



24th August 2018

Ref PH445

To all Community Pharmacies in the Wessex area

Dear colleagues

Please see below information from the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Board about referrals to Children's Services. **Please note this is a change to Hampshire only** (this does not include Portsmouth, Southampton or IOW). Please update your records to reflect this change.

Please be advised that, as endorsed by the Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Board, all referrals to Children's Services must now be submitted via an Inter-Agency Referral Form (IARF) which can be easily accessed through the following link: [Inter agency referral form](#)

This form is secure and will be prioritised over all other contacts. Once completed, these forms will be automatically forwarded to the Children's Reception Team and an acknowledgement will be sent to your email address.

These forms can also be found via www.hants.gov.uk web pages by searching for Inter Agency Referral Form.

Please use this form for all enquiries about a child or family. Use of the IARF will ensure that Children's Services have all the relevant information which will assist in your referral being managed quickly and efficiently. The only exception will be requests for information to assist with enquiries for the court.

If you have a query relating to a section 47 (Child Protection) referral please contact the Children's Reception Team on 01329 225379 or if a child is in immediate danger please call the police on 999.

Unless your referral is about a section 47 matter it will not be accepted without completion of an IARF.

Please note that this process started as from **Monday 16 July**.

Kind regards

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