This notice is for individuals who have attended a hospital Emergency Department (ED) in Northern Ireland following either an act of self-harm or with thoughts of suicide / self-harm and whose data may added to the Northern Ireland Self Harm Registry.

The Public Health Agency manages the Northern Ireland Self-harm Registry and we are committed to protecting your personal data.

This Privacy Notice tells you why we collect your personal information, what we will do with it, and how we will look after it. It also tells you about your rights and who to contact if you have any queries.

**WHAT IS THE SELF HARM REGISTRY?**

The Northern Ireland Self Harm Registry (NISHR) is a confidential record of patients who have attended hospital with self-harm or thoughts of self-harm/ suicide. It is hosted securely and confidentially on Business Services Organisation (IT) Servers and is managed by the Public Health Agency (PHA).   PHA produce anonymous annual reports containing self-harm statistics and provide evidence to policy makers, commissioners and clinical teams to help develop services for people affected by self-harming thoughts and behaviours.

We work in partnership with the National Suicide Research Foundation (NSRF) who manage a similar registry in the Republic of Ireland.

**HOW YOUR PERSONAL DATA IS COLLECTED FOR USE BY THE SELF-HARM REGISTRY**

* When you attend a hospital Emergency Department (ED) for any reason information is recorded in your notes by clinical staff to ensure you receive the care you need.
* Data Registration Officers (DROs) in ED then consider whether your attendance meets the criteria for inclusion in the Registry.
* If your case meets the criteria for inclusion in the RegistryDROswillsend PHA a limited amount of your personal information (age, gender, Health and Care Number and postcode) for the Registry.  PHA also receives some sensitive (health) information about you, such as why you attended the ED, what care you received and whether you had an assessment carried out by the Mental Health team (or previously attended the ED with similar issues).

**HOW WE USE YOUR PERSONAL DATA**

We use your Personal Data and Sensitive Personal Data in the following ways:

* To monitor trends and patterns in hospital attendances with self-harm and ideation and to publish annual reports using this data.
* To monitor care provided compared to recommended guidelines so that services can continually be improved.
* To facilitate planning of services for people who self-harm or have thoughts of self-harm/suicide.
* To promote professional and public awareness about self-harming behaviours.
* To carry out and support research. Any research published will never identify individuals.
* To respond to ad-hoc enquiries from appropriate third parties (this will be in anonymous / aggregated format, referencing groups in the population rather than individuals).

**LEGAL BASIS FOR COLLECTING AND USING YOUR PERSONAL DATA**

We will only use your Personal/Sensitive Data if we have valid reasons for doing so. These reasons are known as our “legal bases for processing”.

The legal basis for NISHR to process your Personal Data is known as ‘public task’, (Article 6(1)(e) of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)).  That means processing is necessary for us to perform a task in the public interest or for our official functions. Article 9 of GDPR details in Paragraph 2 Section (h)

The NISHR processes your Sensitive Personal Data in line with Articles 9(2)h and 9(2)i of the UK GDPR as below:

(h) for Health and Social Care treatment or management of HSC systems

(i) Public Interest in the area of Public Health, Quality and Safety of Health Care.

**WHO WE SHARE YOUR DATA WITH**

* The operation of the NISHR involves data sharing between Health and Social Care Trusts, PHA and the NSRF in Cork.
* PHA securely shares this data with the NSRF for analysis, quality assurance, production of annual reports and for research purposes.
* Annual reports containing high level, aggregated and anonymised data are publicly available on the PHA Website.
* Aggregated and anonymous data is also shared with clinical teams and other stakeholders who are involved in planning services for people with mental health needs.
* Data is also provided to the HSC Honest Broker Service [Honest Broker Service - Business Services Organisation (BSO) Website (hscni.net)](https://bso.hscni.net/directorates/digital-operations/honest-broker-service/) . This enables anonymised data to be used for research and for clinical audits/ service evaluations under very strictly controlled conditions to protect confidentiality.

All data is transferred and stored securely in line with Data Protection legislation and steps are taken to mask sensitive data so only those using it will know what it means.

**HOW LONG YOUR INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT**

We will only retain your data for as long as necessary, in line with our Retention and Disposal Schedule and specific guidance issued by the Department of Health in Northern Ireland [Good Management, Good Records - available here).](https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/topics/good-management-good-records)

**YOUR RIGHTS**

* You have the right to obtain confirmation that your data is being processed, and access to your personal data.
* You are entitled to have personal data rectified if it is inaccurate or incomplete.
* You have a right to have personal data erased and to prevent processing, in specific circumstances.
* You have the right to ‘block’ or suppress processing of personal data, in specific circumstances.
* You have the right to data portability, in specific circumstances.
* You have the right to object to the processing, in specific circumstances.
* You have rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling.

**HOW TO COMPLAIN IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY**

If you are unhappy with any aspect of this privacy notice, or with how your personal information is being processed, please contact our Data Protection Officer:-

**Data Protection Officer:**

Mr Stephen Murray  
Public Health Agency,  
12-22 Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BS  
Tel: 028 9536 3534  
Email: dpo.pha@hscni.net  
  
If you are still not happy, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO):

**Information Commissioner’s Office**  
Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Email: casework@ico.org.uk  
https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/

**Changes to our Privacy Notice**

This Privacy Notice will be kept under regular review and any updates will be placed on our Website.

Date June 25.