

# Families First Privacy Notice

Families First is Herefordshire's response to the Government's Troubled Families Programme, which aims to actively manage and turn around the lives of the County's most troubled families, by providing targeted support to help get children back into school; reduce criminal and anti-social behavior and support parents on the road back to work.

Herefordshire Council has been asked to gather information by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), about families that may be eligible for help from the Families First Programme. To help us achieve this, we will be identifying those families with the most pressing and complex needs. This will involve some sharing of information between council departments and with other partner organisations. Any such sharing will be undertaken consistently and lawfully for the purpose of identifying those families who most need this support.

The information shared may include records in relation to a child, young person or families social care, involvement with the police, courts and probation, aspects relating to employment, anti social behaviour, violence in the home, substance misuse, educational attendance and behaviour. This information will be processed under strict protocols in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and other relevant legislation. Information will be held securely, processed under the legal obligations to participate in the Troubled Families Programme, and will only be used and shared on a strict need to know basis with limited partners in Herefordshire, for the purposes of identifying and supporting the families with the most need.

The personal data of individuals and families (such as your name, date of birth, last known address, National Insurance) will be linked with information from public agencies. Organisations such as the NHS and health organisations, Department of works and pension, the Police, the ministry of Justice, the probation services, schools and Youth offending Team. The data includes both those people / families only assessed, but also those who have participated 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 getting people ready for work and to help improve the service over time. Data agreements will be 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 2018;
- appropriate measures are in place to prevent unauthorised use of the data;
- The data is destroyed six years after the end of the programme.

If you would still like to find out more information about the Families First Programme please contact us on

Email: [families.first@herefordshire.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:families.first@herefordshire.gcsx.gov.uk)

Web: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/children-andfamily-care/families-first-in-herefordshire-programme>

Individuals have a number of rights under data protection law, including the right to request their information. You also have a right to make a complaint about our handling of your personal data to the Information Commissioner's Office <https://ico.org.uk/>