



## Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board

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To whomever it may concern

14 April 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Vetting and Barring Scheme**

There appears to have been some misunderstanding regarding the Independent Safeguarding Authority and the requirement for criminal records checks. I would be most grateful, in case there is any confusion, if you could ensure that the current position is clearly understood throughout your agency or organisation.

The position is that, in February, the Government published two reviews which make proposals that, *if* implemented, will mean some significant changes to the vetting and barring system for staff and volunteers. However, the proposals require new legislation, and, until that comes in to force, it is very important that current practices regarding the requirements for Criminal Records Bureau checks and the Independent Safeguarding Authority are maintained.

When the law changes, detailed information regarding the new requirements will be disseminated in the NSCB Newsletter and on the website. The NSCB publication *Safe Recruitment: Best Practice Guidance* will also be updated.

Partner agencies and organisations are reminded that vetting and barring arrangements should only form part of safer employment practices; to properly protect children and vulnerable adults, robust monitoring policies must also be in place.

Best wishes

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caroline Ball".

Dr Caroline Ball  
Chair, Norfolk SCB