

WHO IS AROUND THE PERSON?

1. Who is Around the Person?

This includes family, friends, neighbours, and any other person having contact.

It is important as part of any assessment to consider;

- who is around the person
- how sustainable or suitable their support is
- whether their influence is positive or negative
- whether any individual's in the person's life would benefit from their own assessment, information and/or support

2. Key Messages

- Professionals should identify all of the people involved in supporting a person, and consider the needs of those people, in order to build a holistic picture
- A genogram is an effective way of representing a family tree and relationships within the family
- An incomplete assessment could leave important family members feeling alienated and forgotten
- You need to think about the actions of others and whether they pose a risk to the individual
- You must consider the impact of the person's needs on family members or other people involved in the person's life
- It's important to check what legal responsibilities a person has e.g. parental responsibility, lasting power of attorney
- Some parents or carers may need help to recognise issues around the sustainability of their support and current actions

4. Resources

- A guide to drawing a genogram is available within the LSCP Early Help Guidance
- The Stephen SAR highlighted the importance of recognising informal carers and offering them support in their own right
- Care and Support Statutory Guidance
- NSPCC - Learning From Case Reviews Hidden Men
- Working with single or absent fathers
- National review of babies seriously harmed or killed by their father or male carer

Click on the text above to access each link

3. What Does This Mean for Me?

- Do you really know who is in this person's life?
- Have you identified anyone who would benefit from a carers assessment/referral to a support service or any other intervention?
- What impact is the situation having on the rest of the family? How could you help with this?
- Who does the person consider to be important to them and how can you involve them?
- Is the current support around the person sustainable? If not how could you improve this?
- What don't you know that would make a difference if you did?

