NEWSLETTER

Sussex Digital In-Reach Team
Supporting Care Providers in Sussex

Welcome to The Sussex Digital Team Newsletter. We hope you find this information helpful in enhancing your Digital Journey within your Care Home and Home Care establishments. QR codes and website links are available in this newsletter to enable you to access more information.

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON.....

If you run an adult social care service in England, it's time to get ready for the 30th June 2025 deadline to update your Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT).

The DSPT isn't just a box-ticking exercise. It's an essential, annual self-assessment that shows you're taking data protection and cyber security seriously – and that you're following good practice to keep people's confidential information safe.

Whether you're completing the DSPT for the first time or republishing it for another year, you don't have to do it alone We can help with free support, guidance and training one to one.

Contact Natasha now to book your FREE session: **Book now**

Why you must update your DSPT every year

Even if you completed the DSPT last year, it must be reviewed and republished at least annually, as circumstances can change. You might have implemented new IT systems, modified your services, or hired new staff—all of which impact how you handle data and what should be included in your DSPT. If you don't keep your submission up to date, it can't be used as proof of compliance, which could put your contracts and reputation at risk.

Not updating your DSPT could also have a knock-on effect when you're inspected. The Care Quality Commission (CQC) looks at how you manage data and digital security, and the DSPT is referenced as evidence that your policies, systems and training are in place.

On the other hand, keeping your DSPT up to date helps you:
- Show that you comply with data protection law
- Give confidence to people who use your services, their families and your staff
- Access NHSmail and shared care records
- Meet requirements for NHS and local authority contracts
- Strengthen your protection against cyber threats

DSPT - WHY SHOULD YOU HAVE IT?

The DSPT is a free, online self-assessment of health and social care providers' data security and protection policies, procedures and processes.

It is not just about technology and digital records – it is about any information that care providers hold about any person – staff, clients, funders, partners or visitors – including paper records.

By answering a series of questions, care providers can demonstrate that they are compliant with data protection legislation, the health and social care data security standards, and good practice.

The DSPT was originally developed by the NHS and updated in consultation with care providers to ensure it is social-care friendly.

Central and local government bodies, local authority and CCG commissioners, the Care Quality Commission and the National Data Guardian recognise it as the official tool to evaluate your compliance with legal requirements, Data Security Standards and good practice. You can read more about the background of DSPT on **The Digital Care Hub's website**

**Republish your DSPT
to standards met
in your lunch hour.**

THIS MONTHS FREE EVENT DATES TO REPUBLISH YOUR DSPT

**TUESDAY 3RD JUNE
TUESDAY 10TH JUNE
TUESDAY 17TH JUNE
TUESDAY 24TH JUNE**

SECURE YOUR PLACE BY BOOKING THROUGH OUR EVENTBRITE PAGE

ARE YOUR STAFF TRAINED WITH DATA SECURITY?

It is important to ensure that your staff have completed data security training. The training helps them to understand their responsibilities with data protection and data security.

The Digital Care Hub have Free eLearning courses on data security and protection for adult social care providers. You can **book here**

FREE In-Person Data Security and Protection Training for Front-Line Staff

From January 2025, care providers in Sussex can access face-to-face Data Security and Protection training for their staff, completely free
of charge, thanks to funding from the Digital Care Hub.
This course, developed by the Better Security, Better Care programme, supports care providers in meeting the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT) requirements.

The DSPT specifies:

- **95% of staff must complete annual data protection training.**
- **A minimum score of 80% in an assessment is required.**
- **Course Overview**
- **Module 1: Staff responsibilities and people's rights.**
- **Module 2: Sharing, recording, and securely disposing of data.**
- **Module 3: Preventing fraud, scams, and maintaining device and paper record security.**
- **Module 4: Managing and responding to data breaches.**
- **Assessment**

Participants will complete a short assessment to demonstrate understanding.
Arrange your training session for January 2025 onwards by contacting us today.
nada@westsussexpartnersincare.org

A NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR THE IN REACH TEAM

We're excited to be working in partnership with the Digital Care Hub to deliver a brand-new series of national webinars, designed and developed entirely by our team. These sessions take a deep dive into some of the more challenging aspects of the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT)—but with a fresh, practical perspective.

