Safeguarding

# Introduction

Safeguarding is an increasing area of work for both health and social care. Practices have the clinical record so and expected to be the centre of safeguarding processes for both adults and children. There is a huge level of correspondence that should be considered for safeguarding purposes and training for the practitioner and staff to be completed.

# Current situation

Currently this work is absorbed into the practice processes and it is clear that some practices make this a higher priority than others. This is therefore a potential risk. CQC have recently inspected most of the Stockport practices and there is therefore some assurance that there is a minimum level of process in place but this is a low level assurance.

The workload associated with this activity is increasing as there are other high profile cases in the media. There then more cases reviewed following suspicions and incidents that place a pressure on practices.

# Proposal

The current level of resource is not sufficient to maintain the increasing level of activity required. There are a range of options that can be developed to support this activity and it will be a mix of support in the practice and some centralised support. The balance of this is not currently clear and a workshop of the safeguarding leads is planned to review the options. This will focus on the ability of practices to delegate their responsibilities to a third party.

The proposal is as the model becomes clear to use the money released by the PMS growth money withdrawal to support the plan. This was £70,000 in 2016/17 and will be more in 2017/18 the value is being calculated.

# Recommendation

Members are asked to consider the proposal and support the direction indicated. They are also asked to advise on the requirement for future agreement prior to implementation of the plan to be developed.