

“Addendum” (7 May 2008)

To the Working document ‘Bedfordshire & Luton Safeguarding Children Procedure: Child Death Overview & Rapid Response Arrangements (April 2008)’.

Following amendments could not be incorporated in the main document because of technical reasons. The above document should be read in conjunction with following amendments to the paragraphs noted below:-

2.8 The CDOP Administrator will arrange for the Core Data Collection form to be completed, this form can be downloaded from the websites above. In most cases this will be the health professional with overall responsibility for the care of the child at the time of their death but occasionally it might be the Police where a crime has been committed. **Different sections of the Core Data Collection Form will be sent to relevant agencies that are most likely to have requisite information for completion and these will be compiled by the CDOP Administrator.**

3.12 The key events described in these procedures are:
Transfer of the child to an Accident and Emergency Department or **to hospital mortuary if the child is found dead for hours or days, where feasible.**

3.21 Unless there are clear and compelling reasons to the contrary, it is inherent in these procedures that all children who die suddenly or unexpectedly in the community are transferred to a hospital Accident and Emergency Department **unless they are discovered dead for hours or days, in which case they can be taken to a hospital mortuary and attended by Paediatrician On Call there.** This is regardless of whether the chances of successful resuscitation are thought to be negligible, and specifically so that the response to the death may be effectively managed in accordance with these procedures.

4.5 Ambulance staff should not assume death and unless clearly inappropriate they should clear the airway and apply full cardiopulmonary resuscitation **except for situations where child is found dead for hours or days.**

4.7 A child must be taken to the Accident & Emergency Department **unless found dead for hours or days, in which case the child could be taken straight to the hospital mortuary.**

4.8 The Accident and Emergency Department should be informed, giving an estimated time of arrival and the child’s condition **(and the mortuary where relevant).**
