# **Suffolk Information Sharing Charter** 11 October 2018

#### **Our Vision**

"We need to use 'data as an asset' far more to transform our services for the benefit of the people in Suffolk and its economy whilst ensuring that we only share data that is necessary and protecting the privacy of the individual."

## **Our Approach**

Public sector partners across Suffolk have a common thread in that they interact with the same people, including residents and businesses, in the same places across the county. We all hold a valuable resource: a comprehensive and complex range of information. Enhanced and more intelligent data sharing across Suffolk public service organisations is essential to unlocking this value and fulfilling our objectives.

We will use joined up data to work towards

- ✓ a single-view of our customers to empower practitioners with the information they need to make the right decisions at service delivery; and
- ✓ a shared and high-quality evidence base to increase understanding and develop robust narratives which lead to change, through data analysis and insight generation.

#### **Our Commitment**

"We will deliver cultural and systematic change in the way we approach data sharing across the county. Collectively, we will work from a default premise of the 'duty to share' data being equal to the 'duty to protect' it, while safeguarding the privacy of everyone. That is, in all circumstances, we will share data unless there is a legal or ethical reason not to. We will do this in the pursuit of improved outcomes for residents, businesses and the wider community."

### **Delivering the Vision**

The following organisations have agreed to work together to support delivery of this vision:

- Babergh District Council and Mid Suffolk District Council
- Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council
- Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group
- Ipswich Borough Council
- Suffolk Coastal District Council and Waveney District Council

- Suffolk Constabulary
- Suffolk County Council
- West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group

## **Our Guiding Principles**

To ensure a consistent approach is taken towards achieving our vision, we have agreed the following principles:

- 1. Suffolk Partners will start with a premise of duty to share, unless there is a legal or ethical reason not to do so.
- 2. Suffolk Partners will engage with stakeholders regularly and empower organisations and staff to share data competently through a no blame culture.
- 3. Suffolk Partners will safeguard the safety and privacy of people and businesses and comply with all Data Protection legislation and other laws, assessing information risks and agreeing security controls when sharing data.
- 4. Suffolk Partners will be transparent and build trust with residents, businesses and communities through the publication of key datasets wherever possible. Every effort will be made to put the resident at the centre of decisions about their data.
- 5. Suffolk Partners will prioritise outcomes led initiatives that involve data and intelligence with genuine prospects for improving outcomes for residents, businesses and the wider community.
- 6. Suffolk Partners will provide expert strategic leadership in the area of data sharing with clear lines of accountability to ensure confidence throughout the system.
- 7. Suffolk Partners will provide a clear mandate for prioritising data sharing initiatives.
- 8. Suffolk Partners will consider data sharing when commissioning new projects.
- 9. Suffolk Partners will champion change in central government and encourage government departments to lead the way in sharing data and breaking down silos.
- 10. Suffolk Partners will re-use existing formally agreed information sharing arrangements where ever possible such as those in Health & Social Care but will also constantly review and make new agreements where necessary to ensure the aims of this charter and necessary security and privacy levels are met at all times.

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Nicola Beach, Chief Executive Suffolk County Council

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Arthur Charvonia, Chief Executive Babergh and Mid Suffolk District councils Ian Gallin, Chief Executive West Suffolk councils

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Gareth Wilson, Chief Constable Suffolk Constabulary