

## NHS ELIGIBILITY CHECKING

The Business Services Organisation (BSO) maintains a list of patients registered with a GP in Northern Ireland. The BSO must verify the information on this list to prevent or detect crime, including fraud, protect public funds and to ensure the information it holds is accurate and up to date.

To verify our information, we look at the details we hold against details held by other external organisations using specialist 'NHS Eligibility' software. This approach is used to:

- Check the information provided to us is correct;
- Check the information provided to us matches with information held by other service providers;
- Identify when a person's details may have been changed;
- Eliminate individuals from further enquires if the results show they reside in Northern Ireland

The information we will share is:

- Your name;
- Your date of birth; and
- Your address

The 'NHS Eligibility' software will match your details against records held by other organisations that provide every day services such as:

- Voter registration;
- Mobile phone providers;
- Banking Services;
- Credit providers

The BSO WILL NOT receive any information about your activity with these organisations, just a confidence score, indicating if there has been a match of your details. If your confidence score doesn't show you are engaging with other organisations in Northern Ireland we will ask you to provide documentation to show you are in Northern Ireland.

Where BSO following these enquires, is unable to confirm the details they hold, has concerns about potential fraud, it may share the information with other agencies including the Northern Ireland Audit Office, for further checking.

After our enquires, if we are not satisfied that you are entitled to publically funded healthcare in Northern Ireland your name will be removed from the GP register and you may be required to pay for any further HSC treatment you receive.

If you have any queries regarding this work, please telephone 028 9536 3845 and ask to speak to the verification officer. You can also e-mail your query to [accesstohealthcare@hscni.net](mailto:accesstohealthcare@hscni.net) or write to the Verification Officer at:

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