NHS Grampian – Public Health

Privacy notice

Warm Homes – Test of Change

What is happening?

NHS Grampian is working with Energy Systems Catapult (ESC) to provide access to warm homes funding for a number of eligible families this winter. This project is being facilitated as a 'test of change' to see if it improves the health outcomes of people able to access warm homes funding. The results of that test of change will be considered by NHS Grampian and will inform planning in future.

ECS have been funded by BP to provide this support and they have appointed SCARF Aberdeen to facilitate the distribution of funding to eligible homes. More information about this service is available at www.warm.homes/aberdeen.

The NHS Grampian Public Health team have worked with data analysts in the Health Board's data safe haven to identify people who might be eligible to apply for funding based upon their respiratory condition, age and where they live and you have contacted the people identified as eligible for support.

Where people eligible for support ask us to, NHS Grampian will provide their contact information (name and your telephone number) to ESC who will then ask someone from SCARF to contact they. ESC/SCARF may ask for more information, but the only information that NHS Grampian will share is name and telephone number. People eligible for support will need to decide what information they are comfortable disclosing to ESC/SCARF according to ESC/SCARF's processes.

ESC/SCARF may be able to infer that someone has a respiratory condition from the fact that they are eligible for funding, but NHS Grampian will not confirm that. No-one from ESC, SCARF or BP will have any access to health data or health records.

ESC will confirm to NHS Grampian who has taken up the offer of funding and we will use that information to analyse whether this support is helpful in improving health outcomes as part of our test of change. Any results of that analysis will be anonymous. People will not be identified in any outputs from NHS Grampian's analysis. Taking advantage of this funding will have no impact on access to services from NHS Grampian.

Eligible people should make sure that they read the information on the 'warm homes prescription' website carefully (www.warm.homes/aberdeen). Please pay particular attention to their privacy and security information before providing any more personal data. Eligible people should make sure that they ask ESC/SCARF all the questions they need to so that they understand if this is right for them. People can also ask SCARF for more information (see below). The only information NHS Grampian will share with ESC/SCARF is name and telephone number and we will only do that if we are asked to by an eligible person. After that an eligible person's relationship is with ESC and SCARF in respect of their access to funding through the warm home prescription service and the use of personal data in connection with that funding.

Personal data and special categories of personal data

To establish eligibility to be part of the cohort offered funding, NHS Grampian has undertaken analysis to identify persons aged 60 years and above, attending the respiratory medicine outpatient clinic for follow-up; or have had an emergency hospital admission for a respiratory cause in the previous 12 months; or have a diagnosis of asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; and live in areas that are in the top three deciles of what the Scottish Government refer to as SIMD 1.

None of that information is being given to ESC or SCARF. The only information NHS Grampian will share is name and telephone number and only if an eligible person tells us that it's ok for us to do that.

Data controller

The data controller for health information remains NHS Grampian. ESC will become the data controller for name and telephone number once they are shared. ESC will also control any information given to them directly. NHS Grampian will know if an eligible person accessed funding and will analyse that as part of this test of change to see if this funding improves people's health outcomes.

NHS Grampian work in partnership with the University of Aberdeen to have a data safe haven called DaSH. That facility will do the analysis to establish who is eligible for funding in its highly controlled and secure environment. NHS Grampian and the University of Aberdeen have agreements to govern how that secure facility operates.

ESC have appointed SCARF Aberdeen to manage the process of providing support locally. SCARF Aberdeen will be ESC'S service provider and data processor. Please refer to information provided by ESC concerning that relationship.

Data used in the eligibility reports and the analysis of the test of change will be kept for five years and then archived in accordance with DaSH processes. Medical records will be unchanged.

Lawful processing (holding and using personal data)

NHS Grampian is undertaking this work so that people can access warm homes funding further to its official authority as a Scottish Health Board and a task in the public interest. The health data processed to check eligibility and analyse the results of the test of change is processed further to the provision of care and the management of the health and social care system.

Please look carefully at the information provided by ESC/SCARF to understand why they think it is ok for them to process personal data for their purposes in relation to this project.

Your rights

If you wish to update, access, erase, or limit or complain about the use of your personal data please let our Data Protection Officer know contacting Information Governance - gram.infogovernance@nhs.scot - or 01224 551549 who will consider your request and respond appropriately. You may also wish to contact the Information Commissioner's Office - How to make a data protection complaint to an organisation | ICO - or seek to enforce your rights through judicial remedy.

If you want to use any of your rights with ESC or SCARF, please contact them directly on info@es.catapult.org.uk or info@es.catapult.org.uk or info@escarf.org.uk