

To:

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Our Ref: GH/dh

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Dear Colleagues,

**Re: Children's social care leadership**

As you are hopefully already aware, Philip Segurola, interim Assistant Director, will be leaving us today. Philip has been assisting us with our improvement journey and has taken responsibility for leading a number of priority initiatives over the past nine months.

Philip's contribution has been enormously helpful and very much appreciated. On behalf of us all, I would like to extend our thanks and wish Philip all the very best for his (second) retirement. I understand he's looking forward to spending time in his garden and may even do some travelling, CV19 pandemic travel routes permitting of course.

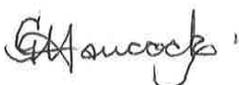
With Philip departing I am really pleased to confirm that Simon Rushall, interim Improvement Advisor, will now have an extended role and pick up the lead for a number of other initiatives previously overseen by Philip. I am grateful to Simon and anticipate a smooth transition as he is already very well acquainted with the lay of the land in Children's social care. I anticipate that Simon will be very well placed to continue supporting our improvement journey and am very grateful for his support.

Line management and supervision arrangements with Heads of Service will remain as they currently are with me. I have already spoken to Sue Hall in DCYPS and am pleased to have confirmed plans with her and Simon for that part of the service.

So, ahead of what I hope is a sunny bank holiday weekend, I would like to extend thanks to Philip once again and welcome Simon into his extended role.

Please take some time to step back and re-charge your batteries and I look forward to picking things up again on Tuesday next week.

Kind Regards



**Gail Hancock**  
Interim Director for Children's Safeguarding and Care