



## **It's my Information – Keep it Safe**

Most people are unaware of how their information is used: care sector can do more!

Michelle Corrigan, Programme Director of Better Security, Better Care explores why care providers need to do more to share with service users how their information is used.

We're all more aware of how our information is used.

We've seen how our online searches and purchases, or what we share about ourselves on social media can be used to target us with information (and misinformation).

But what about the often very personal details that we share about our health and care needs? Do we really consider how that information is managed?

According to a project – It's my information: Keep it safe – which the Better Security, Better Care programme commissioned from the Liverpool Social Care Partnership, most people don't.

But once they are made aware of the issue, they recognise it as really important, and it could impact on their choice of care services.



For example, one person involved in the project told us, 'I never thought about information safety influencing my choice of care providers before now, but it is concerning because of cyber-crimes, cloning of IDs, wars and so on. It is something that I would now 100% take into account.'

Read the full article [here](#)

Care providers need to prepare now to ensure they have good systems in place – and be prepared to explain to people looking for care what these systems are.

The most comprehensive and well-recognised quality mark is having an up-to-date Data Security and Protection Toolkit in place. The Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT) is the official, comprehensive way for care providers to assess and demonstrate how they are protecting people's information.

Since this study was carried out, we've introduced a DSPT Certificate so that providers who complete the toolkit can easily show the standard they have met.

And of course, we continue to offer free, expert support to help all providers, whatever their size or service, to complete the DSPT.

The DSPT certificate is a quick and visual way to demonstrate DSPT compliance.



Print your certificate and display it on your premises.

Upload it to your website. It could sit alongside your Privacy Notice, or alongside other quality markers and awards that you have received.

Share it with people seeking care.

Use it as evidence where relevant for the Care Quality Commission, commissioners, NHS partners, bids, data suppliers etc.

Follow the discussion on twitter: #ItsMyInfoKeepItSafe

DSPT Toolkit