Date 3 April 2020

Dear

**Covid-19: Adult and Children’s Designate Safeguarding support for Primary Care.**

The Adult and Children’s Designate safeguarding team representatives from IESCCG & WSCCG are sending this letter out in order to support Primary Care during this time. Each team member has differing hours and sessions and may not be able to offer all of these.

1. **Offer to answer day to day safeguarding queries of the surgery staff**
   Many safeguarding leads will be unable to work. The team could offer to support the staff to answer questions that would normally be answered by the safeguarding lead in the surgery.

2. **Emphasise that sharing of information for safeguarding purposes needs to continue to ensure that councils are able to continue to safeguard effectively.**
   Whilst many admin functions and routine work will be put on hold during this time, the essential work of safeguarding children and adults will continue. Adults and children at risk will likely become more vulnerable during this time. This essential work includes sharing information when requested by the council for MASH enquiries, strategy discussions, case conferences, and section 42 (adults) and section 47 (children) enquiries. Point 1 above may help to support this work.

3. **Organisational support for operational safeguarding**
   Administrative resource at the local council may be reduced. The team could offer organisational support to ensure that practices are contacted for key information. For example, if a list of all of the adult cases for the following week was sent to the team, the team could then liaise with surgeries to enable information sharing if the council has reduced resource to do this work.

Please also signpost GPs to the [RCGP Covid-19 Safeguarding](https://example.com) document which has been written in collaboration with the and gives advice on the adaptations that will need to be made for safeguarding in light of our current different way of working.
Contact details for the team:

MASH consultation line: 03456061499 for adult and children’s safeguarding advice if unsure whether to make a referral.

Adult contacts:

Iesccg.AdultSafeguarding@nhs.net

Christine Hodby Lead Designated Adult Safeguarding Nurse - 01473770238

Tabitha Griffin Designated Adult Safeguarding Nurse - 07971591479

Sally Ryan Named Nurse Adult Safeguarding – 07904355089/01473770275

Ceinwen Wilson Adult Safeguarding Administrator – via the email box

Children’s contacts:

WSCCG.SuffolkSafeguardingChildren@nhs.net

Jo Hutchings Deputy Designate Nurse and lead for Primary Care – 07958362068 or johannahutchings@nhs.net

Caroline Holt Designate Nurse Safeguarding Children – 07958362074 or caroline.holt@nhs.net

Cindie Dunkling Designate Nurse Safeguarding Children – 07985315114 or cindie.dunkling@nhs.net

Beaulah Chizimba Designate Nurse for Children in Care – 07958362072 or beaulah.chizimba@nhs.net

Yours sincerely,

The Adult and Children’s Designate Safeguarding Team.