



Derby and Derbyshire
Safeguarding Children Partnership

COVID 19 Performance Summary Briefing – Up to 31st August 2020.

The Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership is working with all agencies involved in safeguarding children and young adults to understand the impact of the COVID19 pandemic and lockdown conditions. This includes where there is an anticipated increase in risks to children and young people because of the current situation, as well as how well agencies are working together to ensure at risk and vulnerable children are safe.

We have been looking at information from all agencies and a summary is included in Appendix 1. So far, we can see that since the lockdown period began on **March 23rd 2020 up until the 31st August 2020...**



Contacts from members of the public and professionals concerned about the welfare of a child or young person continue to increase. This month saw fewer contacts and referrals from schools due to the summer closure. Children's services in both local authorities have noted an increase in the seriousness and complexity of some of the referrals received.

If you are worried about a child or family, there are details [here](#) on how to get help. In an emergency, if you believe a child or adult is at serious risk of immediate harm, you should call 999 straight away and speak to the police.



Demand across many services is expected to increase with the return to schools in September and as health services return to closer to normal. Work is ongoing across the partnership to understand and manage this increase in demand so that children and families are able to access the right services at the right time.



August saw an increase in movement out of refuge accommodation for survivors of domestic abuse, which in turn resulted in more people being accepted into supported accommodation. Demand on community services is currently very high. **If you are worried about domestic abuse, there is further information on how you can get help [here](#).**



Referrals continue to increase for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), including a significant number of children and young adults being referred to the CAMHS Emergency Department team. There is no obvious identifiable cause or theme apart from the improved access to GPs and the increasing distress families have reported as a result of lockdown. If you are worried about mental health and would like further information on available support, you can call the Mental Health Support line, details [here](#).

We will be issuing monthly briefings will be provided to reflect the changing nature of performance data as a result of the impact of Covid 19.

Further information about local safeguarding processes is available from:

[The Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Procedures](#)

[The Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

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