

Gateway number 17365

INFORMATION GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

The below outlines the requirements to fulfil paragraph 26 (2) (f) of Schedule 1 to the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2005.

Approved Particulars

The overarching position is that community pharmacies must comply with required levels of confidentiality and compliance with the Data Protection Act set out in the Information Governance Toolkit. The requirements will be reviewed annually by the Department of Health, in consultation with the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC), and generally be published by the start of the financial year in question. There may be occasions when there are amendments or additions to the Information Governance Toolkit within the year. In these circumstances the Department of Health and PSNC will, depending on the nature of the change, agree a reasonable timeline when pharmacies need to comply by.

For the year 2011/12 community pharmacies must comply with version 9 Level 2 of the Information Governance Toolkit on the Connecting for Health website. As part of doing so, they must submit annual information to the PCT or successor organisation to provide assurance that the pharmacy is meeting the required standards and to assess their information governance policies and standards.

They must have completed and submitted the template documenting such to their PCT by 31st March 2012.