

17th March 2021

Dear Colleague,

Intention to extend the Tier Two CIPHA COVID-19 Intelligence Data Sharing Agreement (DSA)

The CIPHA programme (Combined Intelligence for Population Health Action), on behalf of Cheshire and Merseyside provider and commissioning organisations, has successfully deployed a set of population health intelligence dashboards and analyses in relation to the management of the COVID pandemic. We would like to take the opportunity to thank your organisation for their involvement in the programme to date.

The programme has now been formally evaluated and we can confirm that the CIPHA programme has received further funding for 2021/22.

For more details of CIPHA reports and dashboards available visit here www.cipha.nhs.uk

For access to the CIPHA platform you can email kirsty.brown2@midmerseyda.nhs.uk

Data Sharing Agreement

In 2020/21 your organisation signed a DSA to allow the flow of data into the CIPHA platform. This DSA is due to expire on 31st March 2021.

The legal basis for the DSA is the Control of Patient Information (COPI) Notice for COVID-19, which originally expired on 31st March 2021, but has now been extended until 30th September 2021

<https://digital.nhs.uk/coronavirus/coronavirus-covid-19-response-information-governance-hub/control-of-patient-information-copi-notice>

This letter is to notify you of the intention to extend the Tier Two CIPHA COVID-19 Intelligence DSA in line with the COPI extension, until 30th September 2021. Should the COPI notice be further extended beyond September we shall write again with intention to extend this DSA.

Terms of the Data Sharing Agreement

We are proposing that the terms of the Data Sharing Agreement remain the same in respect of COVID purposes, data flows, and Information Governance controls. The only proposed change to the current DSA is to add in **Arden and Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit (AGEMCSU) as a Data Processor**.

AGEMCSU has existing Data Processing Agreements in place with CCG's to provide core data management services. Adding them to the CIPHA DSA for completeness will allow for them to continue with these existing data management duties on behalf of CCG's.

There are no other changes to the terms of the agreement beyond this. A copy of the new DSA with this amendment clearly marked has been provided with this document.

This change is supported by the CIPHA Data Asset and Access Group (DAAG) that has Information Governance expertise and representation from each cohort of Data Controllers:

NHS provider Trusts; Local Authorities; LMCs; GPs; and the Cheshire and Merseyside HCP IG Strategy Group.

Action required

You do not need to send back a new signed agreement. However, if you **do not** wish to extend the DSA to 30th September 2021 with the additional data processor named then **please contact cipha@merseycare.nhs.uk no later than 31st March 2021.** We apologise for the tight deadline; this is when the current DSA is due to end.

If you have any queries about the programme or this change please contact cipha@merseycare.nhs.uk. Again, we'd like to thank you for your contribution to the CIPHA programme.

For information: Intention to further change the current Data Sharing Arrangements during 2021/22

To provide you with advance notice, we would like to signal our intention to issue a new Data Sharing Agreement for your consideration in Quarter 1 of 2021/22. This DSA will broaden the use of the data to Population Health. Specifically what this means and the legal basis for this broader purpose will be explained as part of the new DSA.

Yours sincerely

Jim Hughes

CIPHA Programme Director