**Sue Diggles Memorial Practice Paper   
Sponsored by Brisbane Catholic Education Office**

**The Challenges, Barriers and Benefits of Information Sharing in Child Protection**

**Monday 26 June 2017 at 5.30pm**

**Chair: Cheryl Vardon, Principal Commissioner QFCC**

**Panel of Speakers:**

**His Honour Judge Lapthorn,** Federal Circuit Court of Australia. Judge Lapthorn was appointed to the bench in 2005. His Honour has worked as in-house Counsel for Crown Law, Legal Aid and at the private Bar practising mainly in family and child protection law.

**Graham Kraak,** A/Director Strategic Policy and Legislation Practice Queensland Health. The Strategic Policy and Legislation Branch is responsible for developing and implementing policy in a wide range of areas including child health and safety, chronic disease, sub-acute care, aged care. Previously Graham led the Office for Older People’s Health in Queensland Health. Graham comes from a general and psychiatric nursing background.

**Catherine Moynihan**, Official Solicitor and Director of Legal Services/Investigations Office of the Public Guardian. Catherine has represented children, young people and parents in child protection proceedings. She currently supervises a team of lawyers working as Child Advocates providing participation advocacy for children and young people in care, and statutory decision-making guardians for adults with impairments who may be parents in child protection litigation.

Each inquiry and each tragic child death leads to calls for better information sharing between professionals working with children, young people and families experiencing abuse, neglect and violence.

Effective information sharing should ensure that all professionals making risk assessments have the information they need to make robust, accountable and evidence-based decisions.

Information sharing is critical for all professionals involved in child protection decision making for reasons of safety, the wellbeing of children and young people, and to support understanding and participation in the decisions that are being made.

What challenges make this difficult?  What strategies can we as professionals use to do it better?

The QFCC’s [When a child is missing report](http://www.cppaq.com.au/EmailTracker/LinkTracker.ashx?linkAndRecipientCode=QUFHl%2bevjmlG17aYVA3weKnhH9VJ0cbqLhKlot6rAXBFooks6ZwPJQQfbIO5yyVM6G1G7doyd96xa6deaU03u4YLz3Xt%2fydd7VbHsQaTTZo%3d) highlights what is at stake and the subsequent [Information Sharing-Myth busting guide](http://www.cppaq.com.au/EmailTracker/LinkTracker.ashx?linkAndRecipientCode=Yn4D%2fM48ximQqt0yC0qCMbVyZWfEACxL0bSkw5HbMOeD6J5696OjqtD7G8B%2fW9KdICLGX0BjRwm4WmS6ZofFr1x3IvmxItRjMmiCx4LDJpY%3d) is an attempt to explain to professionals that sometimes what they perceive as a barrier to sharing information is actually a myth.

This Practice Paper will hear from a range of professionals who will explore the issue of information sharing from their perspectives.

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| **REGISTRATION:   PRESENTATIONS:   DRINKS AND NETWORKING** | **5.00 PM   5.30 PM – 6.45 PM  TO FOLLOW** |
| **VENUE:** | **Grant Thornton Level 18,** **145 Ann Street Brisbane** |
| **COST:** | **FREE for members $40 for non-members** |

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