

Havering Public Health Privacy Notice

Since 2013 local authorities have been responsible for improving the health of their local population and for public health services including most sexual health services and services aimed at reducing drug and alcohol misuse. Details of the Havering Public Health functions are available at:

<http://www.havering.gov.uk/publichealth>

To develop effective plans to improve public health, local authorities need to use relevant health and social care information collected by other agencies including the NHS. . This data can contain person identifiable data (PID) which may identify patients such as name, address, age, sex, ethnicity, disease, use of hospital services, and NHS Number. Some data may not be obviously identifiable; however there may be the potential to deduce individuals' identities through combinations of information, either by the people handling the data or by those who see published results.

Health Information

The London Borough of Havering Council Public Health service will have access to the following data:

- Primary Care Mortality Database (PCMD) – The PCMD holds mortality data as provided at the time of registration of the death along with additional GP details, geographical indexing and coroner details where applicable
- Births and Vital Statistics datasets - Births files include date of birth, sex, birthweight, address, postcode, place of birth, stillbirth indicators and age of mother.
- Deaths data include: deaths broken down by age, sex, area and cause of death sourced from the deaths register.
- Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) – is a data warehouse containing details of all admissions, outpatient appointments and A&E attendances at NHS hospitals in England. This data is collected during a patient's time at hospital and is submitted to allow hospitals to be paid for the care they deliver. HES data is an administrative dataset designed to enable secondary use, that is, use for non-clinical purposes.

Use of Health Information

The London Borough of Havering Council's Public Health service will access health and related information to analyse the health needs and outcomes of the local population and for monitoring trends and patterns of diseases and associated risk factors.

The Havering Council Public Health team is committed to using pseudonymised or anonymised information as much as is practical, and in many cases this is the default position. Pseudonymisation is a procedure by which the most identifying

fields within a data record are replaced by one or more artificial identifiers, or pseudonyms. There can be a single pseudonym for a collection of replaced fields or a pseudonym per replaced field. The purpose is to render the data record less identifying and therefore lower customer or patient objections to its use.

Anonymisation is the process of removing identifying particulars or details from something, especially medical test results, for statistical or other purposes.

At all times, Public Health staff will endeavour to ensure that any information published cannot be used to identify individuals either directly or through a process of deduction drawing on a number of different data sets.

All information accessed, processed and stored by Public Health staff will be used to measure the health, mortality or care needs of the population; for planning, evaluating and monitoring health; protecting and improving public health. Other uses include supporting:

- health needs assessments
- health equity analysis
- commissioning and delivery of services to promote health and prevent ill health
- public health surveillance
- identifying inequalities in the way people access services
- joint strategic needs assessment
- health protection and other partnership activities

Any information held by Havering Council Public Health about individuals will be held securely and in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Information will not be held for longer than required and will be disposed of securely. The legal basis for the flow of data for the above purposes is set out in 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.

Information Sharing

Confidential public health data will only be shared with other areas of the NHS, Local Authorities or Care Organisations with the permission of the Caldicott Guardian, once the necessary legal basis has been established and data protection safeguards have been verified, so that the data is managed and used under the same restrictions. Anyone who receives information from Havering Council Public Health is also under a legal duty to keep it confidential.

Births and deaths data will only be processed by Local Authority employees in fulfilment of their public health function, and will not be transferred, shared, or otherwise made available to any third party, including any organisations processing data on behalf of the Local Authority or in connection with their legal function.

Your Rights

You have the right to request Havering Council Public Health to stop processing your personal data in relation to any council service. However, if this request is approved this may cause delays or prevent us delivering a service to you. Where possible we will seek to comply with your request but we may need to hold or process information in connection with one or more of the Council's legal functions.

You have the right to opt-out of the Havering Council Public Health receiving or holding your personal identifiable information. 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 the specific data is and what programme it relates to. If you have any questions about our use of these data, wish to request a copy of the information we hold about you, or if you wish to discuss your rights in relation to opting-out from these processes, please contact the Havering Council Public Health Intelligence Team via Telephone 01708434343 or by emailing publichealth@havering.gov.uk or at the following address:

London Borough of Havering, Public Health, 12th Floor Mercury House, Romford, RM1 3SL

More information about how the Council will protect your privacy is available from our website at: www.havering.gov.uk/dataprotection