
DIRECTIONS

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND

The Health and Social Care Information Centre (National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services) Directions 2015

The Secretary of State gives the following Directions in exercise of the powers conferred by section 254(1) and (6), section 274(2) and section 304(9), (10) and (12) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012(a) and regulation 32 of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (Constitution and Functions) and the Health and Social Care Information Centre (Functions) Regulations 2013(b).

In accordance with section 254(5) of that Act, the Secretary of State has consulted the Health and Social Care Information Centre before giving these Directions.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Directions may be cited as the Health and Social Care Information Centre (National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services) Directions 2015 and come into force on [insert date].

(2) In these Directions—

“Framework Agreement” means the framework agreement between the Department of Health and HSCIC dated 16 April 2014;

“HSCIC” means the Health and Social Care Information Centre(c);

“MoU” means the Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the HSCIC and the Secretary of State for Health in relation to the provision of the National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services dated [30th November 2015];

“National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services” or “NPFS Digital Services” means the services to perform the functions as described in Annex 1 to these Directions; and

“the Secretary of State” means the Secretary of State for Health, acting through its executive agency Public Health England.

Information systems for National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services

2.—(1) The Secretary of State directs HSCIC to establish and operate such systems for the collection and analysis of information (defined in Annex 2) as are necessary for it to deliver the National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services, as defined in Annex 1.

(2) The Secretary of State directs HSCIC to exercise the functions described in sub paragraph (1) in accordance with the terms of the MoU which will provide further detail and definition of the functions required and the terms on which these functions should be exercised.

(3) In exercising the functions described in sub-paragraph (1), HSCIC must have regard to such priorities, policies, advice or guidance of the Secretary of State as the Secretary of State may notify in writing to HSCIC.

(a) 2012 c.7.

(b) S.I. 2013/259.

(c) The Health and Social Care Information Centre is a body corporate established under section 252(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Systems delivery functions for National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services

- 3.—(1) The Secretary of State directs HSCIC to exercise such systems delivery functions of the Secretary of State as are necessary for it to deliver the National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services.
- (2) The Secretary of State directs HSCIC to exercise the functions described in sub paragraph (1) in accordance with the terms of the MoU which will provide further detail and definition of the functions required and the terms on which these functions should be exercised.
- (3) In exercising the functions described in sub paragraph (1), HSCIC must have regard to the Framework Agreement and to such priorities, policies, advice or guidance of the Secretary of State as the Secretary of State may notify in writing to HSCIC.
- (4) The Secretary of State shall make payments to HSCIC for things done in the exercise of the functions required by this Direction as per the terms of the MOU. Signed by the authority of the Secretary of State for Health.

Name

Address

Member of the Senior Civil Service

Date

Department of Health

ANNEX 1: Functions to be provided by HSCIC for the NPFS Digital Service

- **Function 1: Build of public facing aspects of the NPFS Online Solution** - leading to the development of a high quality and robustly tested, scalable, customer facing solution.
- **Function 2: Input into the design and development of the back office aspects of the technical solution-**
- **Function 3: Management of the NPFS Online service whilst in dormancy** - including regular testing, assurance and system updates.
- **Function 4: Management of the NPFS Online service whilst in active deployment** - including the provision of development and operational resources, at scale, to enable an effective online response to a pandemic which for the avoidance of doubt shall not include the command and control operational response.
- **Function 5: Data Processing** - HSCIC is providing a data processing function in capacity as a data processor only. HSCIC is directed to not further process, publish or disseminate any data it collects to provide the NPFS function, other than in accordance with the instructions in the direction (Health and Social Care Information Centre (National Pandemic Flu Service Digital Services) Direction 2015) and this annex to the direction.

ANNEX 2: Information Collected

In order to provide the NPFS service information will be collected from each patient. The precise detail of the information collected will vary from patient to patient depending on their responses to key questions. It may also change from time to time as detail of the underlying clinical algorithm is adjusted. Currently information required includes:

- Are they a resident or foreign visitor
- Their first name and surname
- Their date of birth
- Their gender
- Their current symptoms
- Their history of any serious medical conditions
- Their postcode (Full address may be required)