



26 May 2020

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Colleagues,

I hope you are all safe and well.

I am writing first to reconnect or to connect properly with you as significant Cafcass partners. I have been in post now for 9 months (two of them locked down in Bromley, South London) and I have been trying to get to meet you in person! COVID – 19 put a sharp stop to my continuing attempts to get to know Family Justice practitioners up close and I must apologise for both not having yet properly engaged but also for not sharing as I should have done, our decisions and actions since the crisis first hit in late March. I have recently spoken to Hannah and Rebecca and we have plans for a webinar in the weeks ahead which will offer an opportunity for us to share our current position, our challenges, how some of this might feel for you as close partners and to provide an overview of our COVID – 19 story.

We have thankfully been very connected strategically over the last 10 weeks with the Judiciary, HMCTS, MoJ, Cafcass Cymru, DfE and Directors of local children's services (through ADCS) and so I will be in a position to share some of the recovery thinking as well as the existing practice challenges which still endure for us all. This is a short and simple hands up and I look forward to talking very soon.

I do hope on a personal level you are managing the personal as well as professional difficulties this crisis gifts to us and equally hope that you are able to be safe and well.

Kind regards,

Jacky Tiotto
Chief Executive

Sally Cheshire CBE Interim Chair
Jacky Tiotto Chief Executive



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