

## Information Standards Notice – Change

Acting on behalf of the Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB) which holds delegated authority from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, the Data Alliance Partnership Sub Board (DAPSB) 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 36/2021
Name	Data Security and Protection Toolkit, Version 4.0
Approval date	6 July 2021
Publication date	20 July 2021
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. This 2021-22 release builds on the work and learning from 2020-21. Changes have been made to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• incorporate NHSX ‘Information Governance simplification’ feedback into the DSP Toolkit</li> <li>• rationalise evidence items where they are now considered business as usual, or where there is overlap between evidence items</li> <li>• update technical requirements to reflect the current threat landscape</li> <li>• map requirements to the Information Commissioner’s Office Data Protection Self Assessment</li> <li>• improve assessment of Unsupported Operating systems and asset criticality</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>move Commissioning Support Units (CSUs) from Category 2 to Category 1.</li> </ul> <p>A full list of changes can be found in Appendix A of 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"> <li>have access to NHS patients and/or to their information</li> <li>provide support services directly to an NHS organisation</li> <li>have either direct or indirect access to national informatics services.</li> </ul> <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 Digital.</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 sections 254 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, from the Department of Health and Social Care to NHS Digital. <a href="#">The Directions are published on the NHS Digital website.</a></p>
Link to further documentation	<p>The Change Specification, Requirements Specification and Implementation Guidance are available on the NHS Digital website: <a href="http://www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb0086">www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb0086</a></p> <p>Access to the DSP Toolkit is through a dedicated website: <a href="https://www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/">https://www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/</a></p>
<b>Contacts</b>	
Sponsors	Karen Dooley, Deputy Director of Cyber Security, NHSX Dawn Monaghan, Head of Information Governance Policy, NHSX
SRO	Neil Bennett, Chief Information Security Officer, NHS Digital
Business Lead	David Ingham, Senior Project Manager – Data Security Centre NHS Digital
Help Desk	Full contact details – email, phone and self-service portal – are available on the DSP Toolkit website: <a href="http://www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/Home/Contact">www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/Home/Contact</a>
<b>Dates</b>	
Implementation and conformance dates	This release of the DSP Toolkit is for use in the 2021-22 financial year. All relevant organisations must have completed a DSP Toolkit assessment by 30 June 2022.
Post Implementation Review date	30 June 2023

The controlled version of this Information Standards Notice is published on the NHS Digital website: [www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/isns](http://www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/isns)