

Privacy Advisory Committee processes

Until June 2015, NSS Privacy Advisory Committee was an advisory committee to NHS National Services Scotland, providing advice to the NHS National Services Scotland and National Records of Scotland regarding protecting the privacy of patient information while enabling legitimate access to health data for well-defined and bona fide purposes including research.

The committee had 5 members, mainly lay, and advised the Caldicott Guardian. It was supported by specialists in Data Protection and Information Security who conducted technical scrutiny of each application before it was considered by the committee. They applied proportionate governance criteria to assess the risk to privacy.

The proportionate governance criteria and standards are included in the information provided in response to the FOISA.

Their assessment is recorded in the proportionate Governance Checklists; also provided.

The Summary Checklist contains a summary of the request along with their comments and those of the Committee members; also provided.

In 2015, the Privacy Advisory Committee was disbanded and The Public Benefit and Privacy Panel for Health and Social Care was established as a governance structure for all of NHSScotland, exercising delegated decision-making on behalf of NHSScotland Chief Executive Officers and the Registrar General. Further information regarding the work of the Public Benefit and Privacy Panel is available at the following URL

<http://www.informationgovernance.scot.nhs.uk/pbpphsc/>