



# WSCP Newsletter

## December 2020

### Preventing Injury to Babies

Over 4600 babies have been born in Worcestershire since the beginning of this year. These families will all have faced additional pressures brought about by the restrictions on daily lives over the last nine months during COVID-19.

As these restrictions continue, Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership has recognised the impact this is having on those with babies in the home, who will often rely more than most on social contact and the support of others to help at a busy time in any family's life. Unfortunately, this contact has been made more difficult during the pandemic, and the impact of this is now being seen.

The Family Front Door has seen a significant increase of concerns relating to children under one year old compared to this time last year. This trend is in line with national data which also indicates an increase in instances of serious harm being caused to babies during the COVID-19 in the UK.

Those with babies in the home may be feeling increasingly isolated from the support that would be available from family and friends in more normal times. The WSCP is doing all it can to support families. A number of agencies are involved in visiting as many families with babies as possible to make sure they have the support they need, or they know where to go to access it.

Please follow the link below to the full article for more information and links to helpful sites and resources - <https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/wscp-safeguarding-babies-initiative/>

### Reducing Parental Conflict Initiative—Harmony at Home

Harmony at Home launched a toolkit as part of the Reducing Parental Conflict initiative in Worcestershire on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

Having delivered a number of training sessions in 2019 to colleagues across Worcestershire, this toolkit was developed in collaboration with a number organisations across the partnership.

All resources and materials are available electronically via our webpage: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/harmonyathome>

Hard copies of resources are available on request for practitioners who work directly with parents and families: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hxj0rDe900WeZUfN5I3IWlQcqdNm0HhDsISK0lhb-MBUQUI5V0JDVVRHRDZTN1c3MDNaS0ZJVjIYT4u>

For further information please contact: Laura Evans  
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## ICON COVID Resources

NHS England COVID19 emergency planning materials are available to all areas for free and to be used as part of the hospital based part of the **ICON programme (I-Infant Crying is Normal, C-Comforting Methods can help, O-Its OK to walk away, N-Never ever shake a baby)**.

It's a brief guide aimed at midwives, hospital intervention and health visitors. Please follow the link below for resources—

- [https://us8.campaign-archive.com/?e=test\\_email&u=ea611918c42bb49280bc90c7f&id=88c5520b78](https://us8.campaign-archive.com/?e=test_email&u=ea611918c42bb49280bc90c7f&id=88c5520b78)
- <https://www.nice.org.uk/Media/Default/About/COVID-19/Specialty-guides/ICON-for-midwives-during-COVID.pdf>

## Launch of the Worcestershire GET SAFE 2020-2022 Strategy

In November, the Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership launched the GET SAFE 2020-2022 Strategy.

**“The WSCP is committed to the protection and wellbeing of children and young people, and the Worcestershire**

**Safeguarding Children Partnership GET SAFE strategy is an innovative and child-focussed approach to tackling the many forms of exploitation. The response to child sexual exploitation has been at the forefront of safeguarding activity for some time, and whilst the risk remains there has also been recognition of other concerns that may impact on the safety and security of our young people. Those risks are explored in detail in this strategy, and it addresses issues both within and outside of the home. This has required a shift in how agencies consider and respond to the safeguarding of children in our communities, and the action plan within the strategy details our response.**

**We are a learning partnership and GET SAFE has been shaped not only by those agencies and professionals, but also by the children and young people whose lives we must all strive to make safer and better.**

**I welcome your interest and contribution to this vital issue and commend GET SAFE to you”**

*—Derek Benson, Independent Chair*

Follow the link below for the Worcestershire GET SAFE 2020-2022 Strategy—

<https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/3.-WSCP-Child-Exploitation-Strategy-2020-2022-V02.pdf>



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