

NEWSLETTER



Sussex
Digital
In-Reach
Team

Supporting Care Providers in Sussex

Welcome to The Sussex Digital Team Newsletter. We hope you find the information here helpful as you explore and grow your digital journey within your care setting. QR codes and website links are available in this newsletter to enable you to access more information.

FREE Digital Healthcare Check

A free check-up for your data and cyber security

Keeping people's information safe is part of everyday care. But with so many other pressures, it can be hard to know whether your data protection and cyber security arrangements are really where they should be.

That is why we are offering a free Data Protection and Cyber Security Healthcheck for social care providers.

This is a friendly, supportive visit, not an inspection. We come to your service to talk through how you use data and technology in practice, what is working well and where there may be opportunities to strengthen things further. There is no judgement, it is simply a conversation about how things work in your service.

During the visit, we will look at four main areas. These include,

- How staff understand their data protection responsibilities,
- How information flows through your service,
- What policies and procedures you have in place and
- What cyber security and business continuity measures you use day to day.



We can also run a simple technical check on Windows computers if you are happy for us to do so.

After the visit, you will receive a short and confidential report with clear feedback and signposting to support if needed. The health check can also be used as evidence for CQC to show proactive work around data security and partnership working, which may help during inspection.

The health check is part of the government funded Better Security Better Care programme, so you can be confident that the advice and guidance is up to date and relevant to social care.

If you would like a bit of reassurance, practical advice or simply a chance to talk things through with someone who understands the sector, this is a great opportunity.

To find out more or to book your free health check, just get in touch with us at nada@sussexdigitalteam.co.uk

We would be very happy to support you.

SESSION 1: DIGITAL WORKING IN SOCIAL CARE – WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

WHEN TECHNOLOGY IS EMBEDDED SEAMLESSLY INTO CARE AND SUPPORT IT CAN BE TRANSFORMATIVE, IMPROVING PEOPLE'S QUALITY OF LIFE AND ENSURING INFORMATION IS READILY AVAILABLE TO HELP STAFF PROVIDE THE RIGHT CARE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME.

Join us on Wednesday 11th February

Understand what “good” digital working looks like in care homes and domiciliary care, using a guided self-assessment. Digital working is now part of everyday life in social care, yet many providers are unsure what “good” actually looks like in practice and how this links to quality, safety, and CQC assessment expectations.

This 45-minute interactive session introduces a recognised digital self-assessment approach for adult social care, helping providers understand the key elements of good digital working. The session focuses on people, practice, and leadership, rather than technology alone.

Participants will be guided through the first part of a structured self-assessment, enabling them to reflect on their organisation's current digital practice in a supportive, non-judgemental way.



SESSION BENEFITS

This session will help you:

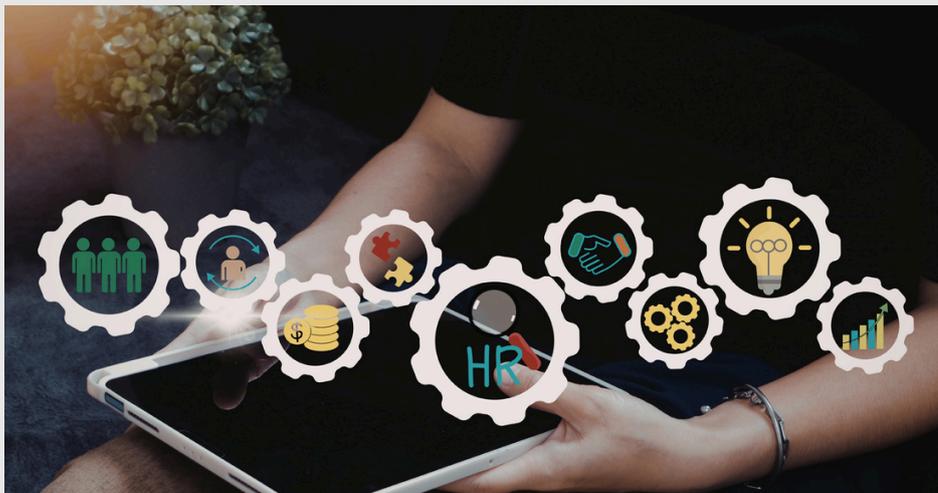
- Understand what “good” digital working looks like in social care
- Explore digital leadership, staff confidence and everyday use of digital systems
- Identify strengths and early improvement areas
- Build confidence in discussing digital practice in a CQC assessment context



[PLEASE USE THIS BOOKING LINK TO SECURE YOUR PLACE](#)

SESSION 2: FROM SELF-ASSESSMENT TO ACTION

WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY FROM 2:30 PM TO 3:30 PM



Complete your digital self-assessment and turn insight into achievable improvements for your care organisation.

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STRENGTHENING ASSURANCE BEYOND DSPT

The Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT) is now a **MANDATORY REQUIREMENT** for adult social care and an important starting point for protecting information properly. It is sector specific and looks at both data protection and cyber security, recognising the realities of how care services work.

One of the real strengths of DSPT is that it is **free to complete** and well supported. There is a lot of guidance available, such as **Sussex Digital In reach team** and **Digital Care Hub** are on hand to help providers understand what is needed and how to make progress. For most services, the DSPT reflects things you are already doing, even if they are not always written down yet.



DSPT also matters because it acts as a **gateway to wider digital services**. Completing it allows care providers to access important tools such as NHSmail, proxy medication ordering, GP Connect and shared care records. These services support safer information sharing and better joined up care, but they all rely on confidence that data is being handled securely.

