

## Privacy Notice

### LGBT North East Services

This privacy notice is for people who use Waythrough LGBT+ services located in Sunderland, County Durham, South Tyneside and Trans Health Coordinator (South Tyneside). This information is for people who use our services (from ages 11 upwards). We are funded by the local authorities; Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear (CNTW) NHS Foundation Trust; and the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) to provide this service. Funded by the Primary Care Network for South Tyneside Trans Health Care Coordinator. Waythrough adheres to the Data Protection Act 2018 in relation to how we collect and process information that identifies you as an individual. This type of information is called personal data.

### Managing Your Information

Waythrough is the Data Controller for our LGBT+ services located in County Durham, Sunderland and Trans Healthcare South Tyneside. This means that we decide how data is processed and the purpose for the processing. We are accountable for ensuring that your rights are respected and that the data is processed lawfully. Should a breach occur, it is our responsibility to report it to the Information.

Commissioner's Office (ICO) if there is a high risk to your rights or freedoms as per the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

### What We Use and Why

We use personal data like your name, address, date of birth (DOB) and contact details so that we can provide you with a service.

We also use more sensitive data about your health; and demographic data such as your gender identity, sex life (specifically relationships), sexual orientation, race and ethnicity and religious beliefs. This is called **Special Category Data** which requires extra protection.

If you are subject to the criminal justice system, we may process some criminal offence data about you so that we can provide you with our service and so that we can manage risks to you, to our team and to the public.

## How We Collect Your Data

We receive your data from you and sometimes from other people like your GP, mental health services, local authority, primary care services, schools, colleges, education providers, children and young people services and housing services. This list is not exhaustive as anyone can refer you into our service.

We may receive your data by telephone, email, electronic web form or by post.

## Lawful Reasons for Processing

The lawful reasons (known as lawful bases) for processing are set out in the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR). At least one of these must apply whenever we process personal data.

We use the lawful basis of **Legitimate Interests** to process your data, to provide you with the service.

We process your health data under the **Health or Social care condition of the UK GDPR**. We only process what is necessary for the purpose; and processing is overseen by a health professional bound by the common law duty of confidentiality.

In addition to health data, we process a minimal amount of other special category data such as data about your racial or ethnic origin, religious or philosophical beliefs, sex life, sexual orientation/relationships and we use this data for demographic purposes and statistical analysis and to meet individual health and social care needs.

Where we are processing criminal offence data, we rely on special conditions under the Data Protection Act 2018 relating to health and social care, preventing or detecting unlawful acts and safeguarding.

## Sharing Your Information with Others (also known as 'Third Parties')

There are times when we may share data in the public interests relying on the basis of **Public Task** or because it is our **Legal Obligation** to share your information with third parties (usually authorities) and we do not require your consent to be allowed to do this. Sometimes we do not need to make you aware that we are sharing. We will only share the information that is needed; and we only share the minimum information for the purpose.

Examples of this are:

- to report a crime to the police (this includes driving under the influence)
- to report to the police if you have gone missing
- to report abuse or neglect to social services
- to let mental health crisis services know if you are at serious risk
- any other request where we are obliged to share data as per a legal obligation which is laid down in UK law.

We rely on the lawful basis **Legitimate Interests** to share your personal data with:

- the local authority social care team to provide you with support through partnership working, where risks and vulnerabilities require us to do so in your best interests or in the best interests of others (particularly children, families and adults at risk).
- Multi-agency teams (for example the youth offending services, prison, probation services, courts and police) where we are asked to share information in your best interests and to manage risks (where this is not a legal obligation).
- we may share information to your GP where we make the decision that your life or someone else's is at risk, and we believe strongly that the GP is in a key position to help you/others. If we make this decision, we will make all reasonable attempts to inform you.
- Drug and Alcohol services.
- Mental Health services.
- Children and Family Services including Early Help and Social Care.
- research organisations and funders who carry out evaluation and statistical work. Your data is only shared for research and planning purposes with Caldicott Guardian Approval following our National Data opt Out Policy. Please see the section below 'You Can opt Out of Your Personal Data Being Used For Research and Planning' which explains this in more detail.

All other third-party personal data sharing is decided by you with your explicit consent. You provide us with this information on the **Sharing Consent Form**. You should update us at any point if you wish us to change these consents.

## You Can Opt Out of Your Personal Data Being Used For Research and Planning

National Data Opt Out is a government policy overseen by the NHS. Waythrough Charity is one of many organisations working in the health and care system to improve care for patients and the public. Whenever you use a health or care service, such as a Waythrough health or social care service, attending Accident & Emergency or using Community Care services, important information about you is collected in a patient record for that service. Collecting this information helps to ensure you get the best possible care and treatment.

The information collected about you when you use these services can also be used and provided to other organisations for purposes beyond your individual care.

Most of the time, anonymised data is used for research and planning so that you cannot be identified, in which case your confidential patient information isn't needed. Where your data cannot be anonymised and Waythrough is not confident that you are aware that your personal data may be used for research or planning, Waythrough will generally seek to obtain your explicit consent.

Where Waythrough has your NHS number, we can check to see if you have applied an **NHS Opt Out** to your data being used for this purpose. Patients apply their Opt Out via the NHS National Data Opt Out process. If you have Opted Out, Waythrough will not use or share your data for purposes other than your treatment and care (i.e. Waythrough will not use or share your data for research or planning).

