

## **Applicant Privacy Notice**

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust collects and process personal data relating to job applicants as part of our recruitment process. We are committed to being transparent about how we collect and use this data and to meeting our data protection obligations.

This notice sets out the basis on which we collect, use and disclose personal data of our job applicants, as well as your rights in respect of such personal data.

### **What information does Sussex Partnership collect?**

Sussex Partnership collects a range of information about you. This includes:

- Your name, address and contact details, including email address and telephone number;
- Details of your qualifications, skills, experience and employment history;
- Information from interviews and phone screenings you may have;
- Information about your current level of remuneration, including benefits entitlements;
- Information about your right to work in the UK;
- Equal opportunities monitoring information, including information about your ethnic origin, sexual orientation, health and religion or belief.

We may collect this information in a variety of ways. For example, data might be contained in application forms or CVs (including when these are sent to us as part of speculative applications or queries), obtained from your passport or other identity documents, or collected through interviews of other methods of assessment.

We may also collect personal data about you from third parties, such as references supplied by former employees. We will seek information from third parties only once a job offer has been made to you.

Data will be stored in a range of different places, including on your application record, in our HR management systems and our email system.

### **Why does Sussex Partnership process personal data?**

Sussex Partnership collects and processes data for a number of purposes and where we have a legal basis to do so, as follows:

Sussex Partnership has a legitimate interest in processing personal data during the recruitment process and for keeping records of the process. Processing data from job applicants allows us to manage the recruitment process, assess and confirm a candidate's suitability for employment and decide to whom to offer a job. We may also need to process data from job applicants to respond to and defend against legal claims.

In some cases, we need to process data to ensure that we are complying with our legal obligations. For example, we are required to check a successful applicant's eligibility to work in the UK before employment starts.

Sussex Partnership may process information about whether or not applicants are disabled so we can make reasonable adjustments for candidates who have a disability. Where we process other special category data, such as information about ethnic origin, sexual orientation, health or religion or belief, this is for equal opportunities monitoring purposes. Our processing of these types of data will be carried out to ensure we can meet our obligations or exercise our rights under law related to employment or (only where applicable) to enable us to establish, exercise or defend legal claims.

We will not use your data for any purpose other than the recruitment process of which you are part.

### **Who has access to data?**

Your information may be shared internally within the Trust for the purposes of the recruitment process. This includes members of the Recruitment team, interviewers involved in the recruitment process, and managers in the business area with a vacancy.

We will not share your information with third parties, unless your application for employment is successful and an offer of employment is made. We will then share your data with former employers in order to obtain references. In addition, we may need to share your personal information with a regulator or otherwise to comply with the law.

### **How does Sussex Partnership protect data?**

Sussex Partnership takes the security of your data seriously. We have internal policies and controls in place to ensure your data is not lost, accidentally destroyed, misused or disclosed, and is not accessed except by our personnel in the proper performance of their duties.

### **How long does Sussex Partnership keep data?**

If your application for employment is unsuccessful (including when you have speculatively applied to us in respect of a role which is not available), we will hold

your data on file for 6 months. At the end of that period, your data is deleted or destroyed (unless we need to retain it for longer to exercise or defend any legal claims).

If your application for employment is successful, personal data gathered during the recruitment process will be transferred to your personnel file and retained during your employment. The periods for which employee data is held will be provided to you in a separate privacy notice.

## **Your rights**

As a data subject you have a number of rights under the Data Protection Act 2018. You can:

- Access and retain a copy of your data on request;
- Require Sussex Partnership to change incorrect or incomplete data;
- Require Sussex Partnership to delete or stop processing your data, for example where the data is no longer necessary for the purposes of processing;
- Object to the processing of your data where Sussex Partnership is relying on its legitimate interests as the legal ground for processing; or
- Ask us to transfer your data to another organisation.

If you would like to exercise any of these rights or if you have any questions about this notice or our processing of your data more generally please contact Information Governance Team on [information.governance@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk](mailto:information.governance@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk) .

If you believe the Trust has not complied with your data protection rights, you can complain to the Information Commissioners Office:

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF