



HEALTHCARE SAFETY  
INVESTIGATION BRANCH

[WWW.HSIB.ORG.UK](http://WWW.HSIB.ORG.UK)

## Information sharing fact sheet

For any person, employed or otherwise engaged by a provider  
and who was involved in the care of the mother or baby

# Background information

The Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch (HSIB) was setup to carry out independent investigations and make recommendations about how NHS funded healthcare can be improved to the benefit of all users of NHS services across England.

HSIB are hosted by NHS Improvement, but we maintain our independence both in the conduct and the reporting of our investigations. For more information about NHS Improvement please visit their [website](#)

The Maternity Investigations team was established in 2018 to investigate cases in which full term babies have died during labour or in the first 7 days after birth; receive therapeutic cooling after birth or have been diagnosed with a severe brain injury. In addition, HSIB will also investigate maternal deaths arising from underlying medical conditions or those related to pregnancy.

## Introduction

This fact sheet has been produced to help any person, employed or otherwise engaged by a provider and who was involved in the care the mother or baby received understand the lawful bases for sharing information with the HSIB for the purposes of investigations of Maternity cases.

HSIB expect all persons, whether employed or otherwise engaged by a provider and who was involved in the care the mother or baby received to provide information and to cooperate with the investigation team<sup>1</sup>.

## Information about you that HSIB may use

Personal data is information that can identify you either by itself or in combination with other information and this may come in many formats. It can be electronic, paper, given verbally, photographic, video. HSIB will only process personal data about you that relates to its investigations and in accordance with its [legislative powers](#)

Information that we process may include:

- Records of face to face interview(s) with an HSIB investigator
- Training information where relevant

## How HSIB manages your information

HSIB will hold your personal data on encrypted laptops and securely on our systems and network that meet international standards and are housed within data centres in the United Kingdom and the European Economic Area.

HSIB has in place appropriate security to prevent access by individuals not directly employed by HSIB or contracted to the Trust Development Authority to provide expert advice. Systems are setup so that only HSIB staff and expert advisers can process your data. Access to our systems is reviewed regularly.

## What happens after the investigation concludes?

HSIB will share in confidence a copy of the draft report with the provider concerned and those who engaged with the investigation whom HSIB think appropriate, for them to comment on the factual accuracy of, and conclusions reached in the report. Reports are anonymised where possible. Your data will not be included in the report or used to identify you. The report may include further information which when used with your data may identify you (where a certain incident is investigated and by its very nature, the facts are unique to you). HSIB will seek to contact you and inform you if we believe this maybe the case. HSIB will share in confidence a copy of the final report with those who engaged with the investigation, with the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the NHS Resolution Early Notification Scheme. HSIB will not confirm identities of those who contribute to the investigation unless UK law requires us to release this information.

HSIB may process suitably anonymised information

<sup>1</sup> Good Medical Practice Framework for appraisal and revalidation see Domain 2.1 (22) & (23). NMC The Code Professional Standards of Practice and Behaviour for Nurses and Midwives s23.

for research and analysis purposes to help inform future investigations and monitor improvements within the NHS.

### HSIB processing activities

HSIB will request, collect and use your data under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Articles 6 (1) (c) and 9 (2) (h): meaning HSIB's processing activities are necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the exercise of official authority vested in it and are necessary for the purposes of assessing the working capacity of the employee, the provision of health care or treatment and/or the management of health care systems and services.

### Your information, your rights

Under GDPR you have the following rights in relation to HSIBs processing activities:

- 1 You or someone you nominate can access the data we hold about you. Subject to identity checks we will provide you with all data that we hold about you, please email [sar@hsib.org.uk](mailto:sar@hsib.org.uk)
- 2 You have the right to ask for the information that you provide to HSIB to be amended if you believe it is inaccurate, please email [sar@hsib.org.uk](mailto:sar@hsib.org.uk)
- 3 HSIB will not sell your data and will use it only for the purposes explained in this leaflet.
- 4 HSIB will keep a copy of your personal data for 20 years in line with the requirements for record retention and serious incidents requiring investigation.

5 If required by UK law, i.e. a court order we may release the minimum information that has been requested. If appropriate we will inform you prior to any release (unless this is not permitted by UK law i.e. Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000).

6 If the “*vital interests*” (generally meaning matters of life and death) of an individual are impacted by our investigation and the information we gather, we may release certain information to other relevant bodies. If appropriate we will inform you prior to any release.

7 For more information about our processing activities visit our [website](#)

### Find out more

**Email:** [enquiries@hsib.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hsib.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.hsib.org.uk](http://www.hsib.org.uk)