You have a choice about whether you want your confidential patient information to be used for research and planning. If you are happy with this use of information you do not need to do anything. **If you do choose to Opt Out of your data being used for research or planning, your confidential patient information will still be used to support your individual care.**

To find out more or to register your choice to Opt Out, please visit the NHS website [www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters](http://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters).

You can also find out more about how patient information is used at:

- <https://www.hra.nhs.uk/information-about-patients/> (which covers health and care research); and <https://understandingpatientdata.org.uk/what-you-need-know>

## Confidentiality

Information about you may be shared between team members; and recorded on your file and in other records to enable us to give you the best service that we can and get the best possible support for you.

Only what is necessary and proportionate is shared and we are bound by the common law duty of confidentiality. In some circumstances we may share your data in order to keep you or other people safe which is a legal obligation this is explained in the section above titled **Sharing Your Information with Third Parties**.

## Transferring Your Data Outside of the UK

As part of our day-to-day operations, we do not transfer your data outside of the UK unless with your explicit consent to do so (right to portability).

When a service closes and we archive data in line with our data retention period, we use a third-party Processor called Iron Mountain. Iron Mountain may in some instances, use sub-processors who are based in other countries. Iron Mountain ensures that where required, Standard Contractual Clauses are in place to protect data where it is transferred to another country as per the EU's adequacy decisions.

## Keeping Your Information Safe

Your data is held securely on a third-party management system and only those who need access, have access to it. This includes staff that support you and staff who maintain the system. We have policies in place which our staff follow to ensure your data is only accessed appropriately and when necessary.

We store some of your personal data on our secure network drives which is restricted to our service team and may be accessed under policy by our IT Team should there be a technical issue. All Waythrough's workforce abide by data management policies, processes and training.

We cannot offer you a service without storing your details on these systems.

We have a number of people who oversee that data is used safely (see 'Relevant Contacts').

Should an incident occur where we breach your data, causing a high risk to your rights or freedoms, we will inform you of this without delay and using the primary contact details you have provided. We will also report this to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who supervise organisations that handle data.

## Retaining Your Information

We keep your personal data for the period stated in our records retention and destruction policy. The policy currently states that we will keep your information for 10 years from the date that the service contract ends which for this service is:

- LGBT South Tyneside & Sunderland – March 2026
- Durham LGBT October 2028
- Trans Health Coordinator March 2026

In the event that we change the retention period in our policy, we will update our privacy notice and notify you of this change.

Your data will be securely destroyed at the end of our retention period.

## Keeping in Touch with You

As part of your support, we will contact you at various stages to discuss your progress, book interventions and provide reminders around upcoming appointments.

This is usually via letters, online platforms such as Zoom, Teams or WhatsApp, phone calls, home visits (when applicable), e-mails\* and text messages\*. This list is not exhaustive. If you do not wish to be contacted via one or all of these methods or have specific communication needs, then please tell us using the **Contact Preferences** form. You can request this from your Waythrough worker. \*email & text messages should be used for non-urgent contact only. Staff have e-mail accounts and mobile phones but may not routinely access them throughout the day. We always recommend phoning the office (01325 731160) if you require assistance urgently (for example cancelling / rearranging upcoming appointments).

## Your Data Rights

Under the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR, you have the following rights:

- to be informed about the collection and use of your personal data.
- to access your personal data (known as Subject Access Request).
- to have inaccurate personal data rectified; or completed if it is incomplete.
- to have personal data erased (known as the right to be forgotten).
- to request the restriction or suppression of your personal data.
- to data portability, which allows individuals to obtain and reuse their personal data for their own purposes across different services.
- to object to the processing of your personal data in certain circumstances.

We do not use any automated decision making (decisions made by a computer) or profiling (when an automated system is used to assess certain things about you) when we use your data.

Please note that some of these rights only apply in certain situations and we may not be able to fulfil every request. Where we say no to a request, we will always explain our decision in full, within the timeframe that the law says. Should you request that your data is erased please be aware that we will be unable to continue offering you a service as we require your personal data to do this effectively and safely.

To request access to your data or to contact us about any of the rights we have listed, you can request this through the service or contact our Caldicott Guardian (see below; Relevant Contacts).

## How To Complain

If you are unhappy about an issue relating to your data you can complain to us through the service you attend; or if you would feel more comfortable, you can contact the Waythrough Caldicott Guardian (see below; Relevant Contacts).

To make a formal complaint to the independent regulator for personal data in the UK about the way we have used your data, contact the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO):

- <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/> or call ICO on 0303 123 1113

## Relevant Contacts

You can write to us at Waythrough, Inspiration House, Unit 22 Bowburn North Industrial Estate DH6 5PF. Email: [lgbt@Waythrough.org.uk](mailto:lgbt@Waythrough.org.uk) or phone: 01325 731 160

Our Data Protection Officer (DPO) is Mark Burnett. You can contact our DPO by email [dpo@Waythrough.org.uk](mailto:dpo@Waythrough.org.uk) or by phone 01325 731 160.

Our Caldicott Guardian is Leesa Howes. You can contact our Caldicott Guardian by email [caldicott.guardian@Waythrough.org.uk](mailto:caldicott.guardian@Waythrough.org.uk) or by phone 01325 731 160.