

Target date set for Shared Care Records across all integrated care systems (ICSs)

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19 October 2020

Please note: the information contained in this legal update is correct as of the original date of publication.

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In addition to setting out specific actions relating to the Covid-19 response and restoration programme, a number of sustainability and transformation partnership (STP) and integrated care systems (ICS) focused actions were outlined. These system actions included developing and implementing a full shared care record for the 'safe flow of patient data between care settings, and the aggregation of data for population health'. The Local Health and Care Records programme has already seen the implementation of shared care records in some areas of the country and now Matthew Gould, CEO of NHS X, has tasked the remainder of the country's STPs and ICSs to get their shared care record systems in place by September 2021.

There is little doubt that the development and implementation of a shared care record will have a number of benefits for clinicians, carers and patients alike. However, the development and implementation of such systems across a number of individual organisations may present a number of legal challenges which will need to be resolved in a relatively short timescale.

STPs, ICSs and individual organisations will need to consider what the impact of implementing a shared care record across organisations with different underlying record and IT systems will be, and how that may impact on existing contractual arrangements. In addition data security and information governance are often referred to as concerns when shared care records are considered.

To discuss the development and implementation of shared care records in your ICS, STP, or organisation and any procurement strategies, contracting options and information governance queries do get in touch with our national Health Tech team.

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