



Learning Lessons Briefing

“Kymani”

Methodology: Multi-agency tabletop rapid review meeting

Practitioner Involvement: Practitioner records and notes were reviewed prior to the meeting

KLOE's:

- What more could have been known about Kymani's contacts and activities?
- Was enough effort made to disrupt his activities?
- Was support stepped up appropriately at key moments?
- Were his family dynamics and history understood and taken into account?

Scoping Period for the review: March 2023 – March 2024

The Review

Background Summary:

Kymani was 17 years old when he was arrested and charged with a significant violent offence following the death of a teenager in a public place in Wolverhampton.

Kymani had been living in Wolverhampton with his family since 2020 and the family known to several agencies. Mum had previously received a custodial sentence and Dad had been deported. Kymani had himself been the victim of serious knife crime and agencies were working to try to reduce the risk to him, and reduce his involvement in anti-social and criminal activities and therefore his risk to others.

Kymani was not in education, employment or training and had been excluded from school due to persistent disruptive behaviour. He did have a pathway following the permanent exclusion from school until the age of 16.

Learning:

As well as learning for the individual agencies involved with Kymani and his family, the following multi-agency learning was identified.

- There is a need for increased awareness and improved practice around permanent exclusion and the links to serious youth violence and exploitation.
- There is a need for an increased awareness around the correlation of neurodiversity and exploitation.
- There is a need for professionals to 'Think Family' when working with families.
- There is a need for agencies to consider the cumulative harm and trauma experienced by children and young people to ensure they are receiving appropriate specialist support.
- There is a gap in school nurse support being provided to some children and young people between 16 & 18 years of age nationally.
- There is a need for support for those who experience parental and sibling criminality as a trauma

Recommendations:

- Professionals should ensure the support offered is adapted to effectively meet the needs of neurodiverse children and young people.
- Multi-agency professionals need to consider health input into meetings to ensure information is shared, particularly in the 16-18-year-old age group who may not have a "default" school nurse.
- Where a vulnerable child is at risk of exclusion from school, it would be good practice to hold a multi-agency meeting to ensure all possible options have been explored prior to the decision being made.
- There should be appropriate information sharing to ensure that all members of the family are receiving the right level of support, at the right time, where necessary.

How can you make a difference?

Key messages from the learning to ask yourself for your practice are:

- *Can I make changes to improve my own practice?*
- *Do I need to seek further support, training, or supervision?*