

We know harm to children and adults with care and support needs has increased since we went into lockdown in March 2020. Our statutory case reviews have highlighted the importance of undertaking assessments in the home environment to fully understand the needs of those we work with and the risks they face.

### Here's a reminder of the principles of good practice:

#### Engage:

- Face to face, enable everyone to speak for themselves
- Look at the whole environment, not just the doorstep
- Consider the strengths of everyone important, understand their day-to-day experiences

#### Maintain professional curiosity:

- Don't make assumptions or accept things at face value, check it out with others
- Listen and explore concerns and risks with everyone
- Understand the history
- STOP and THINK! - if you have doubts about entering a property, what is life like for those living there?

#### Record in a timely way your:

Observations, consent, evidence-based judgements and rationale; highlight gaps in knowledge, risks and further action required.

#### Share:

- Your assessment is part of the jigsaw. What you and others know helps identify and manage risk
- Consider the legal basis for sharing information DON'T FORGET - the law should not be a barrier
- REMEMBER - It's the person/family's assessment, they need to understand it

Read and share