What sets these webinars apart is that they're shaped by real-world experience, seen through the eyes of someone who has spent over 25 years working in social care. They're not just about ticking boxes—they're about understanding what the DSPT really means in everyday practice.

Delivered by our expert trainer, the sessions have been met with overwhelmingly positive feedback. In fact, many attendees have described them as the best training they've ever received, with 100% positive feedback across the board.

Come and join us, your local Sussex team, as we unpack the DSPT together—bringing you clear, useful guidance and the confidence to meet your data security responsibilities with ease. You can view the events by ***clicking here***

MORE 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.

eventbrite

Tuesday 3rd , 10th , 17th, 24th June
Bite-Sized NHSMail: Essential Tips for Social Care Providers

A series of quick, practical 30-minute sessions showing you how to manage your NHSMail account and resolve common problems

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Thursday 5th June
MS Excel Tools

Learn how to supercharge your Excel skills with our MS Excel Tools event - discover new tips, tricks, and tools to excel in spreadsheets!

Wednesday 11th June
Practical IT Skills Workshop - IT Systems and Devices

A hands-on workshop exploring essential IT skills for cyber and data security to safeguard your digital world.

Wednesday 11th June
Cyber Attack Simulation: Can Your Care Service Survive These 5 Threats?

Learn how to spot and stop phishing attacks and scams in our event - don't fall for those sneaky tricks!

Wednesday, 18 June

Artificial Intelligence - practical applications in social care

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

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Thursday, 19 June

Business Continuity Plan - cyber attack survival guide

Your go-to guide for navigating and surviving cyber attacks in the care sector

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Book Now!

▶ **LIVE** WEBINAR

Book Now!

CYBER SECURITY - ARE YOU CONFIDENT YOUR CARE HOME CAN SURVIVE AN ATTACK?

You have most likely read articles on the most recent cyber attacks on the well known supermarket chains Marks and Spencers and Co-op and previously Harrods, leading the shops to have empty shelves after a data security breech!

Why this matters to social care

The NCSC's warning focused on attacks that compromised third-party suppliers, affecting multiple well-known high street brands. It's a good example of how one weak link in a supply chain can have a knock-on effect for many other organisations.

Social care providers are not immune to these kinds of risks. Whether it's ordering PPE, groceries, office supplies, or uniforms, many care providers rely on online platforms to keep their services running smoothly. A cyber attack that interrupts your access to suppliers — or compromises your staff's or residents' data — could quickly lead to serious disruption.

In some cases, email addresses used to make purchases or receive receipts may be targeted in phishing attacks, reused in other scams, or leaked in a data breach. If the same passwords are used across different accounts, the risk is even higher.

Steps you can take

There are several practical actions you can take to reduce your risk and improve your ability to respond to incidents.

1. Secure your email systems
2. Review your password reset and IT help desk processes
3. Check your recovery processes
4. Have a business continuity plan
5. Use free tools to improve your cyber resilience

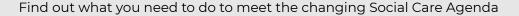You can read more on the **Digital Care Hubs website**

We have FREE online events that you can join this month to ensure that these 5 steps are recognised and you can learn how to reduce your risks! Please book via our Eventbrite page

Sussex Care Showcase 10th September 2025 Brighton Race Course

Why You Should Attend

- Hear the latest on workforce development
- Keep up to date with changing legislation
- Find out what you need to do to meet the changing Social Care Agenda
- Find out how to make the most of funding for training
- Explore strategies to ensure your care services are rated as the best quality
- Gain practical business advice for the future
- Find out how to work towards best outcomes for service users
- Develop your CPD Portfolio.

Find out what you need to do to meet the changing Social Care Agenda

- Business Advice
- Legislation Updates
- Training & Development
- Funding Opportunities

With Access to

- Guidance
- Free Training
- Networking

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FACEBOOK

Did you know that we have our very own Facebook page?

We post daily our FREE event links, relevant news and other exciting media.
Follow our page using this QR code to keep up to date.

Almost at 200 FOLLOWERS!
Supporting care providers in Sussex
www.sussexdigitalteam.co.uk　　support@sussexdigitalteam.co.uk