

Data protection laws are changing. To make sure you can access weekend and evening appointments at GP practices that offer them, you must consent to share your records with healthcare services.

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about changes to data privacy laws and its access to evening and weekend GP appointments**

### **What is happening?**

The supplier of the IT system used by all Ealing GP practices, TPP, has made system changes in response to new data privacy laws. These laws, called 'General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)', aim to protect people from data privacy breaches. These change the way that patient records can be shared between different GP practices.

### **How does it affect me?**

If you are a person who has not permitted the sharing of your patient record with other healthcare services, and have an appointment with one of the GP extended access hubs (evenings or weekends) you *may* require a follow-up appointment with your own practice.

When booking your appointment, if you have not consented to share your records with other healthcare services, you may be asked to review whether you wish to consent to sharing your records.

SMS messages are being sent to individuals this affects. If you have received the text message, please contact your practice if you wish to consider sharing your records.

If you have not received the text message and would like to share your record or check your record sharing status, please contact your local practice reception who will be able to help.

**What if I already have a weekend appointment booked?**

You should still attend your appointment as planned.

**What about my dependents?**

If you are a parent or carer receiving a text about a dependent, please contact the GP practice to update their consent status.