Audience  Groups 1-8 (Working Together 2010)

Methods  Small group activity; large group discussion

Preparation
Ensure that you have handouts of the Evans family case study and the associated family members’ stories:

- F1.0 Evans family case study
- F1.1 Fiona’s story
- F1.2 Steve’s story
- F1.3 Liam’s story
- F1.4 Shirene’s story
- F1.5 Lewis’ story

You may want to use the audio of the stories:

- M1.1 Fiona’s story
- M1.2 Steve’s story
- M1.3 Liam’s story
- M1.4 Shirene’s story
- M1.5 Lewis’s story

Links to Common Core
Common Core 1  Effective communication and engagement with children, young people, their families and carers (skills: consultation and negotiation). Identify what each party hopes to achieve in order to reach the best possible and fair conclusion for the child or young person.

Childhood Neglect: Improving Outcomes for Children

Learning Outcomes
To address factors affecting parenting capacity.

Process
Provide participants with the case material and ask them to work in small groups of 3-4 to explore the questions:

1. Previous contact with children's social care services has not resulted in an in-depth assessment, do you think this was the right decision?
2. Do you think Fiona and Steve meet the basic needs of each of their children? Do you think they need further support? If so, who can offer support or intervention?
3. Are each of the children safe? Do Fiona and Steve give attention to all three children or do you think the trouble Liam sometimes causes means the younger children's needs are overlooked?
4. How would you describe relationships within the family? Are there concerns about the welfare or safety of any of the children? Who can help if it is needed?
5. How are each of the children getting on at school? Do you think they get the right help at home from their parents? If not, what can you do?
6. Are there clear routines and boundaries in the home? Are each of the children aware of them and do they keep to the rules? Do you think this is an area of concern – if so, what can you do?

Time
Total : 45 minutes
Small group 25 minutes
Feedback 20 minutes