



## **PRIVACY NOTICE FOR Supporting Treatment And Recovery Together (START)**

### **What is the purpose of this document?**

Hartlepool Borough Council (HBC) is committed to protecting the privacy and security of your personal information.

This privacy notice is issued in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and describes how we collect and use personal information about you by the Substance Misuse Team. Hartlepool Borough Council commissions a specialist drug and alcohol treatment service, via Public Health funding. When presenting to the service for help and support with their substance misuse (drugs and alcohol), people's information is collected by practitioners during their assessment and the course of their treatment. This includes personal information, about the treatment they receive and any other contact with the service. This notice applies to information we hold about you.

We may update this notice at any time.

It is important that you read this notice, together with any other privacy notice we may provide on specific occasions when we are collecting or processing personal information about you, so that you are aware of how and why we are using such information.

### **The Data Protection Legislation**

We will comply with data protection law which includes the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 which states that the personal information we hold about you must be:

1. Used lawfully, fairly and in a transparent way.
2. Collected only for valid purposes that we have clearly explained to you and not used in any way that is incompatible with those purposes.
3. Relevant to the purposes we have told you about and limited only to those purposes.
4. Accurate and kept up to date.
5. Kept only as long as necessary for the purposes we have told you about.
6. Kept securely.

No personal information held by us will be processed unless the requirements of the Data Protection legislation for fair and lawful processing can be met.

### **Who is the Data Controller?**

HBC is a "data controller". This means that we are responsible for deciding how we hold and use personal information about you. We are required under data protection legislation to notify you of the information contained in this privacy notice.

## **Who is the Data Protection Officer?**

We have appointed a data protection officer (DPO) to oversee compliance with this privacy notice. If you have any questions about this notice or how we handle your personal information, please contact the DPO:

Laura Stones, Legal and Data Protection Officer  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Civic Centre  
Hartlepool TS24  
8AY  
[dataprotection@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@hartlepool.gov.uk)

You have the right to make a complaint at any time to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), the UK supervisory authority for data protection issues.

### **1. What kind of information we hold about you?**

#### **1.1 Personal Information**

Personal data, or personal information, means any information about an individual from which that person can be identified. It does not include data where the identity has been removed (anonymous data).

There are "special categories" of more sensitive personal data which require a higher level of protection.

#### **1.2 How we use particularly sensitive information**

"Special categories" of particularly sensitive personal information require higher levels of protection. We need to have further justification for collecting, storing and using this type of personal information. We may process special categories of personal information in the following circumstances:

- In limited circumstances, with your explicit written consent.
- Where we need to carry out our legal obligations and in line with our data protection policy.
- Where it is needed in the public interest

Less commonly, we may process this type of information where it is needed in relation to legal claims or where it is needed to protect your interests (or someone else's interests) and you are not capable of giving your consent, or where you have already made the information public.

### **2. HBC's Obligations**

#### **2.1 What are HBC's obligations?**

We will collect, store, and use the following categories of personal information about you:

- First and last name including aliases / previous names

- Personal details such as: NI & NHS numbers, Date of Birth, Ethnicity, Gender, Next of kin and supporting family members & friends.

Contact details such as: address, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses.

- Accommodation
- Parent status including dependants names and ages
- Names and details of any professionals working with the individual
- Employment status and main source of income.
- Appointment details and notes taken such as issues raised, actions agreed, telephone calls, text messages, other communications and attendance.
- Prescriptions issued and details of the pharmacy where they are dispensed.
- Offending and prison details

We may also collect, store and use the following “special categories” of more sensitive personal information:

- Information about your health, including Substance misuse profile and any medical condition, in order to ensure that your needs are, as far as possible, met in the delivery service.
- Details of any learning difficulties, disabilities and any mental health diagnoses.
- Medical conditions and personal circumstances, including physical & physiological issues.

We will use special category based on the consent you signed at access to the service.

Drug and alcohol services collect certain information to be reported to Public Health England (PHE) via the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS). The following information anonymised information is submitted:

- Client initials, date of birth, ethnicity, gender.
- Treatment episode details:
  - Referral and assessment dates
  - Partial postcode and any housing needs
  - Pregnancy if applicable
  - No of children and if they are living with them
  - Which substances and quantities (in the past and currently)
  - Injecting use
  - Testing for blood borne viruses and results
  - Alcohol consumption
  - Discharge date and reason
- Treatment intervention details:
  - Treatment start and end date
  - Treatment type that the individual receives
- Treatment outcome details:
  - Every six months the practitioner is required to discuss:
    - The amount of each substance and /or alcohol currently in use
    - Involvement in crime

- Employment and training
- Housing
- Psychological and physical health

## **Information about Criminal Convictions**

There are multiple situations where the service is required to hold information around criminal convictions of its service users. For example: following arrest for an offence or referral into treatment following release from prison, service providers are required to record information on an individual's involvement with the criminal justice system and the offence which led to their arrest or time in custody.

