

Suffolk Family Focus - Privacy Statement

Suffolk County Council has committed to the Government to deliver the national programme in our area.

To meet this commitment, it is necessary to share information with critical partner organisations. This means sharing to help deliver the programme, as well as for evaluating and understanding its effectiveness.

In order to identify families, understand the difference we are making, and focus on the people who can potentially benefit from the whole family root-cause-focussed approach the programme offers we will be sharing personal records that relate to you.

This might include records in relation to your social care, any involvement with the police, courts and probation, aspects relating to your employment, anti-social behaviour, violence in the home, substance misuse, educational attendance and behaviour, vulnerable children and health issues.

The personal data of individuals and families will be linked with information from public agencies. This means organisations such as the NHS and health organisations, Department of Work and Pensions, the Police, the Ministry of Justice, probation services, schools and Youth Offending Teams. The data includes people and families who have only been assessed but have not taken part in the programme, as well as those who have taken part in the programme.

The reason to link the information is to help the government and local service providers understand whether or not the programme has been effective in reducing offending, truancy and domestic abuse, managing health conditions which impact on the family, and getting people ready for work, and to use that understanding to help improve the service over time.

Data agreements are in place to ensure that:

- the data can only be used for carrying out research;
- the linked data cannot be used to make decisions about individuals;
- the linked information is anonymised to reduce the risk of individuals being identified;
- it will be impossible for any person or family to be identified from any published reports;
- the linked personal data will not be shared with or made available to the local authority or any other public agency;
- all data is transferred, handled and stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act;

-appropriate measures are in place to prevent unauthorised use of the data;

-the data is destroyed after five years.

In short, your anonymised information may be helping us to improve what we do, and we thank you for that. If you wish to opt out of having your data used in this way, please contact us; we will record this, and respect your decision.