



**Homerton Healthcare**  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust**  
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Date: 19 March 2026

**Dear Hackney Coalition Against Palantir group,**

We are writing in response to your letter dated 12 February 2026. Apologies for the delay in response, and many thanks for your letter highlighting your concern regarding the Trust's use of the Federated Data Platform.

We would like to begin by setting out that, as a healthcare provider, Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust has a duty to remain politically neutral. The role of the Trust Board is to provide strategic leadership and oversight, ensuring that care is delivered in a way that is safe, effective, and trusted by our communities. In this context, it is not the role of the Trust, or the Board, to take political positions.

We continue to consider the Federated Data Platform, but have not introduced it in any services yet. At the request of London Ambulance Service, we are using the My Clinical Feedback app, which is hosted on the Federated Data Platform. Any decision to use FDP products would be taken with the best interests of patients in mind, and our responsibility to be financially sustainable.

We are conscious of the concern around the handling of patient data, this is something we take very seriously. The Trust itself does not engage in any partial or wholesale sharing of personal confidential data (PCD) for commercial gain, either within the UK or internationally. All data sharing is formally conducted in strict compliance with UK GDPR and the Common Law of Confidentiality, and is overseen and approved by the Trust Data Protection Officer (DPO); where appropriate, the full data protection governance triumvirate of DPO, Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) and Caldicott Guardian conduct a review.

The Trust is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office and submits an externally audited Data Security and Protection Toolkit aligned to the Government's Cyber Assessment Framework. Data sharing practices fully reflect the Trust's published Privacy Notice, setting out lawful bases for processing and patient rights, with or without consent.

We understand the strength of feeling you have around this topic. We have answered your questions in writing and at meetings, and are happy to continue to do so as appropriate.



In responding to your letter, we would like to bring to your attention that your protest on the hospital site on 12 February caused distress to both our patients and staff. The Trust has a duty to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone who attends our site.

As a healthcare provider, many of our patients visit the hospital at times of significant personal anxiety and vulnerability. For some, the purpose of their visit may already be a source of considerable distress and concern. It is therefore essential that the hospital environment remains as calm and supportive as possible.

Similarly, many of our staff are working under sustained pressure. In recent weeks, staff have increasingly reported feeling anxious and, in some cases, unsafe, particularly in the context of protests and, more recently, as a result of increasing protests near and around the hospital and related incidents. We have a responsibility to ensure that their safety and wellbeing are protected at all times.

You were advised on the day that your presence had the potential to cause distress; however, you declined to leave, which resulted in the involvement of security and the police. The Trust's priority is to maintain a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all patients, staff, and visitors.

We are concerned that such activity has the potential to cause division and to increase stress, anxiety, and sadness among members of our community attending the hospital. We are particularly concerned about the psychological impact on both patients and staff.

As an organisation, we have a duty to ensure that we can continue to deliver care in an environment that is trusted, safe, and respectful for all.

Whilst we respect the right to freedom of expression, we must emphasise that NHS hospital sites are property assigned for the provision of healthcare. As such, the Trust has the legal right to control access to and use of its premises. This includes, where necessary and proportionate, setting conditions on entry and requiring individuals to leave where their presence is causing disruption, distress, or is not consistent with the purpose of the site. Individuals who refuse to comply with reasonable requests to leave our sites may be treated as trespassing, and appropriate action may be taken, including involving security and the police. We emphasise that it is not our intention to be adversarial, and we are keen to avoid any situation that could lead to conflict between the Trust and members of our community.

We have a clear set of Trust values and are committed to upholding them at all times. We are an inclusive and anti-racist organisation, and we do not tolerate any form of discrimination, or behaviour that could reasonably be perceived as discriminatory, on our sites. We are committed to ensuring that everyone on Trust premises feels safe and respected. We recognise our duty to maintain a safe, secure, and politically neutral environment for patients, visitors, and staff. Any activity that causes alarm, distress, or disruption is taken seriously. No patients, visitors or

colleagues should feel threatened, intimidated, or distressed while attending NHS sites or work; hospitals are not a place of protest.

We therefore ask that, in future, you do not attend or undertake any form of protest on Trust property.

We wish to be clear that this request is not intended to restrict your or your members' right to protest. However, we do ask that you respect our site as a place dedicated to healthcare provision, serving all members of our community.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Rothwell', written in a cursive style.

Ian Rothwell, Trust Secretary

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust