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21<sup>st</sup> July 2017

Dear Will and colleagues

Thank you again for inviting Lisa and I to attend the HVOSS Children's Interest Group, and for the very useful discussion, in which we began a dialogue about how HVOSS and HSCB might work together and support each other in promoting child safety and wellbeing in Herefordshire.

We agreed that there are opportunities to work together on promoting greater awareness of aspects of safeguarding across Herefordshire's large and diverse voluntary sector, through collaboration on communications, and through provision of training on areas of common interest. This is likely to include safer recruitment, and also improving understanding of neglect.

We also noted a number of challenges facing the HVOSS and the voluntary sector, including resource constraints, lack of infrastructure capacity and restricted knowledge of and access to training.

We therefore agreed as a first step that you would write to us setting out what HVOSS would like/ need in order to raise the standard of safeguarding arrangements across the voluntary sector in Herefordshire. Whilst HSCB is not in a position to provide money, it may well be able to coordinate resources for training, for example.

Meanwhile, Lisa and I will work to develop a webpage on the HSCB website for the voluntary sector, and we would welcome being able to work with you on this to ensure that it is relevant to VCS organisations.

**Herefordshire Safeguarding Business Unit**

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Lisa has attached a slightly amended presentation, which includes HSCB contact details, for you to distribute as widely as you wish, together with details about forthcoming meetings of the Practitioners' Forum, which voluntary sector staff and volunteers are welcome to attend.

I look forward to hearing from you, and would be delighted to attend future meetings of the Children's Interest Group and/ or other HVOSS meetings in future if you think that would be useful.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally Halls', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Sally Halls**  
**Independent Chair**  
**Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board**