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'New Single Consent Form'

From 11 September 2017, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) children's services teams and staff will begin using a new Single Consent form when working with children, young people and families.

In the majority of cases of working with children and families, their consent is needed to share information with other professionals and to ensure timely access to the right services and support.

The current method of securing consent is inconsistent and many referrals made to children's services do not have informed consent from families. Often, this delays them accessing the services and support that they need.

To address this issue, we are introducing a new Single Consent form that is intended for use by all practitioners working with children, young people and families when they wish to share information with the County Council and its partners. The Single Consent form (or an equivalent) will need to be completed when submitting:

- a referral to the Children's Helpdesk using the Multi-Agency Service Request Form (MARF)
- an Early Help Request for Service form

Please remember if you think a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm, contact the Children's Helpdesk on 01452 426565. See the [GSCB leaflet](#) for guidance on responding to concerns about a child.

For information: new GCC 'Sharing your information' leaflet for children and families

We have also produced a new 'Sharing your information' leaflet for use alongside the new Single Consent form by GCC children services' teams and staff. This explains to children and families how Gloucestershire County Council shares their information, when and why. The new 'Sharing your information' leaflet meets Gloucestershire County Council's information sharing responsibilities. Partner organisations should continue to use their own

method (e.g. leaflet, letter etc) to advise children and families they are working with how their information will be shared to meet their own data protection requirements.

Gloucestershire County Council's new Single Consent form and Sharing your information leaflet can be found on [GlosFamilies Directory](#), the [GSCB website](#), and the [Gloucestershire County Council's website](#). The [leaflet for guidance on responding to concerns about a child](#) can be found on the GSCB website. If you have any questions about the use of these documents, please contact your Gloucestershire County Council colleague or the Children and Families Helpdesk.