



England
SECURE DATA
ENVIRONMENT

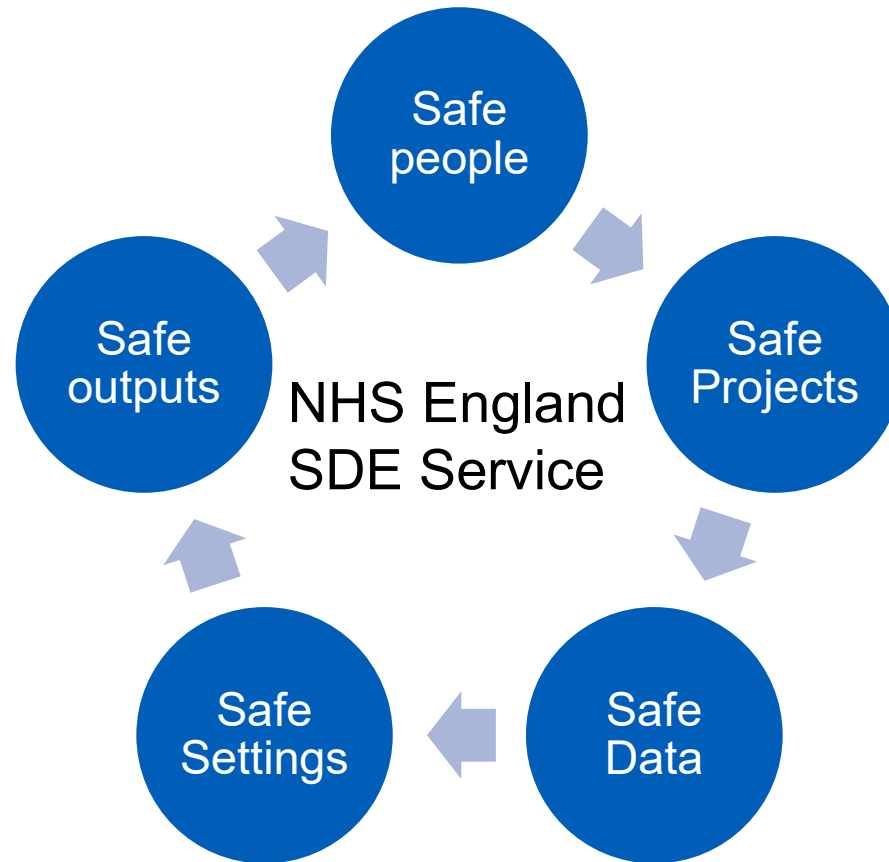
Part of the
**NHS Research Secure Data
Environment Network**

NHS England Secure Data Environment -

**Research webinar 27th November
2025**

Presented by Angeliki Antonarou and Helen Buckels

SDE Service Overview

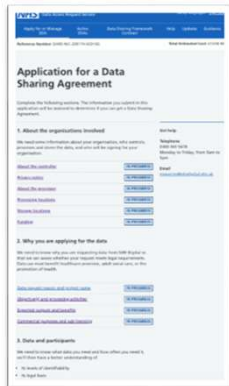


#DataSavesLives

SDE Service User Journey

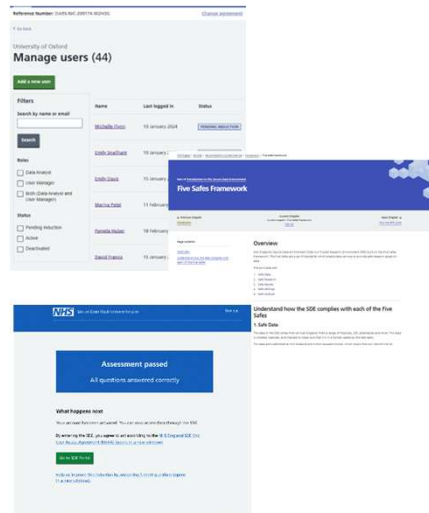
1

Researchers **apply for data** using the Health Data Access Service (previously known as DARS). A successful application results in a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA)



