

## Reshaping how health and care data is used (DHSC proposals)

This factsheet summarises the Department of Health and Social Care's (DHSC) proposals, set out in [Data saves lives: reshaping health and social care with data](#), to better use data across the health and care system.

### Health and care staff



Staff should be better equipped with the data and tools that they need to use data.

- **Expand Shared Care Records (ShCRs/LHCRs):** within each [ICS](#) and between GP practice and secondary care (2021) for social care (2022) and other settings (by 2024).
- **The existing legal duty to share information to be reinforced:** to support direct care. Further legislation should be issued to better enable the proportionate sharing of data by health and care staff.
- **A new duty to share anonymised health data to be introduced:** additional legislation so that organisations within the health and care system would share anonymous data for the benefit of the whole system.
- **NHSX to simplify data security guidance** from central bodies and expand related e-learning.

### Central government and the NHS



NHS and government plans will support the use of health data.

- **Central data will be better used** to improve health outcomes, reduce health inequalities, and for other public health purposes. New standards within systems will enable exchange of patient data regarding, allergies, procedures, problems, observations, encounters, medications and immunisations data.
- **Personal child health records will be digitised** (2023).
- **Patients to have access to their record:** to digitally update their contact details and to decide data sharing preferences.
- **A new NHS transparency statement to be published** (2022).
- **Stakeholders and the public will be engaged** regarding data proposals and to check appropriate safeguards are in place.
- **Data collections will be rationalised to reduce burden for health and care staff** (this financial year and to be reviewed annually). The [Data Alliance Partnership](#) to support less burden on frontline staff. Central government agencies across devolved administrations to improve data linkage.

### Patients



Patients should be able to understand and control what data is shared and how. Patients should not have to repeat information to different health and care staff.

- **NHS login programme expansion:** to reduce patient log-in burden with a trusted platform.
- **NHS Account for patients to roll out:** to bring patient details from different services into a collective individual account, including information found in appointment bookings, vaccination status, health records and personalised wellness services. An account standard (API) will be made available for suppliers to integrate with.
- **Digital access to health data for patients:** such as test results, medications, procedures and care plans from all parts of health and care.
- **Improved Patient Facing Services (PFS):** advances in the use of [PFS](#) to manage appointments, order medicines and speak with health and care staff.
- **Ability to share additional data expanded:** such as data about wellbeing, sleep, food, exercise and genomic information.

### Standards and suppliers working with the NHS



Work with suppliers, particularly on [standards](#), will improve patient outcomes and health and care staff experiences.

- **New legislation will enable the government to mandate standards for how data is collected and stored:** so that data flows through the system in a more usable way.
- **A standards roadmap will be published and maintained:** by working with suppliers and procurement frameworks to ensure effective standards within clinical and data systems (April 2022).
- **The adoption of standards by suppliers to be visible** (March 2022).
- **A core of modern health IT standards to be developed:** UK-wide Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) profiles (late 2021).
- **Supplier standards guidance to be published:** the 'Value Sharing Framework and Guidance' (summer 2021) to assist supplier work with NHS.
- **Standards (APIs) that can be better accessed over the internet to be developed:** for cloud-based clinical systems, web pages and [apps](#), and for both patients and clinicians to access patient data (2022).
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI) innovating companies to be supported:** such as via award schemes (through 2026).

Read more on the [wider policy](#) and at [psnc.org.uk/itpolicy](https://psnc.org.uk/itpolicy). Feed in your thoughts on about the proposals by [completing the related NHSX survey](#) (closing on 23rd July 2021) to help shape future policy.