CONFIDENTIALITY IN THE
SOMERSET SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES

Taunton & Somerset NHS Foundation Trust, Yeovil District Hospital Foundation Trust, and Somerset Community Health now provide integrated electronic sexual health records for Genitourinary Medicine and Contraceptive & Sexual Health Services.

The confidentiality in our clinics is unique, and applies to all patients including under 16s. All staff have signed local confidentiality policies and adhere to the Law regarding this, in particular the Data Protection Act 1998 and Caldicott Principles.

What this means for you, the patient

The records

All information that you give us will be kept on a secure and confidential computer system, and can only be accessed by staff working in the Somerset Sexual Health Services. These services would only share information for the purposes of your care. You will be asked if you are willing for your information to be shared.

We send anonymous information for statistics to the Department of Health and PCT.

Chaperoning

When you are being examined by one of the doctors or nurses, you may ask for another healthcare worker to be present as well. Please ask the doctor or nurse before you are examined.

Your Visit

No information will be given to anyone (partner, friend, family, carer, GP, other hospital department, insurance company) without your recorded permission.

The only reason why we might have to consider passing on confidential information without your permission, would be to protect you or someone else from very serious harm. We would always try to discuss this with you first.

No member of staff will approach you or discuss your case outside the clinic without your permission.