
DIRECTIONS

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND

The NHS Digital (Establishment of Information Systems for NHS Services: Maternity Services) Directions 2018

The National Health Service Commissioning Board¹ (known as NHS England) gives the following Directions to the Health and Social Care Information Centre, now known as NHS Digital in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 254(1), (3) and (6) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

In accordance with section 254(5) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, NHS England has consulted NHS Digital before giving these Directions.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1. These Directions may be cited as The NHS Digital (Establishment of Information Systems for NHS Services: Maternity Services) Directions 2018 and shall come into force on 1 October 2018.
2. In these Directions—

“The 2012 Act” means the Health and Social Care Act 2012²;

¹ The National Health Service Commissioning Board was established by section 1H of the National Health Service Act 2006 (2006 c 41.), and operates as NHS England

² 2012 c7

“Relevant Organisation”	means an organisation type that is listed under “applies to” in the Specification;
“DCB”	means the Data Coordination Board;
“Specification”	means the Maternity Services Data Set Version 2.0 – Requirements Specification dated 14/09/2018
“Technical Output Specification”	means the Maternity Services Data Set (MSDS) v2.0 Technical Output Specification dated 17/08/2018

Establishing and Operating the Maternity Services Information System

3. – (1) Pursuant to its powers under sections 254(1) and 254(6) of the 2012 Act, NHS England directs NHS Digital to establish and operate a system for the collection and analysis of the information described in sub-paragraph (2) from the Relevant Organisations, such system to be known as “the Maternity Services Information System”.

(2) The information referred to in sub-paragraph (1) is the information described in the Technical Output Specification.

(3) NHS England directs NHS Digital to carry out the activities described in sub-paragraph (1) in accordance with the Specification and generally in such a way as to enable and facilitate the purposes that are described in the Specification at Annex A.

S254(3) - Requirement for these Directions

4. In accordance with section 254(3) of the 2012 Act, NHS England confirms that it is necessary or expedient for it to have the information which will be obtained through NHS Digital complying with these Directions in relation to NHS England’s functions in connection with the provision of NHS Services.

Fees and Accounts

5. Pursuant to sub-section 254(7) of the 2012 Act, NHS Digital is entitled to charge NHS England a reasonable fee in respect of the cost of NHS Digital complying with these Directions and NHS England acknowledges such right and agrees to meet such reasonable fee charged by NHS Digital.

6. NHS Digital must keep proper accounts, and proper records in relation to the accounts, in connection with the Maternity Services Information System.

Review of these Directions

7. These Directions will be reviewed when the Specification is amended. This review will include consultation with the NHS Digital as required by section 254(5) of the 2012 Act.

Signed by authority of NHS England

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Powis', written in a cursive style.

**Prof S Powis
Caldicott Guardian**

Annex A – Maternity Services Data Set Version 2.0 Requirements Specification



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Annex B – Maternity Services Data Set (MSDS) v2.0 Technical Output Specification



MSDS v2.0 TOS
(DCB Data Set Speci