

GP Data for Planning and Research
Check and Challenge Group
Minutes of the meeting held 30th March 2022
Final – Approved for publication

Attendees

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Ian Diamond Chair	Office for National Statistics	Tim Donohoe	NHS Transformation Directorate
Helen Stokes-Lampard	Academy of Medical Royal Colleges	Ben Goldacre	Nuffield Department for Primary Care Health Sciences
Michael Lewis	National Institute for Health Research	Nicola Byrne	National Data Guardian
Ruth Ellenby	Royal College of General Practitioners	Steve Wood	Information Commissioners Office
Mark Coley	British Medical Association	David Parkin	British Medical Association
NHS Digital Programme Team Representatives			
Further representatives from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of the National Data Guardian (1 attendee) • NHS Digital (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 and update on previous actions

- Chair welcomed members to the call and introduced meeting agenda
- It was noted that progress continues to be made against the ongoing actions with programme comms and engagement strategy updates planned for 27th April meeting alongside a progress update against the programme objectives

Ratification of previous action notes ahead of publication

- Action notes for 2nd Mar and 16th Mar meetings were noted and approved for publication

TRE – Continuation of 16th March discussion

- The NHS Digital TRE programme lead was introduced to the group to provide an update on TRE planning and development, and outline the wider context on which the GDPR programme is dependent
- TRE development is being managed as a single programme within NHS Digital and specific requirements from programmes planning to use the TRE (such as GDPR) are built into a single consolidated delivery plan alongside the core infrastructure plan
- Discussion points were as follows:
 - Discussion around how the proposed NHS Digital TRE compares to other TRE approaches (for example ONS TRE and OpenSAFELY). Ongoing review noted about how OpenSAFELY can be implemented within the NHS Digital TRE. The principle of tiered access to improve security, useability, and accessibility are considered key
 - Members commented that it is key that suitable functionality and risk mitigations are applied dependent on how users access data in the TRE to ensure it is as secure as possible (such as data minimisation and randomised data subsets)
 - The primary focus for the GDPR programme is to provide a TRE that meets the ministerial commitments for collection, storage, and access for GP Data for planning and research purposes. A future development roadmap will exist beyond this focus and wider system and societal needs must continue to be factored in
 - Another critical point is to ensure that a plan is in place to manage the closure of the current data sharing agreements (DSAs) GP Practices currently have with other parties and transition to access through the new TRE once it is in place and operational. This is under consideration by NHS Digital and a plan is being developed that will address applicable research and commissioning DSAs

- Members emphasised that it would be highly beneficial to ensure a strict deadline is established where new access requests must go through the new TRE route, and old dissemination access routes will be permanently closed. This should apply at all levels including regional and local data sharing, and not just limited to NHS Digital national DSAs.
- Members also noted that this should be part of a wider approach to drive data security and quality across the system to build public confidence. Provision of an effective and efficient TRE should proactively attract potential data customers, but further work would be needed to close out additional access routes
- It was agreed that although many of the discussion points regarding current wider data sharing processes sit outside of the remit of the GDPR programme, they are critical to wider public confidence. The GDPR programme and TRE programme lead will take guidance back and ensure it is considered as part of the overall BAU transition and operations plan for the TRE and GDPR data set
- It was noted that significant assurance activities are planned against all elements of the TRE and data access service. NHS Digital will continue to work with members as the assurance process for the TRE progresses
- It was noted that the core release of the TRE is being scoped and designed to meet the ministerial commitments for GDPR, and the programme team will work with members to validate this
- It was proposed by members that a discussion should be explored in future meetings to understand the proposed release stages to validate that the initial release will meet the ministerial commitments and provide a clear view on what is in each future release. A further discussion point was also proposed on the potential differences between the requirements for planning and research data usage within the TRE

AOB

- It was noted that due to time constraints, the second agenda item to discuss the progress made towards meeting the ministerial commitments and programme objectives was deferred to the next meeting
- It was agreed that the next scheduled meeting on 13th April 2022 will be cancelled due to member availability during the Easter holiday. It was therefore confirmed that the next meeting will be 27th April 2022
- Members were thanked for their time and input during the session, and the meeting was closed by the Chair