



**ENGAGE
INSPIRE
SHARE MK**

healthwatch
Milton Keynes

Policy Title: Record Retention

Date: September 2021

Version Control

| Version Number | Date | Revisions | By |
|----------------|------------|--|------------------|
| 4 | 13.01.2026 | Review. Rebranding | Maxine Taffetani |
| 3 | 02.01.2025 | Full review | Maxine Taffetani |
| 2 | 13.09.2021 | Review. Alterations to storage of information held on internal databases to provide specific timeframes. Alignment with data storage timeframes as set out in Employee Data Retention Policy | Maxine Taffetani |
| 1 | 21.06.2019 | Full transfer to HWMK branded policy template | Maxine Taffetani |

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Policy Statement

Accurate, proportionate records are kept in order to:

- Provide a high-quality service to patients and the public.
- To ensure that feedback can be provided.
- To ensure good support and supervision to volunteers
- To comply with all employment, charity and company legal requirements
- To comply with quality assurance systems.

All records are made and held in accordance with the principles of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. It is the responsibility of Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO to ensure that our activities, whether solely or as part of another organisation, are covered by registration with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

Records are retained for the period specified in the procedure below, and with the exception of items that must be stored permanently, are then safely destroyed.

Under GDPR, Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO holds and publishes an Information Asset Register (IAR) which sets out the type of personal data the organisation collects (processes) and how it manages, stores and disposes of that data. It also sets out the legal basis for processing personal data.

Procedures

1. Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO aims to store information digitally. Any records that are required to be held as paper copies are held securely in locked filing cabinets in the main Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO Office. These include, HR files, comments received, signed consent forms and Record of Concerns Forms (ROCA). Where possible such records will be scanned and saved electronically in the Microsoft 365 cloud.

2. Electronic files are kept securely, password protected and regularly backed up. Electronic files and information include data held on the Have

Your Say database (HYS database), payroll information, financial records, all HR records and records being stored during retention periods.

3. Members of the public who choose to engage with Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO are asked for explicit consent that their comments be stored within the HYS Database. They are informed about what personal information is stored, for what purpose(s), where the information is stored and for what time period. They will be informed that all personal information will be kept confidential and will not be shared unless explicit consent has been given. When seeking consent to pass on personal details Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO will always confirm how the information will be used.

4. When DBS checks are requested, Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO will keep a record of the DBS reference number and the date the check was completed on the relevant volunteer or staff file but will not keep a copy of the DBS check.

5. Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO complies with the requirements of the law in relation to Charitable Incorporated Organisations, and records are maintained and retained in accordance with the retention summary below. Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO also complies with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) in relation to its financial record keeping and reporting. All financial records are retained in accordance with the retention summary below.

6. Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO stores insurance policies and employer's liability insurance certificates and records relating to the leasehold of premises securely, and in line with the retention summary below.

7. Confidential hard copy records that are waiting to be destroyed must be kept securely and shredded or disposed of using a reputable company.

8. Electronic records should be destroyed in line with the retention schedule below and deleted from recycle bins.

Retention Schedule

Retention of records in Engage-Share-Inspire MK CIO

Employment – Staff and volunteer records should after the end of employment but need to only contain sufficient information in order to provide a reference (e.g. training and disciplinary records).

Retention periods of any data stored about members of the public are detailed within the organisation's **information asset register**.

Note: if an allegation has been made about the member of staff, volunteer or trustee, the staff record should be retained until they reach the normal retirement age or for ten years, if that is longer. E.g. around Safeguarding.

Public feedback and enquiries – Records of views, comments and other evidence, e.g. observations, experiences and views shared by the public, patients and service users, interviews, surveys, enter and view notes.

Retention periods of any data stored about members of the public are detailed within the organisation's **information asset register**.

DBS checks

Record disclosure reference numbers and date of check and return to the volunteer or staff member.

Record of Concern Forms (ROCA)

All ROCAs and related information should be kept for ten years. If the record relates to children and young people, the record must be kept till they are 21 years old before destroying.

Financial records

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|---|--|
| Financial records | 7 years (public funded companies) |
| Income tax and NI returns, income tax records and correspondence with HMRC | Not less than 3 years after the end of the financial year to which they relate. 7 Years is best practice. |
| Inland Revenue/HMRC approvals | Permanently |
| Payroll records (also overtime, bonuses, expenses) | During employment and 7 years after employment has ended |
| Pension contribution records | During employment and 7 years after employment has ended |

| | |
|--|---|
| Pension scheme investment policies | 12 years from any benefit payable under the policy |
| Statutory Maternity Pay records, calculations, certificates (MATB1) or any other medical evidence | 3 years after the end of the tax year in which the maternity ends |
| Parental Leave | 5 years from the birth/adoption of the child or 18 years if claiming disability allowance |
| Corporate | |
| Employers' liability certificate | 40 years |
| Insurance policies | Permanently |
| Certificate of incorporation | Permanently |
| Minutes of Board of Trustees | Permanently |
| Memorandum of association | Original to be kept permanently |
| Articles of association | Original to be kept permanently |
| Variations to the governing Documents | Original to be kept permanently |
| Statutory registers | Permanently |
| Membership records | 20 years from commencement of membership register |
| Rental or hire purchase agreements | 6 years after expiry |
| Business agreements, agreements and other arrangements | Length of contract and 6 years after |
| Others | |
| Deeds of title | Permanently |
| Leases | 6 years after lease has expired |
| Accident books | Minimum of 3 years from the date of the last entry (or, if the accident involves a child/ young adult, then until that person reaches the age of 21). |
| Health and safety Assessments | Permanently |
| Assessment of risks under health and safety legislation | Retain until superseded |