

Information Sharing

Purpose of Information Sharing

- Builds a picture of a problem
- Supports intervention with someone who needs help
- Helps develop intelligence and identify new incidences and emerging patterns
- Supports delivering of services to particular groups or individuals

The Data Protection Act 1998 – Provides a framework to ensure information is shared appropriately and therefore should not be seen as a barrier.

Designated Liaison Officers - statutory duty to nominate a DLA to facilitate information sharing between partners and ensure legislation is adhered to.

Sharing without Consent

There are some circumstances where you should not seek consent, as doing so would:

- Place a child at increased risk of significant harm; or
- Place an adult at increased risk of serious harm; or
- Prejudice the prevention, detection or prosecution of a serious crime; or
- Lead to unjustified delay in making enquiries about allegations of significant harm or serious harm

Statutory Duty to share with responsible authorities

- District, Borough, Unitary or County Councils
- Police Force
- Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Fire and Rescue Authority
- National Probation Service
- Community Rehabilitation Companies

Common Law duty of Confidentiality

Where they can be demonstrated factors that may justify disclosure include:

- It needs to be shared by the law;
- It is needed to prevent, detect and prosecute serious crime;
- There is a public interest;
- There is a risk of serious death or harm;
- There is a public health interest
- It is in the interests of the person's health; or
- It is in the interests of the person concerned.

Public Interest: Specific measures to prevent crime, reduce the fear of crime, detect crime, protect vulnerable persons, maintain public safety or prevent offenders from reoffending.

Data Sharing with CSP through information sharing agreements:

- Parish Councils
- NHS Trusts
- NHS Foundation Trusts
- Registered Social Landlords
- Proprietors of independent schools
- Governing bodies of schools and further education institutions
- Agencies appropriate for the particular location or circumstances of the CSP

Principles of Data Sharing

- Explain why the information will help CSP
- Identify the potential benefits for the information supplier
- Information shared must be fit for purpose
- Data are securely managed
- Data are easy to access

If in doubt, always ask!
Even small details could prove invaluable in an investigation

Section 115 Crime & Disorder Act 1998 allows information to be shared for the purposes of community safety between a number of relevant authorities.

As a dinner lady you gradually notice a child becoming quieter. They no longer interact with other children and are often wearing ripped clothing.

YES – potential sign of neglect

WHO? Refer the matter to the Head Teacher, consider Access & Referral Hub 0300 300 8585.

You notice your neighbours often leave their windows open when they go out. You recently read about the increase in opportunistic burglars.

YES – neighbour may be a potential target of burglary.

WHO? Speak to your neighbour or Inform police via 101.

As a doctor, you often work late shifts. When you return home, you often see girls under the age of 16 entering and leaving a house opposite yours.

YES – potential sign of grooming

WHO? Inform Access & Referral Hub 0300 300 8585.

Your colleague, who usually wore dresses to parties and social gatherings, now wears outfits that keep her full body covered. She jumps when her phone rings and puts it on mute. You ask if everything is okay and she says yes.

YES – potential sign of domestic abuse

WHO? Have a conversation with the colleague; if suspicions grow provide them with details of voluntary services and/or police via 101. Domestic Abuse helpline 0808 2000 247.

As head of year 9, you noticed two brothers are always wearing brand new designer items of clothing after befriending some year 11 boys.

YES – potential sign of stealing/gang involvement

WHO? Refer the matter to the Head Teacher, consider informing police via 101 or Access & Referral Hub 0300 300 8585.

Should I tell someone?

At least once a week you have been noticing the same car stop on your road. The driver goes into an alleyway, returns with a package and drives off.

YES – potential sign of drug dealing/illegal parcels

WHO? Inform police via 101.



As a professional you have been told a 14/15 year old girl has dropped out of school. Her friends have said the girl told them she was going to be taken away by relatives.

YES – potential sign of FGM or forced marriage

WHO? If child is under 18, contact Access & Referral Hub 0300 300 8585, if over 18 contact police via 101.

As a social worker, you have been seeing a quiet young religious boy from a broken home. Within a space of a few months, the boy has changed religion and is very vocal about its teachings. He tells you he has big plans.

YES – potential sign of radicalisation

WHO? Inform police via 101 or Access & Referral Hub 0300 300 8585.

You work in a care home and notice a resident's son comes to visit him on the same date of every month. You know the resident is always saying he has no money despite receiving benefits.

YES – potential sign of financial abuse

WHO? Refer the matter to your manager, who should contact Adult Safeguarding team on 0300 300 8122.

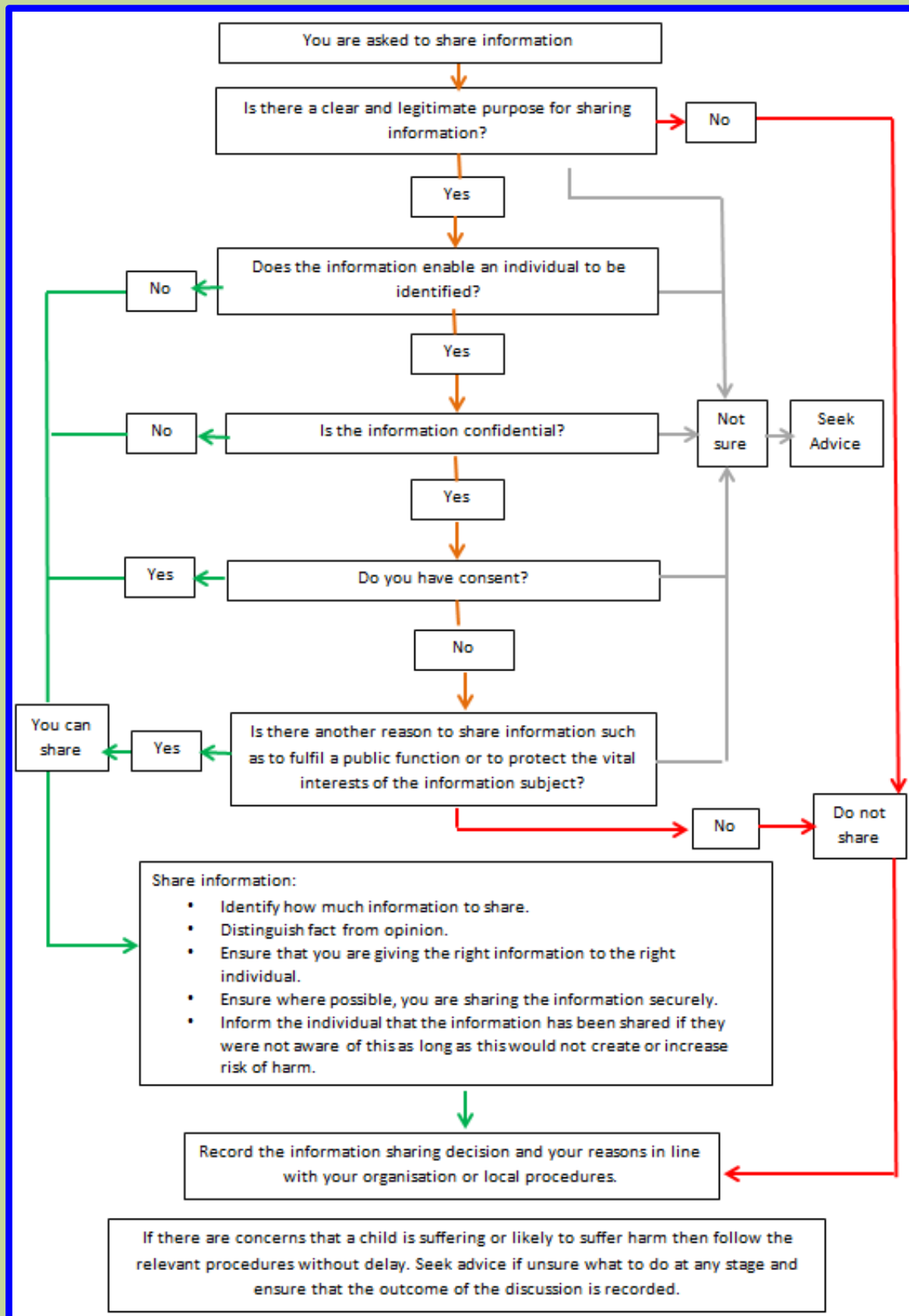
You live next to wealthy neighbours. You often see a young adult in unkempt clothes mowing the lawn, painting the fence and washing the windows. When you go to visit, they take a while to open the door and you usually see the young adult running out of view. When you ask who he is, they say he is a distant relative.