We may only use information relating to criminal convictions where the law allows us to do so. This will usually be where such processing is necessary to carry out our obligations and provided we do so in line with our data protection policy.

Less commonly, we may use information relating to criminal convictions where it is necessary in relation to legal claims, where it is necessary to protect your interests (or someone else's interests) and you are not capable of giving your consent, or where you have already made the information public.

We may also process such information about clients or former clients in the course of legitimate business activities with the appropriate safeguards.

We will only collect information about criminal convictions if it is appropriate. Where appropriate, we will collect information about criminal convictions as part of Public Health requirements. To ensure access to appropriate support both internally or outside our organisation. We will use information about criminal convictions and offences in the following ways:

### **22 How is your personal information collected?**

We collect personal information by email, telephone, online and face to face.

### **23 How we will use information about you?**

We will only use your personal information when the law allows us to. Most commonly, we will use your personal information in the following circumstances:

- Where you have given clear consent for us to process your personal data for this specific purpose.
- The information shared with Public Health via the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) (These requirements may change in line with the government drug strategy):

- To support the governments drug strategy:
  - Employment and training
  - Housing
  - Individual successfully completing treatment
  - Non- returnees following successful completion of treatment
  - Support for families of individual with drug and alcohol dependents.
  
- To support the Public Health Outcomes Framework.
  
- To support research and monitor how effective the Substance Misuse Services are and to help plan and develop appropriate services.
  
- Where processing is necessary for the chosen service provision we have with you.

**24 Situations in which we will use your personal information**

We need all the categories of information in the list above (see *what kind of information we hold about you?* above) primarily to allow us to provide the Substance Misuse Service.

The situations in which we will process your personal information are listed below.

<u>Reason for Processing</u>	<u>Legal Basis e.g Public Task/Contract etc</u>
• Gathering information as part of a referral	Consent and for the purposes of a treatment service and management of a health care system.
• Providing you with a range of support services based on your individual needs.	Consent and for the purposes of a treatment service and management of a health care system.
• Reporting to NHS England	Consent
• To support the government drug strategy	Consent

Some of the above grounds for processing will overlap and there may be more than one ground which justifies our use of your personal information.

**25 What if I don't want to provide personal information?**

If you fail to provide certain information when requested, we may not be able to provide you with a service provision, or we may be prevented from complying with our legal obligations.

## **26 Change of purpose**

We will only use your personal information for the purposes for which we collected it, unless we reasonably consider that we need to use it for another reason and that reason is compatible with the original purpose. If we need to use your personal information for an unrelated purpose, we will notify you and we will explain the legal basis which allows us to do so.

Please note that we may process your personal information without your knowledge or consent, in compliance with the above rules, where this is required or permitted by law.

## **27 Does HBC need your consent?**

We do not need your consent if we use special categories of your personal information in accordance with our written policy to carry out our legal obligations or exercise specific rights as required by law. In limited circumstances, we may approach you for your written consent to allow us to process certain particularly sensitive data. If we do so, we will provide you with full details of the information that we would like and the reason we need it, so that you can carefully consider whether you wish to consent.

You will not be subject to decisions that will have a significant impact on you based solely on automated decision-making, unless we have a lawful basis for doing so and we have notified you.

We do not envisage that any decisions will be taken about you using automated means, however we will notify you in writing if this position changes.

## **3. Data Sharing**

We may have to share your data with third parties, including third-party service providers and other entities in the group.

We require third parties to respect the security of your data and to treat it in accordance with the law.

We will not transfer your personal information outside the EU.

### **3.1 Why might you share my personal information with third parties?**

We will share your personal information with third parties where required by law or where it is necessary to provide status updates to referring bodies. Examples of the organisations we may need to share information with are:

- Adult Social Care Safeguarding Services
- Community and voluntary Organisations
- Fire Service, e.g. as part of fire safety checks
- Health services, including Mental Health Trust, Hospitals and GP's.
- Housing eg Associations, Private Landlords, Local authority
- Job Centre plus
- Others as you have agreed
- Police.
- Prison Service

- Probation – Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and National Probation Service (NPS)
- Public Health England
- Social Services (Children and Adult)
- Sports and Recreation
- Team around the individual (TATI)
- Training Providers who provide training to the individual
- North Tees Hospital
- OHID (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities) for the Pilot Data Collection for Needle and Syringe Programmes in England

When it is necessary to break this confidentiality agreement, the staff member will consult with a manager before making any decision. We will endeavour to discuss this with you wherever possible. Any decision to break this confidentiality agreement will be recorded fully on your file.

