

PRIVACY NOTICE:

Waltham Forest Public Health Services

Waltham Forest Council is a data controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act. The Public Health and Health Intelligence teams at Waltham Forest Council also have a legal status allowing the processing of Personal Confidential Data for certain Public Health purposes (under the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002, regulation 3). The use of such data will be restricted so that the principles contained in the Data Protection Act 1998 are fully adhered to.

Waltham Forest Council Public Health and Health Intelligence teams collect and hold information for Public Health purposes about

- residents of Waltham Forest,
- people receiving health and care services in Waltham Forest, and
- people who work or attend school in Waltham Forest,

all to whom the Council has a Public Health duty of care.

Waltham Forest Council Public Health and Health Intelligence teams use personal identifiable information about residents and users of health care in Waltham Forest, to enable it to carry out specific functions for which it is responsible, such as:

- control of infection
- managements of risks to public health
- organising the National Child Measurement Programme
- organising the NHS Health Check Programme
- organising and supporting the 0-5 health service and school nursing services

Waltham Forest Council Public Health and Health Intelligence teams also use the information to derive statistics and intelligence. For example, this information is used to:

- produce assessment of the health and care needs of the population, in particular to support the statutory responsibilities of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), Director of Public Health Annual report, and Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- identify priorities for action
- inform decisions on (for example) the design and commissioning of services,
- to assess the performance of the local health and care systems and to evaluate and develop them.
- to report summary statistics to national organisations
- undertake equity analysis of trends, particular for vulnerable groups
- to support clinical audits

These statistics are used in such a way that individuals cannot be identified from them and personal identifiable details are removed as soon as is possible in the processing of intelligence. This information includes:

- contact details
- geographic codes such as postcodes for the analysis of health inequalities
- information from death certifications
- information from birth certifications
- information about the provision of Public Health services including:
 - immunisations
 - control of infection
 - drug and alcohol treatment services
 - sexual health services
 - 0-5 health services
 - school nursing services
 - lifestyle and behaviour change services
 - cancer screening
 - other screening programmes
 - public health initiatives
- information about lifestyles behaviours, including data collected from surveys
- information disease prevalence, including cancer registrations
- information other health statuses, including blood pressure
- information about health and social care use, including:
 - GP services
 - Hospital services
 - NHS community services
 - Mental health services
 - Social care services

This data is provided to Public Health Service either direct from the public or by national and local NHS and Local Authority data services and organisations and shared with Public Health in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 principles.

All data is stored securely and is managed using the principles of medical confidentiality and data protection. The number of staff handling such data is limited to key professionals, all who undertake regular training about data protection and managing personal information.

Confidential Public Health data will only be shared with other local NHS, local authorities or Care organisations with the permission of the Public Health 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 Waltham Forest Council is also under a legal duty to keep it confidential.

Where to Find Further Information

Further information about how the Council manages personal and sensitive information is published at <https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/data-protection-protecting-your-personal-details>. If you are unable to access this information online, you can also contact the Council's Information Officer at:

Information Officer

Business Hub
Waltham Forest Town Hall
Forest Road
London E17 4JF

Phone 020 8496 3000

Email Information.Officer@walthamforest.gov.uk