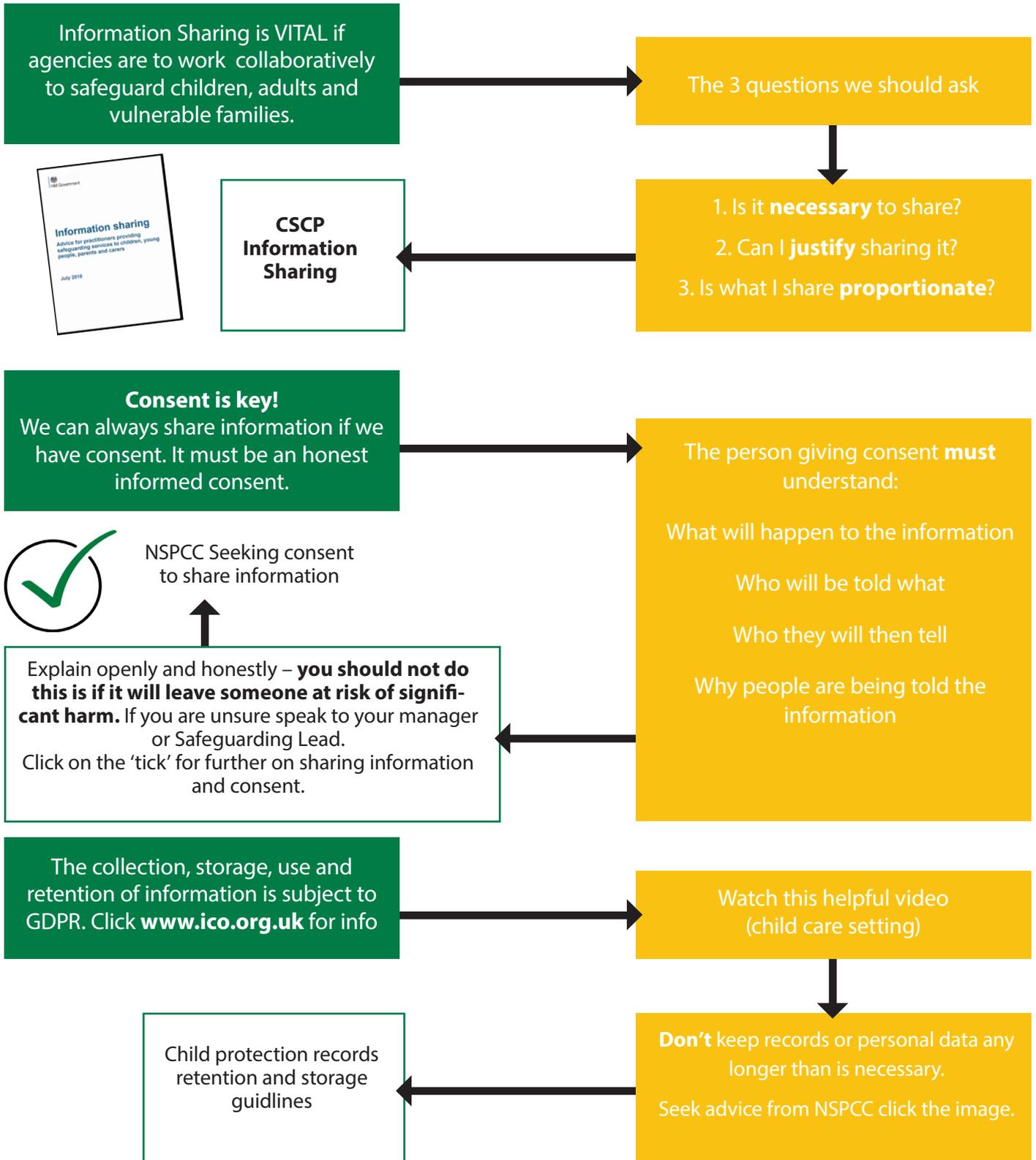




Information Sharing - Safeguarding Children





Triennial SCR Report 2014-2017
“Poor or non-existent **information sharing** is a factor repeatedly identified as an issue in **Serious Case Reviews**”

Practice we can improve

1. Supervision
2. Language
3. Cross agency guidance
4. Lead professionals
5. I.T. systems
6. Low level concerns

1. Supervision

Appropriate use of supervision provides opportunities for reflection on practice if used with ongoing review and re-evaluation. Using a threshold approach to the selection of cases can engender too static a view of when the reality is that for many risks fluctuates, sometimes on a daily basis.

2. Language

The language we use paints a picture of the context and risks and therefore supports or hinders safeguarding a child. Don't use vague or stock phrases and effectively name and describe abuse and its context such as poverty etc.

3. Cross agency guidance

Some services may be less familiar with passing on information than leading statutory agencies. They may be unclear about what information should be shared and when. Be prepared to offer cross agency guidance to elicit the required information.

4. Lead professionals

The use of a lead professional to draw together all information and undertake an analysis of professional issues/concerns can be very useful. It can provide clear roles and responsibilities, clears pathways for information sharing and has a mentoring capacity.

5. I.T. systems

IT systems such as CP-IS can be useful but professional judgment is essential to assessment and sharing information. Increased use of telephone and video conferencing is proving very beneficial to direct and informal information sharing.

6. Low level concerns

You need to capture and record low-level concerns over a period of time in order to be able to share and demonstrate the potential for intervention. Ensure the inclusion of the child's voice and significant others such as fathers who are often overlooked. If discussing in a strategy meeting remember it should be multi agency (not just Police and social care).