

# North Central London ICS Direct Care, Population Health Management and Data Analysis Data Sharing Agreement Purpose-Specific Schedule (supporting NCL Sandpit Use Cases)

Start date 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2023. Review date January 2026

## Background

Processing of personal data to support the delivery of direct care and population health management; to improve the care and outcomes of individuals and populations, using NCL's "Sandpit" provided by the "London Data Service" (North-East London ICB the host).

**This schedule enables** the linking of primary care data with data from NCL's providers (acute, mental health, community and specialist), adult social care data from local authorities, the creation of a normalized integrated care record [and (subject to NHS England approval) the linking of national (commissioner) data sets supplied by NHS England to NCL ICB by means of a separate data sharing agreement NHS England provides pseudonymised (de-identified) patient data that enhances the data we will use].

**It will enable health and care** professionals who are working across organizational boundaries and particularly those within integrated teams and networks, to deliver direct care to patients/service users or to manage the delivery of that direct care to their population and individual patients/service users. NCL ICS partners and controller's Information Governance representatives have been involved in the development of the updated DSA. They have also been involved in the application to the Health Research Authority Confidentiality Advisory Group (CAG) to request Secretary of State support (Section 251 support) to process patient information for secondary use cases. NCL's application to CAG was approved on 29 September 2023. The new DSA builds on this support. Delivery of population health management is central to the NCL strategy: Population health and integrated care - North Central London Integrated Care System is available at our ICS website: [nclhealthandcare.org.uk](http://nclhealthandcare.org.uk).

Enabling the use of information in the NCL Sandpit to improve system planning, as well as direct care, is an important part of delivering on this strategy. To support this new "NCL Sandpit" we have developed a range of updated public communications. These are available on the NCL ICS website:

[Your health and care data can help improve services | North Central London Integrated Care System](#)

Those services have replaced the previous Oracle "HealthIntent" system.

**We established the NCL ICS Data Access Committee** (formerly known as the NCL Data Access Group) to support improved transparency in the way data is used. This meeting is open to all data controllers that would have an interest in participating. Controller agreement to share data will support this strategy and instruct the NCL Data Access Group to review and approve or decline future use of the system data.

**Participating Controllers specific to this agreement** are:

- North Central London (NCL) Integrated Care System members which include:
  - The North Central London Integrated Care Board
  - NHS Trusts in the ICS
  - Local Authorities in the NCL region
  - GP practices in the NCL region

- **The Controllers will be Jointly Controllers defining purpose and means of processing.**

All participants are named on the DSA Framework Agreement and have approved this data sharing schedule and defined flows, and their approval is documented by electronic signature on the Data Controller Console (DCC).

**Review dates:** NCL IG Working Group, 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023; NCL Information Governance Advisory Group 27<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

#### **Governance of changes to this agreement:**

Any additions or changes to the below use cases will be based on the agreed consensus across all the Partners. This will be discussed at the NCL Information Governance Advisory Group that will make recommendation(s) to the NCL Digital Board and controllers.

#### **Data subjects:**

- Patients registered with GP practices across NCL and with an NCL postcode without a GP registration elsewhere (e.g. people who are homeless). This is the standard definition of the commissioning 'responsible population' in use across the NHS.
- Patients presenting to Providers in NCL.

#### **NCL Sandpit use cases permitted by this agreement and subject to Data Access Committee review**

The NCL sandpit will support the delivery of pro-active care for specific conditions including diabetes, COPD, atrial fibrillation, childhood asthma, dementia and frailty and specific populations (e.g. those with learning disabilities and with carers). This includes identification of risk factors and other information on health needs and utilisation that will enable early intervention.

In September 2026, NCL ICS's GPs, Trusts, Local Authorities and the ICB received renewed section 251 support for three primary main purposes for secondary use of patient data:

- **Risk stratification**
- **Population health management and**
- **Planning and analysis.**

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**The following are approved use cases**, noting that any further use cases will be reviewed and require approval by the NCL Data Access Committee and recorded and published in the NCL DAC Register. The DAC Register is updated following each DAC meeting and has recorded DAC decisions made since May 2024.

#### **Purpose: Risk stratification for early intervention and prevention**

Use Case 1. Mental health provider risk stratification across NCL for patients with a defined condition to provide interventions based on National audit guidelines.

Use Case 2. NCL Long Term Conditions Locally Commissioned Service (LTC LCS) will go live across NCL on 1 October 2023, replacing a portfolio of existing LCSs related to LTCs in each borough. The emphasis will be on personalised care and treatment that prioritises prevention, early detection of LTCs and what is important to the individual. The aim is to improve population health and wellbeing and help to address health inequalities.

### **Purpose of Population Health Management**

#### **Monitoring and designing interventions around quality, outcomes, equity and variations.**

Use Case 3. High quality Cancer Care Reviews performed in general practice for cancer patients already back in community care are a key part of personalised care for people living with cancer. The Cancer Care Registry is one of our flagship Population Health Management tools and shows users which parts of a high-quality Cancer Care Review their patient has had, and any gaps in care.

Use Case 4. NCL Long Term Conditions Locally Commissioned Service (LTC LCS) will go live across NCL on 1 October 2023, replacing a portfolio of existing LCSs related to LTCs in each borough. The emphasis will be on personalised care and treatment that prioritises prevention, early detection of LTCs and what is important to the individual. The aim is to improve population health and wellbeing and help to address health inequalities.

**Purpose of Planning, service evaluation, and general analysis** - Using data to ensure we are using resources efficiently and planning the services and the capacity we will need in the future to meet the population's needs.

Use Case 5. Diagnostics is one of the ICB's focus areas, with understanding of demand and capacity one of our priorities for analysis. Under current permissions, we are unable to carry out analysis for planning purposes using our population health management platform. With secondary use approval, we would be able to undertake more complex analysis of our diagnostic services using the linked health and care data in the platform. This would enable us to gain a richer understanding of the patient cohort, and model this demand alongside current & predicted capacity in our system.

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**Additional Use Cases** are submitted to the NCL DAC using the *Data Access Request Form* and subject to pre-DAC Secretariat screening to ensure compliance with the terms of this agreement.

**Tony Haworth, Senior Information Governance & Compliance Manager, NCL ICB**

**22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025** -----