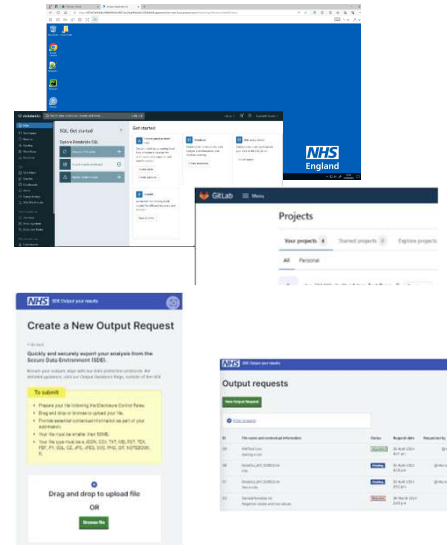
2

SDE service team provisions a secure workspace and data. The research team can **get started** adding users and following our training



3

The research team **analyse the data** and **output their results working** in the SDE environment

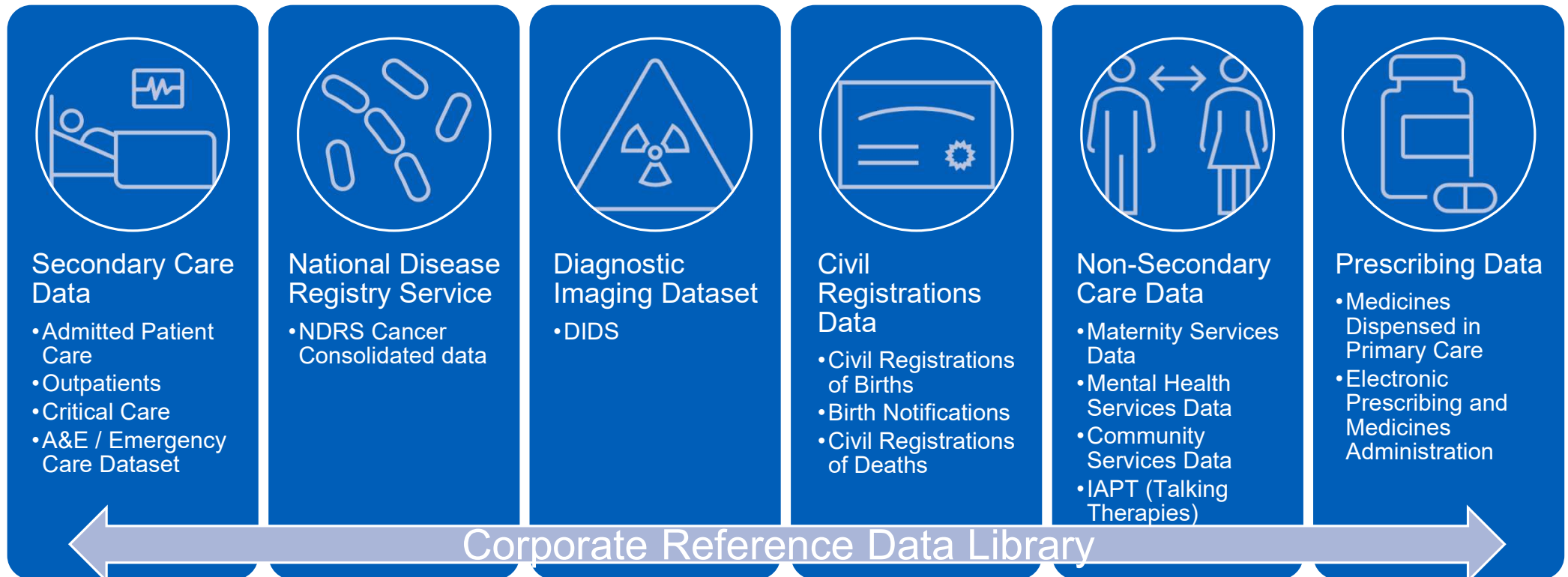


4

Prior to expiry, the research team **prepares** for the end of their access to the data. Access is **closed** on expiry day.

