

Privacy notice for access to births and mortality records

All Local Authorities have a duty to improve the health of the population they serve. To help with this, we use data and information from a range of sources, including data collected at the registration of a birth or death, to understand more about the health and care needs in the area. Public Health teams within Local Authorities are also required to commission and manage services for their population.

Births and Mortality Records / Primary Care Mortality Database

This notice provides details of how Kirklees Council collects and uses information about births and deaths. For more general information about how Kirklees Council uses your information, please refer to our [general privacy notice](#).

Information about births and deaths in Kirklees

The registration of births and deaths is a legal requirement. Personal information about deaths in Kirklees, deaths to Kirklees residents or deaths to people registered with a Kirklees GP practice is supplied to local authorities by NHS Digital via the Primary Care Mortality Database (PCMD). The Primary Care Mortality Database is managed by NHS Digital and is accessed securely using Open Exeter. It contains mortality data provided at the time of registration of death along with additional GP details, geographic information and coroner details where applicable. Information held includes date of birth; date of death; age; sex; place of death; address of deceased; causes of death; occupation; GP and practice.

The births data for each defined local authority (LA) is distributed to the LA each quarter by secure e-mail. Information held includes address of usual residence of mother; place of birth (including postcode); NHS number of child; and date of birth of child.

Kirklees Council has a Data Access Agreement with NHS Digital and data are supplied under Section 42(4) of the SRSA (2007) as amended by section 287 of the Health and Social Care Act (2012) and Regulation 3 of the Health Service (Control of Patient Information) Regulations 2002. The legal basis for dissemination by NHS Digital is the Health and Social Care Act s261 (5d).

The team who use the information

The Public Health Intelligence team at Kirklees Council.

How we use this information

This information is used for statistical analysis, the monitoring of population health, demographic change in the borough, and the planning and commissioning of health services.

This information is used specifically to identify patterns and trends in mortality rates, life expectancy and premature death, highlighting differences between geographic areas, age, sex and other characteristics. It is also used to identify differences between areas and inform the targeting of healthcare and public health services. This information is used in the Director of Public Health's Annual Report, Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment, and

health needs assessments, as well as for the monitoring of seasonal patterns (excess seasonal mortality) and the monitoring of trends for particular causes of death.

Kirklees Council uses child date of birth from the births dataset to monitor seasonal patterns of births, which has implications for maternity services, school place planning and other service planning. Postcode of residence and postcode of place of birth are used to monitor distance between home and place of birth, and for planning future service requirements.

No personal-identifiable information is published, and numbers and rates in published reports based on counts fewer than five are removed to further protect confidentiality and anonymity.

Why we need the information

This information is used to ensure that health, social care and public health services are designed to address local health needs and are focused on reducing health inequalities, with specific reference to life expectancy, mortality rates, fertility rates and maternal outcomes. We also use information from this dataset to identify specific hotspots for disease and risk factors locally.

Who we share the information with

In the case of suicides and deaths with an open verdict, an audit process is in place to share information and gather further details with other public organisations. Under these arrangements relevant information would be shared and gathered from acute hospital trusts, mental health trusts, GP practices, local coroner's offices and local emergency services through data sharing agreements and related processes.

How we keep this information secure

Information is held in a secure SQL database only accessible to Public Health Analysts within the Kirklees Public Health Intelligence team.

Your rights

You have the right to opt out of Kirklees Public Health receiving or holding your personal identifiable information. The process for opting out will depend on what the specific data is and what programme it relates to. For further information, please contact the Public Health team by email (PHI@kirklees.gov.uk).

There are occasions where service providers will have a legal duty to share information, for example for safeguarding or criminal issues.

You have the right to request a copy of the information we hold about you. To see further details about how to do this, please see the [Data Protection](#) page on our website.

For help and guidance, please contact the Information Access Team at Civic Centre III, Market Street, Huddersfield HD1 2TG. You can telephone 01484 221000 (automated system – please ask for Data Protection when prompted) or email Data.Protection@kirklees.gov.uk.

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