



## Cyber Security Policy

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Version                           | 3.2  |
| Designation of Policy Author(s)   | Head of Information Governance and Records |
| Policy Development Contributor(s) | Head of Technology                         |
| Designation of Sponsor            | Chief Information Officer                  |
| Responsible Committee             | Information Governance Committee           |
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| Review date                       | 31/03/2024                                 |
| Coverage                          | Trust Wide                                 |

The Trust is committed to a duty of candour by ensuring that all interactions with patients, relatives, carers, the general public, commissioners, governors, staff and regulators are honest, open, transparent and appropriate and conducted in a timely manner. These interactions be they verbal, written or electronic will be conducted in line with the NPSA, 'Being Open' alert, (NPSA/2009/PSA003 available at [www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/beingopen](http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/beingopen) and other relevant regulatory standards and prevailing legislation and NHS constitution)

It is essential in communications with patients that when mistakes are made and/or patients have a poor experience that this is explained in a plain language manner making a clear apology for any harm or distress caused.

The Trust will monitor compliance with the principles of both the duty of candour and being open NPSA alert through analysis of claims, complaints and serious untoward incidents recorded within the Ulysses Risk Management System.

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## 1 Executive Summary

### 1.1 Applicability and Scope

- i. This policy covers all aspects of information within the organisation, including (but not limited to) patient/client/service user information, personnel information, organisational information
- ii. This Policy covers all Information systems purchased, developed and managed by/on behalf of, the organisation and any individual directly employed or any individual undertaking activity under the control or direction of the organisation either directly or via a 3<sup>rd</sup> party through a formal contractual arrangement.
- iii. This Policy covers all Trust managed technologies including, but not limited to the Trust network, end user computing (EUC), devices (mobile phones, computer, tablets etc.), servers, backups, operating systems and systems (application, software and databases)

## 2 Introduction

- i. The Trust regards all person identifiable information that it holds or processes as confidential and will implement and maintain policies to ensure compliance with all necessary mandatory obligations
- ii. The Trust recognises the importance of safe and secure information, both in terms of the management of systems and the efficient management of services and resources. Effective information security plays a key part in supporting clinical governance, service planning and performance management
- iii. Effective Information security gives assurance to the Trust and to individuals that personal information is dealt with legally, securely, efficiently and effectively in order to deliver the best possible care.
- iv. The Trust will ensure that information is efficiently managed, and that appropriate policies, procedures and management accountability and structures provide a robust governance framework for information security

## 3 Policy Objectives

- i. To define the standards and Trust rules for all individuals in respect of Cyber Security

## 4 Duties and Responsibilities

- 4.1 The Senior Information Risk Owner
  - Is accountable for Information Governance and Information Security at a Trust level, which includes the risk assessment process for information risk, including review of annual information risk assessments that support and inform the Statement of Internal Control.
  - Reviews and approve actions in respect of identified information risks
  - Ensures that the organisation's approach to information risk is effective in terms of resource, commitment and execution

- Sets the overall objectives for Information Security for the Trust

#### 4.3 Chief Information Officer

- Takes overall responsibility for IT Services for the Trust
- Has overall responsibility for Information Security for the Trust
- Ensures the overall approach taken to managing Information Security, Information Systems and Information technology is appropriate
- Supports the implementation of Information Security, Information Systems and Information technology overall objectives as directed by the Senior Information Risk Owner

#### 4.4 Head of Technology

- Is responsible for the management of Information Security across the Trust.
- Monitors local responses to Information Security incidents and provide support in developing proportionate and effective responses to manage risk.
- To be responsible, as operational Lead, for IT services and the associated security risks.
- Manages the Trust Information Technology infrastructure on a day to day basis as directed by the Chief Information Officer

## 5 Main Provisions

### 5.1 General Provisions

- The Trust will deploy all reasonable and necessary safeguards to protect the Trust from compromise by Virus, Malware or any other cyber security threat to ensure maximum protection for the Trust network infrastructure.
- The Trust will ensure all necessary backups of the Trust network infrastructure are carried out to ensure maximum protection for the Trust network infrastructure. Backup processes and schedules will be implemented in accordance with the Trust backup policy.
- The Trust will ensure that the Trust virus protection and Firewalls are configured, maintained and are kept sufficiently updated to provide ensure maximum protection for the Trust network infrastructure
- The Trust will ensure that all information technology related maintenance contracts, which protect the Trust network infrastructure, are valid, current, relevant, appropriate and sufficient to ensure maximum protection for the Trust network infrastructure
- The Trust will ensure that, where standards are to be implemented, that there shall be no differential made between those that are directly employed by the Trust and those that are not, regardless of who they are employed by or the nature of their work
- Unless there are specific reasons not to, the Trust will adopt two-factor authentication on all systems and in all circumstances. Where this is not possible then the Trust will implement supplemental technical controls in order to seek to optimise information security.

## **5.2 Reviewing Access Privileges**

- i. The Head of Technology will ensure that the access rights that individuals have been granted is reviewed on a periodic basis to ensure the rights granted are up to date according to the role they are in.
- ii. The Head of Technology will ensure that administrator and super-user accounts are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that all individuals that have such accounts should have those accounts. The review will, as a minimum, be conducted quarterly.
- iii. The Head of Technology will ensure that Service accounts are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they are still active accounts, are still required and are not dormant. The review will, as a minimum, be conducted quarterly.
- iv. The Head of Technology will ensure that generic accounts are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they are still active accounts and have not, by their nature, created any additional information security risks since they were last reviewed. The review will, as a minimum, be conducted quarterly.

## **5.3 Service Accounts**

- i. A service account, which is a user account created explicitly to provide a security context for services running on operating systems. The security context determines the service's ability to access local and network resources.
- ii. Service accounts, which are user accounts created explicitly to provide security context for services running on operating systems, can only be given by an Approving Officer.

## **5.4 Generic Accounts**

- i. Generic accounts, which are user accounts created explicitly to provide access to a device or system, will, themselves, have their own independent non-generic authentication.
- ii. Approval for the creation of generic accounts can only be given by an Approving Officer

## **5.5 System Hardening, Patching and Security General Approach**

- i. Access Controls
  - a. The Trust will ensure that it complies with established best practice guidelines in respect of the management of passwords and lockout times.
  - b. Guest accounts shall be either disabled or renamed and default passwords shall be changed regularly and frequently
- ii. Security Patching (Update Installation)
  - a. The Trust will deploy patching onto all servers, end user devices, mobile devices, medical devices and the network infrastructure. Patching shall be carried out on demand, as required or as scheduled in order to ensure optimal system security.

- b. Issues that may require escalation shall be escalated as considered necessary by IM&T Management
- iii. Network Configuration and Protection
  - a. The Trust will ensure that devices and systems are protected by Firewalls. Key devices (i.e. server, firewalls, and printers) will, where necessary, have a static Internet Protocol (IP) address so that clients can reliably find them.
  - b. Unnecessary IP ports will be disabled and firewalls rules will be regularly reviewed and documented
- iv. Encryption
  - a. Encryption will be implemented to protect data in transit and at rest and will be regularly reviewed.
- v. Remote Administration and Access
  - a. Only approved administrators will be allowed access to configure or control Trust devices and systems. 3<sup>rd</sup> party administrators will use an appropriate and Trust approved tool when accessing Trust devices for administrative purposes. Access will be restricted to key directories on servers and computers
- vi. Software and Programmes
  - a. Where appropriate and necessary, anti-virus software will be installed and unnecessary programmes will be removed. Unsupported software shall be updated to a supported version or the software will be removed unless there are over-riding operational reasons not to.
  - b. The Senior Information Risk Owner shall approve the continued use of unsupported software. Where there is more than one version of the same application then they can continue to be used so long as they continue to be supported or have been given approval to continue to be used by the Senior Information Risk Owner
- vii. Services
  - a. Unnecessary services will be disabled
- viii. Databases
  - a. For SQL Server databases, the System Administrator (SA) account shall not be used and will, where identified, be renamed and disabled. Native Windows Authentication will be enabled where possible and Mixed Mode Authentication will be disabled where Native Windows Authentication is enabled.
  - b. Internal SQL accounts shall, for the purposes of password standards, be considered privileged accounts. Internal SQL logging shall be configured to alert on excessive failed logons.
  - c. Guest accounts shall be removed or disabled having taken due account of any migrations where there is a risk that settings are inadvertently replicated. Legacy account will be removed when no longer needed. ODBC access will be constrained to specific IP ranges
- ix. System Auditing and Monitoring
  - a. Unless there are legitimate operational needs to do so and there is evidence of appropriate authorisation, changes shall only proceed where approval has been granted

by the Change Advisory Board (CAB). Appropriate logging and monitoring shall be enabled to support the investigation, remediation and rectification of identified issues.

