

## Upholding information rights

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Ms Sharon Hopkins Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board Ynysmeurig House Unit 3 Navigation Park Abercynon CF45 4SN

2 October 2020

## Dear Ms Hopkins

I am writing to you on behalf of the Information Commissioner who, in overseeing the United Kingdom's data protection regulation, believes that audits play a key role in assisting organisations in improving compliance with their legislative obligations.

We focus our programme of work on sectors and with organisations who we consider would benefit most from our audits. We take a risk based approach which is proportionate yet targeted, and is based on but not limited to the known risks that an organisation's processing activities raise and the potential impact or likelihood of risk to freedoms and rights of individuals.

The ICO analyses intelligence data collated from various sources including data breaches reported to us, and complaints and concerns we have received from members of the public to inform our audit programme. Our intelligence indicates Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board are an organisation that may gain significant benefit from engaging in a consensual audit of their data protection practices and as such we would like include your organisation in our audit programme for the upcoming financial year (April 2021 – March 2022).

An audit provides an independent assessment of whether your organisation's processing of personal data follows good practice and whether effective policies and procedures are in place and being followed. You benefit from the knowledge and experience of the Commissioner's audit team at no expense to your organisation. It is also an opportunity for your staff to discuss current data protection issues with members of the audit team. You will see from our website that we have already undertaken audits with a number of NHS Trusts and Health Boards.



In normal circumstances, the audits would comprise of a site visit, however due to the pandemic the ICO is not currently undertaking in-person/onsite audits. We are keeping our regulatory position on this under constant review however it is likely that at least some of the audit interviews will be carried out remotely at this stage.

Please see our website for more information on the audit process: <a href="https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/improve-your-practices/audits/">https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/improve-your-practices/audits/</a>

In order for us to be as flexible as possible in the provision of suitable dates for the engagement, please confirm by **30 October 2020** that you are happy for Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board to be included in our audit programme.

Yours sincerely

Leanne Doherty

**Group Manager - Regulatory Assurance**