

The National Data Guardian's Panel Meeting
Thursday 24th March 2016, Richmond House, London

Panel Members Present:

Dame Fiona Caldicott - Chair
Ian Atkinson
Joanne Bailey
John Carvel
Chris Cox
Eileen Phillips
Anne Stebbing
Mark Taylor
Alan Hassey
James Wilson
Richard Wild (via video conference)

In Attendance:

Lindsey Blake
Simon Gray
Kathy Holland
David Riley
Jenny Westaway
Katie Farrington (Items 1 and 2 only)
Michael Chapman (Item 10 only)
Julie Flynn (Item 10 only)

1. Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were noted from Professor Martin Severs and Cameron Robson.

2. Update from the Department of Health Sponsor

Katie Farrington provided an update on the final preparatory work being undertaken on the National Data Guardian's Review. Katie stated that the Review report was currently with the Secretary of State and a date for publication was yet to be confirmed. Katie advised that the report was going through the final stages of proof-reading in advance of publication.

The Chair and her Panel agreed on the importance of a public engagement following the publication of the report.

3. National Data Guardian's Office update

Simon Gray informed members about the recent production of the NDG Office's Information Management policy, and advised that this had been supported by the NDG's Steering Group at their last meeting in March. Simon advised that the new policy will be rolled out over the coming months and also gave an update on the introduction of NDG email addresses.

Action 3.1: The NDG Office to send out the Information Management Policy to Panel members.

4. Data Access Consultation

The Panel discussed the Cabinet Office Data Access Consultation. Panel members were asked to submit their comments in order for a consolidated response to be considered at the next NDG's Steering Group meeting in April.

Action 4.1: Panel members to send comments on the Data Access Consultation to the NDG office.

Action 4.2: Simon Gray to draft a response to Data Access Consultation on behalf of the Panel which will be discussed at the next Steering Group meeting on 14th April 2016.

5. Creation of Council of Data Ethics

The Panel considered a paper written by member James Wilson regarding the establishment of a Council of Data Ethics.

Action 5.1: Simon Gray to speak to the Science and Technology Committee secretariat to enquire whether a government response to the recent report is expected.

6. Cancer Registries

Michael Chapman from Cancer Research UK and Julie Flynn from Macmillan Cancer Support attended to discuss their proposal to conduct a rapid review as to how cancer patients should be informed about the use of their data in cancer registries.

Action 6.1: Dame Fiona to write to Michael Chapman and Julie Flynn to follow up on their attendance and the panel's discussions.

11. Any Other Business

The date of the next Panel meeting was confirmed as Thursday 26th May 2016.