

## *WHAT IS THE INFORMATION SHARING CODE OF PRACTICE?*

The Information Sharing Code of Practice is a document that makes sure that any information shared between Authorised Officers on the Interagency Collaboration Panel is done in a confidential, respectful and secure manner.

The Information and Privacy Commissioner was involved in the process of making the Code of Practice, which means that the methods used by the Interagency Collaboration panel are a legitimate and appropriate way of sharing confidential information about families.

### **Why is information sharing important?**

The sharing of information between Authorised Officers will help them decide which measures are needed most to support a family in need of assistance.

Information Sharing for the purposes of entering into or monitoring Family Responsibility Agreements and Orders is conducted between Authorised Officers, family members and the non government organisations who will work with the family to provide the services required in an agreement or order.

### **How will information be kept?**

Shared information will be stored within Appropriate Agencies and the Family Support Centre in properly secure filing systems and will only be distributed to those authorised people who are directly involved in working with the family in question.

Information, which has been shared, will be subject to standard Freedom of Information applications.