

Halton Borough Council Troubled Families Privacy Notice

Halton Borough Council supports the Department for Community and Local Government's (DCLG) national programme to help troubled families turn their lives around. The DCLG programme is designed to encourage organisations to work in partnership together to recognise families earlier and ensure an effective offer of support is provided.

Halton Borough Council Troubled Families programme aims to support families struggling to cope and will encourage them to play a stable role in their own communities. The Council will be identifying those families with the most pressing and complex needs. This will involve sharing of information between council departments and with other organisations. Any sharing will be undertaken proportionately and lawfully for the purpose of identifying those families who most need this support. This will be carried out to ensure that services are better coordinated and focused for those families.

No one will be able to identify you or your family in any published reports-

This might include records in relation to your involvement with family support services, any involvement with the police, courts and probation, aspects relating to your employment, substance misuse, educational attendance, vulnerable children and health issues.

For the National Impact Study and local evaluation, the personal data of individuals and families will be linked with information from public agencies. Organisations such as NHS, Department of Work and Pensions, the Police, the Ministry of Justice, the probation services, schools and Youth offending Team.

Locally, service providers share evaluation data to inform how services should be provided in the future. This is separate to the National Impact Study (NIS).

The reason to link the information is to help the government and local service providers understand whether or not family support services has been effective in reducing offending, truancy and getting people ready for work, and to help improve the service over time.

The Troubled Families Programme requires information about you and your household to:

- Determine the type of service and support that you currently receive.
- Determine the type of services you may require and suggest future services
- To monitor whether services used are making a difference and helping to improve your lives.

Who will have access to your information?

- Staff working within the Council and those asked to provide services to you.

- Data will be sent to organisations working on behalf of the DCLG, for the purposes of research and evaluation of the programme. The processing of personal data will be in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA). In particular, the data will be processed **fairly** and **lawfully**.

The NIS aims to estimate the impact of the Troubled Families Programme on family outcomes. The datasets used will provide crucial information about outcomes such as improvements in school attendance and attainment, reductions in crime and safeguarding issues, levels of worklessness and the use of A&E and other health related issues.

The personal data of individuals and families will be linked with information from public agencies. 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 getting people ready for work and 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 seven years.
- Further information about the national programme can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/helping-troubled-families-turn-their-lives-around>