



Friday, 19 February 2016

## Systems review warranted with focus on cross-agency information sharing as key

The ACT Community is understandably shocked by the news this week of the death of an eight year old boy in Canberra's north. The ACT Children and Young People Death Review Committee actively supports the announcement today of Attorney-General Simon Corbell regarding a systems review into the incident.

Dr Penny Gregory, Chair of the CYPDRC has said that there are so few deaths in the ACT from fatal assault that each one rocks the community. It can be difficult to understand how this could have occurred, especially for people who lived near the family.

"Every death of a child is a tragedy and it is particularly abhorrent when the circumstances involve family violence." Dr Gregory said today.

"We do not have all the information on the circumstances of this tragedy and it is important to understand exactly what happened for this family so that we can prevent it from happening again in the future.

"We are pleased to see a focus on cross-agency information sharing which has been identified as a potential area for improving preventable deaths in a number of cases reviewed by the committee.

"Our thoughts are with the family and friends impacted by this tragic event and the committee will support this review in the ways in which we are able.

**Dr Gregory is available for further comment on the contact details below.**