new design. The new features make it easier to view key dates and events, share information through a new ‘News’ feature, preview and comment on content from your homepage and easily respond to invites and connection requests.

Get involved and stay updated - email us to join our Community.
Engaging with families and carers

Our report, based on findings from the families and carers survey, titled *When a child dies: Learning from the experiences of bereaved families and carers* was published in June 2022. This was a meaningful piece of work and we hope everyone who has read it has better understood the struggles of families and carers at such a sad time.

We received mixed views from families and carers regarding their experiences, some positive and some that require improvement. We hope to further promote the important learning from this report with our community and encourage organisations to implement the recommendations set out in the report.

We will publish a **national leaflet** soon to ensure families and carers are fully and appropriately engaged in the review of their child’s death. The leaflet can be adapted to include local information.

Online reporting portal

While we have faced delays around launching our online reporting portal (where data from reviews will be uploaded), the new system will be launched soon. Please continue to hold your core review data sets in Word format. We will be in touch with all reporting organisations to ensure key contacts are set up and to consider how we can best provide support with uploading the first year’s data.

And finally . . .

We would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the programme over the last few years to help ensure the successful launch of the National Hub and implementation of our national guidance.

We will continue to engage with our stakeholders and implementation leads. A national implementation leads meeting will take place in December 2022 where we will discuss what has gone well, any challenges being faced and share emerging themes.

Implementation leads

We met with all implementation leads in their NHS board area, with their local authority partners (where possible) to reflect on the first year of implementation. All reported making significant progress since we last met.

- All NHS boards had processes in place to consider deaths of children and young people and identify appropriate review processes.
- We heard about good partnership working with local authorities, Police Scotland and Scottish Ambulance Service.
- Governance systems were still developing to identify routes and groups that learning should be fed into.
- Identification of a key contact and support for families and carers is still being worked through.

Our implementation leads have fully engaged with our team during this first year of implementation and we greatly appreciate their hard work and dedication for this programme.