

The benefits of working with ADR Scotland - making your data linkage ready

Access to pseudo-anonymised administrative data is extremely valuable to research. In particular when data is linked together, it can provide the opportunity for new insight. ADR Scotland is making the data linkage process quicker and more efficient by establishing a safe and secure environment that will provide a source of up-to-date, linkage ready data

Reduced burden & improved quality

- By establishing a safe and secure environment to host public sector administrative data, data controllers will only have to go through the process of provisioning data once. The data will be held securely in a linkable ready format long term and will be updated as required.
- This will reduce the time and effort required by both data controllers and researchers to carry out data linkage projects.
- Researchers may also be able to provide feedback to help data controllers better understand and improve their data.

Guaranteed security & transparency

- Projects will continue to be assessed by statistical, research and information governance experts and only approved for statistical and research purposes where the public benefit outweighs the privacy risk.
- The ADR Scotland model has been developed through a partnership of expert stakeholders to ensure transparency and the use of standardised procedures and processes.
- Data is stored, uploaded and processed in a highly secure computing environment that is subject to external, independent scrutiny. No single organisation will have access to all the information about a complete dataset or an individual.
- All data held within the ADR Scotland infrastructure follows the '[five safes framework](#)' - a set of principles devised by the Office for National Statistics that ensure the secure and effective access and use of data, alongside relevant legal basis and gateways.

Complete support and control

- Data controllers will always maintain control of their data.
- ADR Scotland will also provide ongoing support and guidance for data controllers to ensure relevant agreements are in place.