

GP Data for Planning and Research
Check and Challenge Group
Minutes of the meeting held 8th December 2021
Final – Approved for publication

Attendees

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Anu Rao	British Medical Association	Simon Madden	NHSX
David Parkin	British Medical Association	Alison Pritchard	Office for National Statistics
Mark Coley	British Medical Association	Ben Goldacre	Nuffield Department for Primary Care Health Sciences
Ruth Ellenby	Royal College of General Practitioners	Nicola Perrin	Association of Medical Research Charities
Paul Atkinson	Royal College of General Practitioners	Helen Stokes-Lampard	Academy of Medical Royal Colleges
Nicola Byrne	National Data Guardian	Michael Lewis	National Institute for Health Research
NHS Digital Programme Team Representatives Chair			
Further representatives from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of the National Data Guardian (1 attendee) • Information Commissioners Office (1 attendee) 			

Actions & Decisions Recorded

Action ID	Description	Owner	Target Date
CAC-A002	Roadmap document reviewed, with members encouraged to add and suggest additional items or to request information at different time to support their active involvement	All Members	Ongoing
CAC-A004	Provide feedback on comms and engagement topics discussed at meeting, as required	All Members	Ongoing
CAC-A005	Programme to update and circulate roadmap document monthly	Programme	Ongoing
CAC-A007	Consider and review draft Programme Objectives document, and provide feedback, enabling the programme to shape objectives around stakeholder views throughout programme delivery	All Members	Ongoing

Meeting Notes

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Introductions

- Meeting opened and members welcomed
- Review of previous session and agenda outlined

Data Management, Access, and Governance Objectives Overview

- Spotlight discussion on the items in the Letter to GPs which relate to data management, access, and governance and some key discussion points raised:
 - It should be explicitly noted in the objectives that access requests are reviewed and approved from an ethical perspective
 - The impact of the merger announcement will need to be carefully considered against NHS Digital's role as a data "safe haven"
 - Thought should be given to how the inherent features of the service wrapper for a TRE may be able to streamline data access and governance to aid research access without impacting data security
 - A public engagement and co-design approach for a data usage register would aid public consumption and transparency
 - It was agreed that all discussion points will be added to the current set of programme objectives
- There were several follow-on discussions on this topic:
 - There will be a need to understand how the TRE-only model referenced in the Letter to GPs impacts potential data linkage with other datasets, which could be used to drive public benefit
 - Solving challenges associated with maintaining the principle of a fully transparent approach do not need to be managed in isolation. Key stakeholder organisations can advise on how they are tackling this problem openly
 - It was agreed that access requests should always be fully transparent and robust guidelines will be needed to govern transparency requirements around outputs gained from data access
 - Metrics around data access and approvals should be developed to be universally understandable and published on a frequent and regular basis

- Clarity around any economic recovery models put in place is absolutely paramount to gaining and maintaining public trust. Alternative options to existing economic cost recovery model could be reviewed, to maximise current and future benefit to NHS and public good. Check & Challenge stakeholders can provide key input and advice on other models being used and how they are overcoming this tricky challenge
- It was highlighted that upcoming guidance being produced by the NDG on public benefit may be helpful in progressing discussions on how to maximise public benefit from data access and usage
- Clear and understandable communications should be developed to accompany information governance documentation, to aid transparency and accessibility for these highly technical documents
- Information governance documentation will be developed iteratively, with regular checkpoints with key external stakeholder groups to help build confidence that the documents are suitable and complete
- Phasing out of other data flows should be made explicit within programme documentation, even if actual process is not within the scope of the programme to manage. This will allow messaging on the sequencing and planning to be managed in the same open and transparent way as the programme delivery

Initial Trusted Research Environment Functionality Discussion

- Discussion was introduced with members regarding what functionality will be required for the TRE in order to start data collection, and what could be added to the roadmap for future improvements
- External accreditation should be considered regarding planning and builds. ONS is currently progressing through external accreditation for their TRE, and may be able to assist
- The full presentation was not held due to time constraints; therefore, draft material will be shared with members for working feedback and input. The topic will be revisited in future meetings and member feedback will be incorporated

Questions for Baseline Public Research

- The presentation on the draft questions for the initial public research was not held due to time constraints. The draft paper will be shared for feedback. Members have been asked to provide feedback during week commencing 13th December to allow comments to be consolidated into survey ahead of issuance

AOB

- It was confirmed that the next two sessions planned for 23rd December and 5th January will be cancelled due to member availability around the holiday period. The next session will be held on 19th January 2022