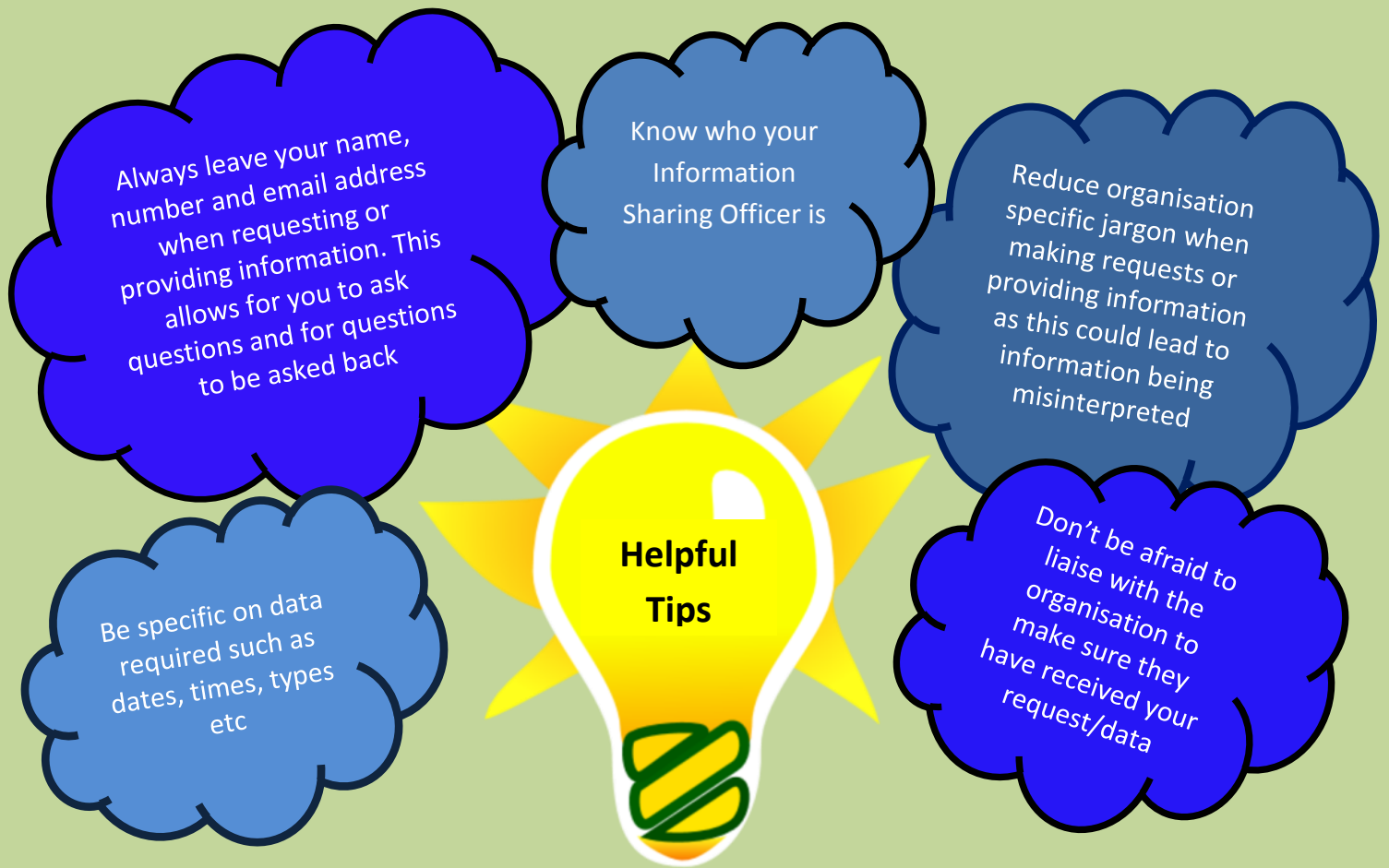
YES – potential sign of Modern Slavery

WHO? Inform the police via 101.

Please Note: Above scenarios are fictitious and real life scenarios may not always be as simple. **If in doubt, SEEK ADVICE! The potential signs can vary within each scenario!**

Intelligence Sharing Flow Chart





References

Home Office – National Support Framework, Delivering Safer and Confident Communities.
Information Sharing for Community Safety: Guidance and practice advice

Information Sharing. Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers. (2015) HM Government



Central Bedfordshire
**Community Safety
Partnership**