



## **NSCB Statement**

### **Agencies continue to learn from review**

Independent Chair of the Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB), Paula Mead said: “While this was a distressing case where a very young baby suffered a number of injuries we are all delighted the child made a full physical recovery and appears to be doing well.

“As with all Serious Case Reviews, this report has identified a number of areas where the agencies involved can learn lessons.

“The independent reviewer also identified examples of good practice including the speed of initial assessments, the steps taken to safeguard Kirsty and her sibling through care proceedings and the quality of information contained in the initial referral from hospital midwives.

“However, as always there are areas where agencies can still improve and the review made six recommendations. These include work to further improve information sharing and the need for all agencies involved in a case to have a clear single plan of action. recommendations, the NSCB has been progressing a comprehensive action plan, making sure all recommendations are now either completed or underway.

“We recognise that we must work effectively with each other to protect children and young people as far as we’re able and the public can be reassured we will continue to rigorously enforce the learning from this SCR.”

**ENDS**

**Notes:**

- The LSCB is a multi-agency body of agencies within Northumberland responsible for safeguarding children. Their shared role is to promote effective joint working, and to hold each other to account for the quality of work with children and their families.
- The purpose of a Serious Case Review is to learn lessons to improve how agencies work individually, and collectively, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- Serious Case Reviews are not inquiries into how a child died or who is culpable and to what extent for any abuse and neglect.