### **32 Which third-parties process my personal information?**

"Third parties" includes third-party service providers (including contractors and designated agents). The following third-parties process personal information about you for the following purposes:

- **Northgate Public Services** – The Council's IT provider Northgate may have to access the system on occasions where there is a fault
- **Cyber media** – The services system provider
- **E-Cins** – multi agency partnership working
- **Foundations** – clinical service provider
- Detox and Rehabilitation Facilities
- **Breaking Free Online** - The Breaking Free Online app will be available and for those who choose to use it, the information you input is available, such as your email address, will be accessible by Breaking Free Online. They do not share your information with external parties and their full cookie and privacy policy is available on sign up to the app.

### **33 How secure is my information with third-party service providers?**

All our third-party service providers are required to take appropriate security measures to protect your personal information in line with our policies. We do not allow our third-party service providers to use your personal data for their own purposes. We only permit them to process your personal data for specified purposes and in accordance with our instructions.

## **4. Data Security**

We have put in place measures to protect the security of your information. Details of these measures are available upon request.

Third parties will only process your personal information on our instructions and where they have agreed to treat the information confidentially and to keep it secure We have put in place appropriate security measures to prevent your personal information from being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed.

In addition, we limit access to your personal information to those employees, agents, contractors and other third parties who have a business need to know. They will only process your personal information on our instructions and they are subject to a duty of confidentiality. Details of these measures may be obtained from the Data Protection Officer.

We have put in place procedures to deal with any suspected data security breach and will notify you and any applicable regulator of a suspected breach where we are legally required to do so.

## **5. Data Retention**

### **5.1 How long will you use my information for?**

We will only retain your personal information for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for the purposes of satisfying any legal, accounting, or reporting requirements. Details of retention periods for different aspects of your personal information are available in our retention policy which is available from [www.hartlepool.gov.uk/retention-schedules](http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/retention-schedules). To determine the appropriate retention period for personal data, we consider the amount, nature, and sensitivity of the personal data, the potential risk of harm from unauthorised use or disclosure of your personal data, the purposes for which we process your personal data and whether we can achieve those purposes through other means, and the applicable legal requirements.

In some circumstances we may anonymise your personal information so that it can no longer be associated with you, in which case we may use such information without further notice to you.

## **6. Rights of Access, Correction, Erasure and restriction**

### **6.1 Your duty to inform us of changes**

It is important that the personal information we hold about you is accurate and current. Please keep us informed if your personal information changes during your working relationship with us.

### **6.2 Your rights in connection with personal information**

Under certain circumstances, by law you have the right to:

- **Request access** to your personal information (commonly known as a “data subject access request”). This enables you to receive a copy of the personal information we hold about you and to check that we are lawfully processing it.
- **Request correction** of the personal information that we hold about you. This enables you to have any incomplete or inaccurate information we hold about you corrected.
- **Request erasure** of your personal information. This enables you to ask us to delete or remove personal information where there is no good reason for us continuing to process it. You also have the right to ask us to delete or remove your personal information where you have exercised your right to object to processing (see below).

- **Object to processing** of your personal information where we are relying on a legitimate interest (or those of a third party) and there is something about your particular situation which makes you want to object to processing on this ground. You also have the right to object where we are processing your personal information for direct marketing purposes.
- **Request the restriction of processing** of your personal information. This enables you to ask us to suspend the processing of personal information about you, for example if you want us to establish its accuracy or the reason for processing it.
- **Request the transfer** of your personal information to another party. If you want to review, verify, correct or request erasure of your personal information, object to the processing of your personal data, or request that we transfer a copy of your personal information to another party, please contact the Data Protection Officer in writing.

For further information on your rights please visit: [www.hartlepool.gov.uk/GDPR](http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/GDPR)

### **6.3 No fee usually required**

You will not have to pay a fee to access your personal information (or to exercise any of the other rights). However, we may charge a reasonable fee for photocopying.

### **6.4 What we may need from you**

We may need to request specific information from you to help us confirm your identity and ensure your right to access the information (or to exercise any of your other rights). This is another appropriate security measure to ensure that personal information is not disclosed to any person who has no right to receive it.

### **6.5 Right to withdraw consent**

In the limited circumstances where you may have provided your consent to the collection, processing and transfer of your personal information for a specific purpose, you have the right to withdraw your consent for that specific processing at any time. To withdraw your consent, please contact the Data Protection Officer. Once we have received notification that you have withdrawn your consent, we will no longer process your information for the purpose or purposes you originally agreed to, unless we have another legitimate basis for doing so in law.

## **7. Changes to this Privacy Notice**

We reserve the right to update this privacy notice at any time, and we will provide you with a new privacy notice when we make any substantial updates. We may also notify you in other ways from time to time about the processing of your personal information.

**If you have any questions about this privacy notice, please contact the DPO.**