



Department of Health

Sarah Wilkinson
Chief Executive,
NHS Digital
1 Trevelyan Square, Boar Lane
Leeds
LS1 6AE

Dear Sarah

The Health and Care Analytical Service Directions 2018

I am writing to direct the Health and Social Care Information Centre, now known as NHS Digital to establish and operate an informatics system for information related to analysis of health and care interventions; known as the Health and Care Analytical Service (HCAS). The service will provide analyses to evaluate the effectiveness of health and care interventions.

This Direction is given to NHS Digital in exercise of the powers of the Secretary of State for Health conferred by sections 254(1) and (6) and 304(9), (10) and (12) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (the Act)¹.

In accordance with section 254(2)(b) of the Act, the Secretary of State considers it to be in the interests of the health service in England and of the recipients or providers of adult social care in England for the Direction to be given.

This Direction is to be known as the **Health and Care Analytical Services Directions 2018**, and comes into force on 1st April 2018.

Under section 254 of the Act, NHS Digital is directed to:

- a. collect existing data (in the form of approved Collections and Datasets) from Public Health England and NHS England, relating to health and care provision, as needed for the HCAS analysis;
- b. collect demographic data for cohorts of individuals receiving health and care interventions when interventions relate to health or care outcomes.

¹ 2012 c.7

Information to be collected

The information to be collected will be agreed for each analysis that the service undertakes. Agreement on the information to be collected will be reached with the organisations requesting the analysis. NHS Digital may charge for this service.

Please accept this letter as a Direction given under subsection (1) of section 254 of the Act to NHS Digital to establish and operate a system for the collection and analysis of information related to Health and Care Analytical Services.

In accordance with section 254(5) of the Act, NHS Digital has been consulted before this Direction has been given.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail.

Mark Davies

Director of Population Health