# **Partner briefing**

**Learning from Reviews across Southend, Essex and Thurrock**

The Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse Boards have noticed a common theme appearing in multiple reviews (Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews) across both the children and adult sectors, and that is the concept of ‘Think Family’.

**Think Family**

Think Family means securing better outcomes for adults, children and families by coordinating the support and delivery of services from all organisations. When an individual first has contact with any service they should receive a welcome into a system of joined-up support and safeguarding together with coordination between adult and children's services. In order to achieve this, services must think about:

The family network - learning who is involved in an individual’s everyday life and working out the links between the different people, using genograms for example, bearing in mind there may be influential people in the family circle who don’t visit regularly (if they live abroad for example).

Cross-generational issues -including where family relationships and dynamics have been factors, such as where dementia has changed the family dynamics or when aging parents are unable to continue caring for their vulnerable adult children.

Best practice– such as ensuring there isan identified lead professional who co-ordinates the agencies involved especially where there are complex needs and having open and honest communication with the person you are working with and listen to the family.

**Resources**

To better understand the concept of Think Family we have created a suite of resources which can be used individually or in team meetings/development sessions toenhance the work you do and the outcomes for the people you work with.

* [Podcast](https://escb.podbean.com/e/set-think-family/?token=d12555593958f6c38e20dc0c4de9df89)
* [Podcast transcript](https://www.escb.co.uk/media/2661/set-think-family-podcast-transcript.pdf)
* [Video](https://youtu.be/6PBNlGZB_Mk)

For more information please visit the [Essex Safeguarding Children Board website](https://www.escb.co.uk/learning-and-development/set-learning-from-reviews/).