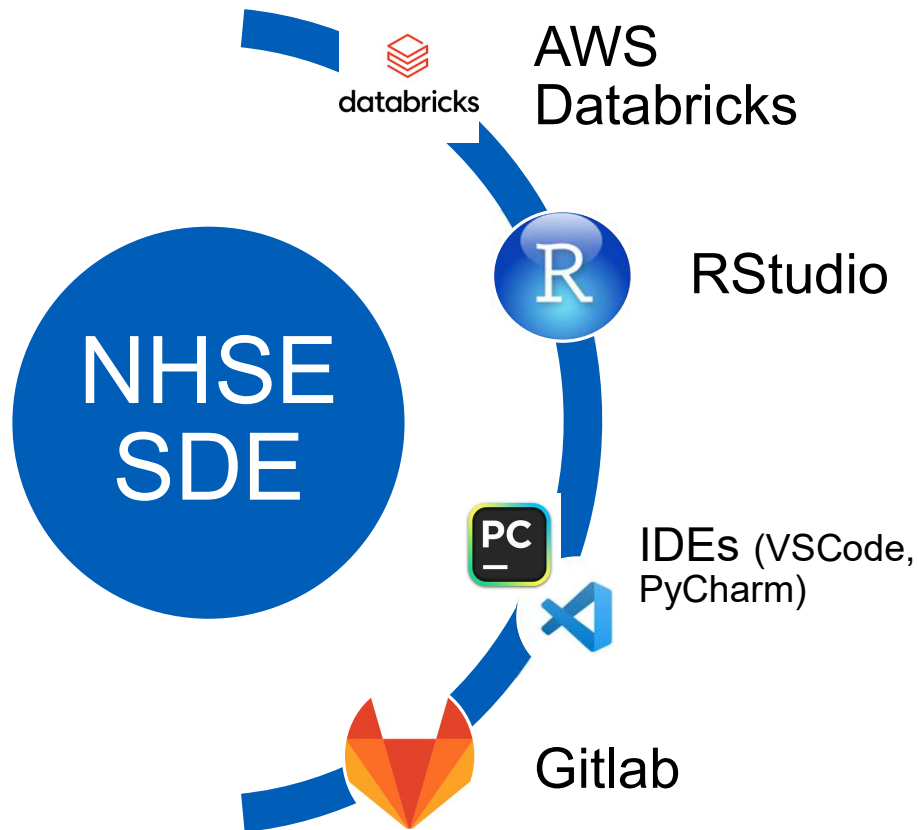


Datasets available via the SDE



Dataset catalogue available here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-sets>

Tools available in the SDE



Available upon request

SDE Service Capabilities

Current

- Dataset minimisation by cohort
 - Bring Your Own
 - Bespoke
- Output Checking Service
- Import Reference Data
- DSA Archival
- Demo Secure Workspace

Upcoming

- Bring Your Own Research Data
- Bring Your Own Code

SDE Service Teams



Data Wranglers

- Provision required datasets
- Provide dataset-specific data dictionaries and summary statistics
- Maintain library of example notebooks
- Produce curated assets
- Support researchers from expression of interest/feasibility questions until project completion



SDE Customer Service Team

- Check all Input & Output Requests for PID
- Check all Output Requests comply with Disclosure Control rules
- Feasibility calls and on-boarding calls
- Invoicing – monthly/quarterly



Platform Engineers

- Respond to incidents reported by users
- Maintain the SDE platform's tools and infrastructure
- Respond to enhancement requests from users
- Install additional packages, when needed

SDE User Roles

User Managers

- No access to data
- Non-chargeable role
- Responsible for managing user analyst accounts according to project's timelines and budget

User Analysts

- Access to data
- Chargeable role
- Mandatory online induction prior to data access
- Responsible for conducting the analysis project

SDE Service Costs

Working example – total charge £41,685 (excl. VAT)

- 3-year agreement
- 5 datasets for 5 historical years
- Access & service charges for 2 user analysts

Health Data Access charges

(invoiced upfront upon DSA signature)

- Application charges (£1,320)
- Annual review fee (£1,280)
- Provisioning of data (£3,050)
- Historic years of data (£175)
- Refreshes of data (£4,140)
- **Total HDA charges (£9,965)**

SDE charges

(invoiced quarterly in arrears based on usage)

- One-off secure workspace set-up fee (£400)
- SDE User Access & Service charges total for 3 years and 2 user analysts at £435 per user per month (£31,320)
- **Total SDE charges (£31,720)**

More information & contact details



Email

- england.sdeservice@nhs.net



Website

- <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/secure-data-environment-service>