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Date: 28/04/2009

Dear Children's Trust Member

**The Suffolk Children's Trust Information Sharing Charter 2009**

You will remember that we agreed the attached Charter at the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2009. I have now signed it off on behalf of the Children's Trust and am attaching a copy for your records.

Information sharing is the key to the effective design and delivery of services to support the improved outcomes for children, young people and their families. The Charter is a strategic agreement to support information sharing, however I am sure you will agree that having yet another protocol on the shelf is not always an effective way of improving practice at service delivery level.

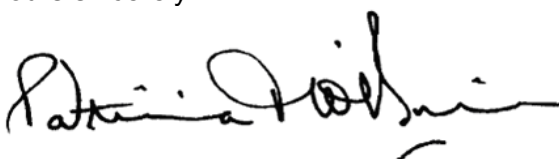
The Charter is supported by a wide range of materials, both national and local and in order to make best use of them we need to ensure that our practitioners are aware of what is available and how to use the information.

DCSF have produced an excellent series of documentation to support practitioners and managers to share information safely within the law. These are available on line at [www.ecm.gov.uk/informationsharing](http://www.ecm.gov.uk/informationsharing) and in hard copy by phoning 0845 60 22260. Details of which publications to order can be found on <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resources-and-practice/IG00340/>. Information sharing training materials are also available from DCSF including a CD Rom which is well produced and worth accessing. In addition, Suffolk County Council has produced some 'credit card' information sharing cards which have been distributed widely. Further copies of these are available from [ContactPoint@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:ContactPoint@suffolk.gov.uk).

Free online interactive training in information sharing can be accessed by applying to [contactpoint@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:contactpoint@suffolk.gov.uk) for a user name and password. Face to face training sessions are also available, for details please email [admin.wfd@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:admin.wfd@suffolk.gov.uk).

If you need any further support to help improve your staff's knowledge and skills in information sharing, please contact Alice Redfearn on [alice.redfearn@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:alice.redfearn@suffolk.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely



**Patricia O'Brien**