

National Child Mortality Database

UPCARE: 1.00 Programme name - please do not change this field.*	National Child Mortality Database
1.01 Abbreviation	NCMD
1.1 Contract status	Ongoing
1.2 Audit or non-audit	Non-audit
1.3 HQIP commissioned*	Yes
1.40 Programme unique identifier*	HQIP222
1.41 HQIP AD	CR
1.42 HQIP PM	GC
1.5 Lead organisation*	University of Bristol
1.6 Programme homepage*	https://www.ncmd.info/
1.7 Programme summary	The National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) is an NHS-funded programme delivered by the University of Bristol. We gather information on all children who die in England, so that we can improve and save children's lives in the future.
2.1 Organogram	https://www.ncmd.info/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/NCMD-Organogram-Feb-2026.pdf
2.2 Organisations involved in delivering the programme	Cardiff University, Birmingham University, QES, Sands, Child Bereavement UK, Lullaby Trust.
2.3 Governance arrangements	<p>There are two strands to the governance process for the NCMD programme of work. The first is regular contract review meetings with our commissioners, the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP), to report progress against our deliverables and ensure the contract is proceeding on time and to budget.</p> <p>The second is input from the programme's Steering Group and Professional Advisory Group, with input from a Parent, Patient and Public Involvement (PPPI) Group, which includes representatives from national organisations, charities and parents. https://www.ncmd.info/governance/</p>

2.4 Stakeholder engagement

The NCMD works within a broad network of stakeholders across health, care, justice, education, and the voluntary sector. This includes CDOPs, child death review partners, healthcare providers, national data bodies, bereaved families, and charity partners. NCMD also engages with national policy, professional, and regulatory organisations such as NHS England, DHSC, UKHSA, NPCC, ONS, OPSS, DfE, MHCLG, Ofcom and parliamentary groups, to ensure that high-quality data informs learning, system improvement, and actions to prevent future child deaths.

2.5 Conflict of interest policy

<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/secretary/legal/conflict/>

3.1 Quality improvement goals

The NCMD's quality improvement goals focus on strengthening the child death review system by supporting CDOPs to enhance data completeness, local review processes, and parent involvement; improving how safety messages and learning are shared with health and early years professionals through a new Safety Engagement and Training Programme; and expanding partnerships with organisations across health, social care, education, policing, and the voluntary sector to maximise the reach and impact of modifiable-factor learning. Alongside this, NCMD aims to develop tailored QI resources, deliver regular training and webinars, enable secondary data use for research, and collaborate on analytical projects to drive evidence-based actions that reduce future child deaths.

3.3a Methods for stimulating quality improvement*

Improvement collaboratives; Workshops

3.3b Quality improvement supplemental information

See uploaded Quality Improvement Plan below

4a. Please add the most recent date that you have reviewed and updated an online version of UPCARE Programme section on your project's website (click into the response to see pop-up guidance).

03/23/2026

4b. Please add a hyperlink to UPCARE Programme section on your website (click into the response to see pop-up guidance).*

<https://www.ncmd.info/upcare-programme>