

Public Health Privacy Notice

Background

This statement should be read in addition to [Hampshire County Council's Privacy Notice](#) and gives more details about how personal data and information collected is used to improve the public's health.

All upper tier local authorities, including HCC, are now formally responsible for public health. Public health means services to help people to stay healthy and avoid getting ill. This includes a whole range of policy areas - everything from preventing substance misuse to reducing obesity and managing immunisation.

In order to improve the health of the population we serve we use data and information from a range of sources, including hospitals, births and death information, commissioned services' performance data and public surveys.

The information enables us to understand more about the nature and causes of disease and ill-health in the area by measuring the health, mortality and care needs of the population and ill-health in the area and how we live. This enables us to plan and evaluate services to monitor health and ensure the services are effective and working for the benefit of the population by improving or protecting public health.

How your data are used.

We can use data for insight purposes to allow us to analyse patterns and trends of lifestyle behaviours and service usage or for service and financial planning, to help us create policy, strategies and inform decision making.

This data may be personal (include information such as your NHS number, postcode, date of birth), anonymised (does not include person identifiable information) or pseudonymised.

Pseudonymising data means replacing personally identifiable information such as your NHS number with an alternative 'identifier' such as a random reference number so that individuals can't be identified.

Births and deaths data

Hampshire County Council Public Health have an agreement with NHS Digital for the use of Office of National Statistics (ONS) births and deaths data. Public Health analysts use this data for statistical purposes to support the Council's Public Health functions.

Data are supplied to us by NHS Digital under section 42 (4) of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, as amended by section 287 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, and Regulation 3 of the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002.

In order to use births and deaths data appropriately and safely we:

- store the data on our IT network at a location that is restricted to those staff who have signed the appropriate NHS Digital data access agreements
- restrict access to data, whose source is identifiable, to those staff who have been nominated as data processors for the births and deaths data.
- remove the identity from any data used for secondary analysis (referred to as 'de-identified' data)

Publication of the outcome of secondary analysis is limited to permitted purposes and is restricted to the aggregate results of that analysis in line with our Data Access Agreement and [Office of National Statistics Disclosure Control Guidance for Birth and Death Statistics guidance](#).

Keeping information secure

All information is collected, stored and shared in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Information is held and transferred securely and only made available to authorised professionals for the purpose of carrying out their work. All staff are trained in data protection and comply with the Council's information security, confidentiality and safe information handling policies and procedures.

We only keep information for as long as is necessary and in accordance with the law and the Council's records retention schedules.

Sharing information

Public Health information may be shared with our partners or service providers, such as government bodies, the Police, health and social care organisations and educational establishments. We will only share your personal information when we are permitted to or are required to by law or we have your consent to do so, as required by the Data Protection Act.

Opting out of the use of your information

You have the right to opt out of Hampshire County Council Public Health receiving or holding your personal identifiable information where it is held. There are occasions where service providers will have a legal duty to share information, for example for

safeguarding or criminal issues. The process for opting out will depend on what the specific data is and what programme it relates to. For further information, please contact the Public Health Team by email (public.health@hants.gov.uk), or in writing to Adults' Health and Care, Public Health, Elizabeth II West, The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UQ.

Accessing your information or further queries

If you would like to see the information that is held about you, you can make a request for this to adult.services.sar@hants.gov.uk (telephone 0300 555 1386)

If you would like further information or have any concerns about any of the details in this notice, please contact: public.health@hants.gov.uk

The Council's Information Compliance Team can also be contacted if you have a query or complaint about the use of your information.

Email: data.protection@hants.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 555 1386

Write to: Information Compliance Team, Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UJ

Further information on data protection matters can be found on the [Hampshire County Council Data Protection pages](#).

Further information and independent advice can be found on the [Information Commissioners website](#)