

17/05/2012

DE00000701065

Dear Dr. Bhatia,

Thank you for your request of 10 May 2012 under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). Your exact request was:

*“Obviously, as you have previously confirmed, the only new content that will ever be allowed to be added to the Summary Care Record is that from General Practice. No organisation is permitted to upload 'Release 2' information to the Summary Care Record.*

*This group was reported in EHI :  
<http://www.ehi.co.uk/news/ehi/7320/working-group-to-consider-scr-add-ons>*

*Accordingly, please could you email me:*

- Details of the chair, membership and Terms of Reference for this group/board*
- The detailed process for changing the scope of the record*
- The agenda, minutes and all associated documents relating to any meetings held by this group, to date*
- The planned date of the next (or maybe first?) meeting of this group”*

I can confirm that the Department holds some information relevant to your request.

The Ministerial Review of the Summary Care Record, which reported in October 2010, recommended that new governance arrangements be introduced to take responsibility for the scope of the content of the Summary Care Record. This new body will be called the ‘Summary Care Record Content and Advisory Board’. The Ministerial review also recommended that the Department should only consider expanding the content of the Summary Care Record when it has built trust in the system and when patients request that we do so. To date, the Summary Care Record programme has focused only on creating Summary Care Records for those patients who wish to have one.

In March 2012 an advert for the Chair of this board was placed on NHS Jobs and the Department are in the process of evaluating the applications received. The board has not yet met. As such, there are no agendas, minutes or papers relating to any meetings held by it.

Once a Chair has been appointed, invitations from the Chair will be issued to the patient representative groups and clinical professional bodies that will comprise this board. It is planned that the board will be established over the coming months.

The draft terms of reference for the board are attached. Please be aware that these are draft and will be ratified at the first meeting of the board. As stated in the terms of reference, the board will consider proposals to change the scope of the content of the Summary Care Record which have been referred to them by the Summary Care Record Programme Board. At their first meeting the board will decide and agree the detailed process they will follow to arrive at their decisions.

If you have any queries about this email, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Head of the Freedom of Information Team  
Department of Health  
Room 317  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall,  
London  
SW1A 2NS

Email: [freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk)

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Department. The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Jamie Scott

Freedom of Information Officer  
Department of Health

[freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk)