

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: RESPONSE TO THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CENTRAL REGISTER (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2006
From: HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SERVICES		
Date: 9 April 2015	Ref: CH/GG	

1. Purpose of Report/Introduction

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek homologation by Committee of the Council's Response to the Scottish Government's Consultation on proposed amendments to the National Health Service Central Register (Scotland) Regulations 2006.
- 1.2. The closing date for the Response was 25 February 2015.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Scottish Government and National Records of Scotland undertook a Joint Consultation on proposed amendments to the National Health Service Central Register (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The proposals sought to enable certain data contained on the National Health Service Central Register to be shared with specified named bodies and for the Central Register to hold additional postcode data.
- 2.2 The Central Register is an electronic database held and maintained by National Records of Scotland. The Register holds the basic demographic details of everyone who is born, who has died or is (or has been) registered with a General Medical Practitioner in Scotland. The Register's primary purpose is to permit the efficient movement of the medical records of Scottish patients who move in, out or between Scottish Health Boards and the rest of the UK. The Register is considered to be the most complete and authoritative record of individuals in Scotland. At the present time, the sharing of data within the Central Register is limited to Scottish Local Authorities and Health Boards.

3. Proposals/Consideration

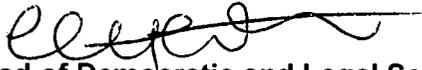
- 3.1 The proposed amendments seek to improve the quality of data held in the Register and to assist in the tracing of missing persons. The proposed amendments will also assist in tracing foreign individuals who receive NHS treatment in Scotland and subsequently leave the country with outstanding debts. The amendments will allow individuals' access to online services to extend beyond services of Scottish Local Authorities and Health Boards to a wider range of public services. Additionally the amendments will enable the identification of Scottish Tax Payers to ensure that tax receipts in respect of the Scottish Rate of Income Tax are effectively allocated.

4. **Council's Response to the Consultation Paper**

4.1 A copy of the response is appended hereto.

5. **Recommendations**

5.1 The Committee is asked to homologate the Council's response as detailed in the Appendix to this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Head of Democratic and Legal Services

A copy of the Consultation Paper is available at the Members' Library.

Annex D: Respondent Information Form



Consultation on proposed amendments to the National Health Service Central Register (Scotland) Regulations 2006

RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response to ensure that we handle your response appropriately

1. Name/Organisation

Organisation Name

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

Title Mr Ms Mrs Miss Dr **Please tick as appropriate**

Surname

Murray

Forename

2. Postal Address

Civic Centre		
Windmillhill Street		
Motherwell		
Postcode ML1 1AB	Phone	Email

3. Permissions - I am responding as...

Individual	<input type="checkbox"/>	Group/Organisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please tick as appropriate			

(a) Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site)?

Please tick as appropriate

(b) Where confidentiality is not requested, we will make your responses available to the public on the following basis

(c) The name and address of your organisation will be made available to the public (in the Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site).

Are you content for your response to be made available?

Please tick ONE of the following boxes

Please tick as appropriate

Yes No

Yes, make my response, name and address all available

or

Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address

or

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

(d) We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Please tick as appropriate

Yes

No

Annex E: Consultation Questions

The consultation sets out a number of proposed amendments. Views are invited on the following:

1) Where data relating to a citizen is held it should be accurate.

Do you agree that the approach suggested at paragraphs 9-11 is an effective approach to achieving this?

Yes No

If No, please describe the approach you feel should be taken.

In paragraph 11 of the Consultation it is proposed that the Regulations are amended to allow the address postcode and unique property reference number (UPRN) already held in the NHSCR to be shared with local authorities and health boards. Paragraph 10 states that the NRS has access to postcode information in terms of an individual's CHI Postcode but it is not currently permitted to hold this information in the NHSCR. Whilst efficiency improvements between public sector bodies are to be welcomed, further clarity in terms of the information already held and the proposed amendments is required.

2) We propose to extend the current ability to trace persons a) who go missing whilst in education and b) who should pay for treatment provided by the NHS .

Do you agree with these proposal set out in paragraphs 12-13?

✓ Yes No

If No please explain why not?

Comments

3) In order to allow citizens to make use myaccount for a wider group of services (beyond health and local government), as set out in paragraphs 14-16, we propose to provide access to the bodies named in draft Schedule 3 (Annex B).

Are there any additional service providers who you feel should be included?

There are no additional service providers who should be included but regard should be had as to whether all of the service providers on the list as currently proposed are appropriate

4) Do you consider that the proposals set out in paragraph 18 are an effective method to identify Scottish Tax payers?

✓ Yes No

If No please describe the approach you feel should be taken.

Comments