

Information Standards Notice – Change

Acting under delegated authority from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, the Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB) has approved a change to an existing information standard for publication under section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

You must comply with the change to this standard by the full conformance date specified below.

Standard details	
DAPB unique identifier	DAPB0086 Amd 21/2023
Name	Data Security and Protection Toolkit Version 6.0
Approval date	27 July 2023
Publication date	18 August 2023
Standard definition	
Description	<p>The Data Security and Protection (DSP) Toolkit is an online tool that enables relevant organisations to measure their performance against the data security and information governance requirements mandated by the Department of Health and Social Care, notably the 10 data security standards set by the National Data Guardian.</p> <p>All organisations that have access to NHS patient data and systems must use this Toolkit to provide assurance that they are practising good data security and that personal information is handled correctly. Such organisations are required to carry out self-assessments of their compliance against the assertions and evidence contained within the DSP Toolkit.</p> <p>While some elements are mandatory, the DSP Toolkit also provides a mechanism for organisations to continually monitor their own performance and so be able to evidence improvement over time against recommended elements</p>
About this change	<p>The DSP Toolkit standard is reviewed annually. The changes for 2023-24 are to further align with policy requirements and improve the clarity of language used in the toolkit</p> <p>Changes have been made to:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reflect feedback from stakeholders and users of the DSPT • Make specific improvements on Multifactor authentication to reflect updated policy • Re-categorise key IT System Providers as category 1 organisations • Update the requirement for staff training to allow larger organisations more flexibility on how it is delivered <p>A full list of changes can be found in the Change Specification.</p>
Scope (Health and Social Care Act 2012)	Health Services, NHS Services, Adult Social Care
Applies to	<p>DSP Toolkit assessments must be completed and published by all organisations which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have access to NHS patients and/or to their information • provide support services directly to an NHS organisation • have either direct or indirect access to national informatics services. <p>This includes social care providers that provide care through the NHS Standard Contract.</p> <p>In addition, completion of the DSP Toolkit is obligatory for any party seeking approval for access to NHS patient information from either the Confidentiality Advisory Group or NHS England.</p>
Legal authority	<p>This information standard is published under section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.</p> <p>This information standard is the subject of Directions under section 254 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, from [NHS England] [the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care] to NHS Digital (now NHS England), published on the NHS England website</p>
Link to further documentation	<p>The Change Specification, Requirements Specification and Implementation Guidance are available on the NHS England website: www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb0086</p>

	Access to the DSP Toolkit is through a dedicated website: https://www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/
Contacts	
Sponsor	Phil Huggins, National Chief Information Security Officer for Health and Care, Department of Health and Social Care
SRO	Michael Owen, Deputy Director, Cyber Operations, NHS England
Business Lead	John Hodson
Help Desk	Full contact details – email, phone and self-service portal – are available on the DSP Toolkit website: www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/Home/Contact
Dates	
Implementation date	01 August 2023
Full conformance date	30 June 2024
Post Implementation Review date	30 June 2025

The controlled version of this Information Standards Notice is published on the NHS England website: www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/isns