Alongside DSPT, some providers choose to strengthen their assurance further by working towards **Cyber Essentials or Cyber Essentials Plus**, schemes delivered by IASME and promoted within the care sector by organisations such as **South East Cyber Resilience Centre**

While DSPT takes a broad view of data protection and cyber security across the organisation, Cyber Essentials focuses more closely on the technical controls that protect systems and devices.

These include:

- keeping systems updated
- protecting against malware and managing access to systems.
- Cyber Essentials Plus adds independent testing to confirm that these protections are working in practice.

Used together, DSPT and Cyber Essentials can give care providers stronger assurance, greater confidence and clearer evidence of good governance.

DSPT REMAINS THE FOUNDATION, WITH CYBER ESSENTIALS OFFERING AN ADDITIONAL LAYER OF REASSURANCE FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO GO FURTHER.

Taking a structured approach to assurance does not have to be complicated. Starting with DSPT and building from there can help protect information, support digital services and strengthen trust with people who use your service, staff and partners alike.

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR DSPT IN PERSON WORKSHOPS!

ARE YOU STILL IN NEED OF REGISTERING FOR THE DATA SECURITY PROTECTION TOOLKIT? ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE PUBLISHING? WHY NOT JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR IN PERSON WORKSHOPS?



Wednesday 11th February 2026
Freedom Works: The Courtyard,
Horsham
2.30pm - 4.30pm
[Book Here](#)



Tuesday 10th March 2026
Freedom Works - Astral Towers,
Crawley
2.30pm - 4.30pm
[Book Here](#)



THERE IS LIMITED AVAILBILITY SO PLEASE BOOK NOW TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE!

What's in it for you?

This workshop is designed for social care providers who want to publish or republish their DSPT (Data Security and Protection Toolkit).

We will take you through each section of the toolkit, step by step, providing practical guidance on how to meet the required standards.

Whether you're publishing your DSPT for the first time or updating it, this session will give you the hands-on support you need to ensure your toolkit is complete, compliant, and ready for submission.

This workshop isn't just about ticking boxes – it's about making the toolkit a valuable, actionable tool that improves your service's data security and care practices.

FREE EVENTS THIS MONTH

Don't forget to book onto our FREE online events this month. Use the QR codes to go straight to each booking page.




Tuesday 3rd February
Practical Use of Microsoft 365 Copilot in Social Care

What are chatbots and how can I use tools such as ChatGpt safely to support my day to day work.



Tuesday 10th February
Digital Office Skills - Outlook

A hands-on workshop for social care staff to learn practical Outlook skills. Bring your laptop & work along with the trainer



Thursday 12th February
Managing Personal Devices at Work - A Practical Session

Integrate personal devices into the workplace while safeguarding data and ensuring compliance



Tuesday 24th February
Your Suppliers, Your Risk: Cyber Security Responsibilities in Social Care

Essential guidance on managing supply chain cyber risks for social care providers.



Thursday 26th February
Are You Compliant? Secure Mail Requirements for Adult Social Care

Understand secure email requirements for social care, what systems are compliant and how to avoid data breaches



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CareLineLive

Wednesday 25 February

CareLineLive Lunch & Learn session #1 - Rostering

We're pleased to invite Sussex home care providers to a relaxed Lunch & Learn session focused on getting more from digital care systems — whether you're already using CareLineLive or just beginning to explore digital options.

We're working in partnership with CareLineLive to deliver a short series of informal, practical sessions designed to help providers feel more confident using digital tools and understand the real difference they can make in day-to-day care delivery.

This first session will focus on digital rostering — what it is, how it works in practice, and how it can support more efficient, flexible, and compliant home care services.



Person Centred Software



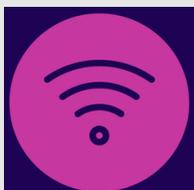
Tuesday 24th February

Lunch and Learn with PCS DSCR

Join us for a virtual Lunch & Learn session with PCS DSCR offering peer support, Q&A and practical insights for social care providers.

Learning Hour with PCS Digital Social Care Record

This is an informal Learning Hour session designed exclusively for social care providers in Sussex using the PCS DSCR system.



*Book!
Now!*

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS....



Brighton and Hove Registered Managers Network meeting

Wednesday 18th February

Delivered in partnership with Skills for Care we are delighted to be co-hosting the first RM network meeting for 2026.

Agenda includes:

- Medicines Optimisation
- Local Skills Improvement Plan for 2026; and
- Neighbourhood Working

There will also be updates from Skills for Care, Brighton and Hove Partners in Care (BHPIC) and ample opportunity to share learning and local matters.



Smarter Social Care: AI in Action

Wednesday 4th February

This webinar will introduce care providers to the safe, practical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in adult social care.



INTEROPERABILITY IN SOCIAL CARE: FROM NATIONAL POLICY TO BETTER CARE

Tuesday 24th February

This webinar is part of our Digital Care: In Focus programme, where we focus on a key topic each month. During February we will be exploring Interoperability.

Cyber in Care : Resilience, Recovery & Incident Response

Wednesday 25th February

When cyber incidents strike, care providers need more than good intentions, they need a plan.



FREE SUPPORT

We offer free support to help you to complete your DSPT. This can be in the form of a visit to your premises, an online meeting, a local drop in event or our very popular online webinars.

All DSPT support offered is part of the Better Security, Better Care programme, funded by NHS Transformation Directorate to support data and cyber security across the adult social care provider sector.



FACEBOOK



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YOU TUBE



Please visit our Facebook and You Tube pages to ensure you are always kept up to date with news and events!!

FOLLOW US NOW AND SHARE OUR PAGE WITH OTHERS

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