Terms of Reference: National review into the deaths of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson

This national review will be led by the independent Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and will examine the circumstances leading up to the deaths of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson. It will draw on the Panel’s overview of the national context through the serious child safeguarding incidents it scrutinises to consider whether what happened to Arthur and Star reflects wider national issues.

Arthur Labinjo-Hughes
a) establish what happened to Arthur during his life and, in building that picture, explore agency involvement with all those charged with caring for him. We will try to understand what life was really like for Arthur by hearing from all those involved, especially his family.

b) evaluate how agencies acted to safeguard Arthur and what factors enabled or limited their ability to protect him from the profound and ultimately fatal abuse and neglect that he suffered.

Star Hobson
c) establish what happened to Star during her life and, in building that picture, explore agency involvement with all those charged with caring for her. We will try to understand what life was really like for Star by hearing from all those involved, especially her family.

d) evaluate how agencies acted to safeguard Star and what factors enabled or limited their ability to protect her from the profound and ultimately fatal abuse and neglect that she suffered.

Wider learning
e) analyse findings alongside learning from other serious incidents and relevant broader evidence.

Recommendations
f) make recommendations about how local and/or national safeguarding practice and systems should change to protect children in the future.

The Panel anticipates publishing the national review by the end of May 2022.