

GP Data for Planning and Research

Programme Board

Minutes of the meeting held 12th February 2022

Attendees

Name	Role, Organisation	Name	Role, Organisation
Tim Donohoe Chair	Director of Delivery, Assurance and Operations, NHSX	Luke Blakeley	Head of Workforce & Active Policy, DHSC
Peter Morton	Director of Communications, NHSX	Michael Chapman	Director of Research and Clinical Trials, NHS Digital
Richard Alcock	Director of Primary Care Technology, NHS Digital	Jackie Gray	Exec Director of Privacy, Transparency and Ethics, NHS Digital
Matt Bacon	Director of Communications, NHS Digital		
Approved delegates for board members unable to attend			
NHS Digital programme team representatives			

Actions & Decisions Recorded

Action ID	Description	Target Date
PRB-A012	Programme team to present Gateway Review recommendations action plan at February Programme Board	02/02/2022
PRB-A013	SRO to engage with DHSC colleagues to review engagement plan for new ministerial team, and align on forward action plan and major checkpoints	02/02/2022
PRB-A014	Programme team and Policy colleagues to progress discussions on potential opt-out policy amendments with regards to timelines and gain senior input and direction on forward plan	02/02/2022
PRB-A015	Programme team to engage with IG colleagues to progress mitigation actions for risk regarding NHS merger and clarity on data safeguards	02/02/2022
PRB-A016	Programme comms team to align with NHSX colleagues on parallel ministerial submission to ensure alignment with GDPR comms	02/02/2022

Meeting Notes

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Introductions

- The meeting was opened by the chair and members welcomed
- An overview of the agenda was provided

Open Actions and Decisions

- Previous open actions PRB-A005 and PRB-A009 marked as closed. Discussions have been progressed and Programme Board will be used to further these conversations going forward

Programme Progress Update

- The programme end of year statement and positioning for 2022 was presented
 - It was noted by the SRO that there is a real need to validate, discuss, and address the strategic challenges recorded in this pack to ensure GDPR delivers the right outcomes to meet strategic goals. This will need to be consistently reviewed as developments are made, and will be brought back to each Programme Board going forward
- An overview of the recent Gateway review and its recommendations were presented
 - It was noted that the report and all recommendations have been accepted in full by the SRO, and an action plan to meet these recommendations is being formed. Action taken to present this at the next Programme Board, and report progress against
 - Members agreed that the scale of these recommendations should not be underestimated, but the universal stakeholder support for the strategic outcomes should be a driving factor in overcoming the challenges and recommendations noted
 - It was noted that ministerial briefing and involvement will be key to progressing some of these challenges, and given changes in ministers since Letter to GPs, the programme's approach to ensuring full transparency prior to public communication was commended and should be maintained in balance with the need to ensure regular public communications go out. Action taken for SRO to engage with DHSC colleagues to understand how best to progress on this path
- The key strategic risk themes facing the programme were outlined and support requested from Programme Board members to assist in addressing these challenges
 - We need to ensure that we are considering all data flows explicitly when reviewing any tactical challenges against the need to meet the principles in the Letter to GPs

- There is a clear link between the tactical challenges being considered as part of the first risk theme and the need to address concerns regarding Type 1s as outlined in the second risk theme
- Discussions with the GP profession are progressing regarding the opt-out landscape, and to date have been primarily driven by the potential changes needed to implement a solution for retrospective deletion. Further discussions are planned to understand their viewpoints further, and these will be incorporated into any work with policy colleagues to drive improvements in the opt-out landscape
- It was noted that the programme timelines will be a key factor in any changes to policy. Changes will not be rushed through, and stakeholder engagement will be needed, therefore if delivery timelines remain short, then only smaller, tactical solutions may be possible. Action taken for programme team to discuss these points further with policy colleagues and gain senior input and direction on progressing these discussions
- It was noted that IG colleagues can assist the programme in understanding the progress made in determining how NHS Digital functions will be transitioned to NHS England, and how data safeguards will be maintained. Action taken for programme team to engage with IG colleagues to progress mitigation actions for this risk
- It was noted that although the risks are sizeable and numerous, board members should not constrain the ambition and potential benefits given the stakeholder support for the strategic outcomes currently being targeted to maximise public, profession, and societal benefit
- An update on the current positioning of the programme comms and engagement was provided
 - A ministerial update on the planned programme re-launch comms is expected shortly, and board members will be kept informed of next steps. The programme is positioned to begin public communications immediately after ministerial approval
 - A proposal to amplify the GDPR drumbeat communications is currently being drafted and is expected to be brought to the February Programme Board
 - It was noted that a parallel programme submission was currently with ministers for review and approval. Action taken for programme comms team to align with NHSX colleagues on this submission, and feed into comms planning
- An update on the current business case refresh was provided
 - Assessment on the long list of options included in the papers is continuing, and programme is expecting to produce a short list ahead of February Programme Board to drive further discussion and decisions

- This is fully aligned with other tactical options assessments that are outside of programme scope to understand if GDPR can be leveraged to address these tactical challenges without impacting the strategic outcomes

AOB

- No further items raised