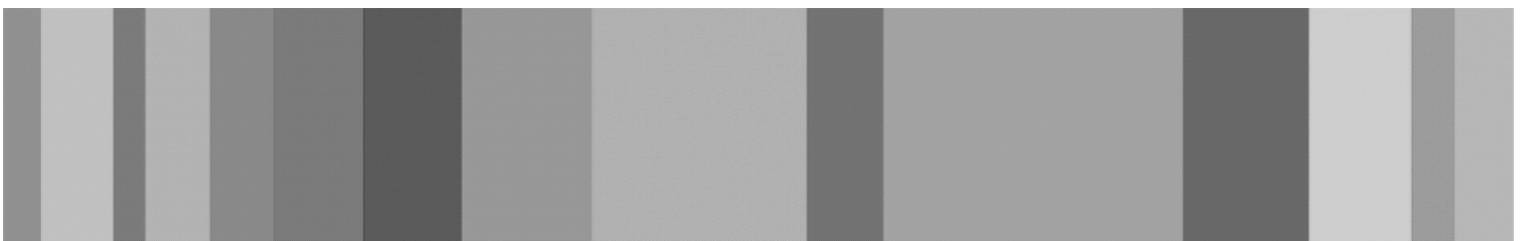


## **Privacy Notice for data matching**

Sept 2019



# Data matching and fraud prevention

This authority is required by law to protect the public funds it administers. It may share information provided to it with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds, in order to prevent and detect fraud.

The Cabinet Office is responsible for carrying out data matching exercises under the National Fraud Initiative (NFI), and requires us to submit information to it as part of this.

## What does it involve?

Data matching involves comparing computer records held by one body against other computer records held by the same or another body to see how far they match. This is usually personal information. Computerised data matching allows potentially fraudulent claims and payments to be identified. Where a match is found it indicates that there is an inconsistency that requires further investigation. No assumption can be made as to whether there is fraud, error or other explanation until an investigation is carried out.

The Cabinet Office currently requires us to participate in the NFI to assist in the prevention and detection of fraud. We are required to provide particular sets of data to the Cabinet Office for matching for each exercise, and these are set out in the Cabinet Office guidance - see <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-fraud-initiative> .

The use of data by the Cabinet Office in the NFI is carried out with statutory authority under powers given to the Minister for the Cabinet Office by Part 6 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Data matching by the Cabinet Office is subject to a Code of Practice. This was established by the Audit Commission when it was responsible for NFI, but is still in force. To view the Code of Practice and other relevant information use this link.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/401669/Code\\_of\\_data\\_matching\\_practice\\_July08.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/401669/Code_of_data_matching_practice_July08.pdf)

## Further information

For further information on the Cabinet Office's legal powers and the reasons why it matches particular information, see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-data-matching-practice-for-national-fraud-initiative> . For further information on data matching at this authority contact the Information Governance Team by emailing [freedomofinfo@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:freedomofinfo@bolton.gov.uk) or calling 01204 331031.