

Information Standards Notice – Change

Following recommendation by the Standardisation Committee for Care Information (SCCI), the Department of Health has approved a change to an existing information standard formerly approved by the Information Standards Board for Health and Social Care (ISB), allowing publication under section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

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

Further information about SCCI is available on www.content.digital.nhs.uk/ISCE or by emailing scci@nhs.net

Standard details	
SCCI unique identifier	SCCI1596 Amd 3/2016
Name	Secure Email, Version 2.0
Acceptance date	27 February 2017
Approval date	3 March 2017
Publication date	15 March 2017
Standard definition	
Description	<p>This information standard defines the minimum non-functional requirements for a secure email service, covering the storage and transmission of email. This is the basic level for the storage and transmission of patient identifiable data by an email system.</p> <p>It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the information security of the email service • transfer of sensitive information over insecure email • access from the Internet or mobile devices • exchange of information outside the boundaries of the secure standard. <p>It excludes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • security standards for document archives • specific technical solutions for communicating with insecure email services • email systems that are not intended for the use of personal identifiable information • technical security controls that might be used to make a more secure email system, for example two factor authentication, digital signatures.
About this Change	
	This release introduces changes to a number of the requirements, following updates to Cabinet Office guidance.

	<p>These relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 27001 updated to the 2013 version • removal of CESG guidance references – IS1/IS2, Business Impact Levels and the CLAS scheme • removal of ISB 1596 tailored Baseline Control Set • inclusion of additional Cabinet Office guidance: email security/authenticity controls (TLS, SPF, DKIM, DMARC) • removal of the need to have a PSN code of connection • removal of the email router. <p>The release also allows for the uplift of the current ISB 1596 Secure Email information standard to comply with the Health and Social Care Act 2012.</p>
Scope (Health and Social Care Act 2012)	Health Services, NHS Services, Adult Social Care
Applies to	This information standard applies to all health and care organisations commissioning and/or providing publicly funded health, public health or adult social care.
Impacts Upon	Implementation of the change to this information standard impacts all IT Service Providers of email systems to the above care providers and commissioners; IT Service Providers should work with their customers to determine necessary changes.
Legal authority	This information standard is published under section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
Link to further documentation	<p>The Requirements Specification, Implementation Guidance and the Change Specification are available on the SCCI webpage: www.content.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/scc1596</p> <p>Further information about Secure Email is available on the NHS Digital website: https://digital.nhs.uk/article/816/NHSmal-and-the-Secure-Email-Standard</p>
Contacts	
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Business Lead	Mohammed Mayet, NHS Digital
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Dates	
Full conformance date	Conformance with this information standard is due by September 2017. This Notice does not extend this conformance date.
Post Implementation Review date	September 2018

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