- x. Device and System Backup
  - a. Devices and systems that require backup will be backed up

## **5.6 Externally Hosted Systems and Suppliers**

- i. In terms of the implementation of Information Governance and Information Security standards, the Trust will make no differentiation between internally hosted systems and externally hosted system.
- ii. Information Asset Owners, who are responsible for the managing risk and assurance of externally hosted systems are responsible for ensuring that such equivalence is implemented via the management of Information Assets

## **5.7 Servers and Server Software Maintenance and Repair**

- iii. Only individuals who are authorised to have access to, or carry out any work on, any aspect of control of the network infrastructure may interact with any aspect of control of the network infrastructure
- iv. The Head of Technology will ensure that adequate logs are maintained of who has authority to make changes to any aspect of the Trust network

## **5.8 External Network Connections**

- i. The Head of Technology will ensure that all necessary technical security measures are in place on the Trust systems to ensure that external connections are secure-

## **5.9 Internet Monitoring and Filtering**

- i. The Head of Technology will ensure that effective Internet monitoring and filtering systems are in place and will ensure such systems are kept up to date

## **5.10 Monitoring Systems**

- i. The Head of Technology will ensure that the trust has sufficient monitoring systems in place to identify potential security threats
- ii. The Head of Technology will implement sufficient network monitoring tools to provide assurance to the Trust that it is able to detect, eliminate and minimise the effect of potential threats as quickly as possible

## **5.11 Virus and Malware Protection**

- i. The Trust will:
  - a. Deploy anti-virus / anti-malware software across the whole of the Trust network infrastructure. The Head of Technology is responsible for the integrity and adequacy of the anti-virus / anti-malware software

- b. Ensure that, where a device is reconnected to the network after a period of disconnected working, then it will be updated with the latest anti-virus and anti-malware definitions.
  - c. Remove any device that is found to not have adequate protection until such a time as adequate protection has been applied
  - d. In the event of a virus outbreak or malware incident, remove equipment, disable user accounts or disable parts of the network as IM&T Management consider necessary.
  - e. Ensure that scanning is conducted in real time (on demand or on execution) and undertakes a full scan on a weekly basis
  - f. That, where virus / malware definitions are updated, then they are pulled from a secure and trusted source
  - g. The anti-virus / anti-malware software shall be configured to:
    - i. alert the IM&T team as soon as a virus or malware has been discovered
    - ii. quarantine or delete the virus or malware automatically
    - iii. exclude specific files or folders where scanning would potentially impact of the overall system performance
    - iv. Maintain logs for a sufficient period of time to allow for investigations into any incident that may have occurred
- ii. "CareCert" alerts produced by NHS Digital shall be acted upon in accordance with the requirements of any supervisory authority such as NHS Digital.

## 5.12 Redundant Equipment

- i. The Head of Technology will ensure that procedures are in place to ensure the safe and secure disposal of redundant equipment, including any information contained on it, so as to ensure the Trust is not placed at risk from a breach from an inappropriate or ineffective disposal of redundant equipment

## 5.13 Authority to Act

- i. Approving Officers are, for the purposes of this Policy:
  - Chief Information Officer
  - Head of Technology
  - IT Operations Manager
- ii. Authority to vary from this policy for a specific reason and a time limited period can be given by an Approving Officer
- iii. An Approving Officer shall not be allowed to give authority where giving such authority would give rise to a conflict of interest
- iv. Authority to vary from this Policy, which is not time-limited, may initially be given by an Approving Officer but this must then be approved by the Information Governance Committee at the first opportunity



## 5.14 Reporting

- i. The Information Governance Committee shall be informed of any incidents where the cause is a systematic failure of any of its systems of control
- ii. All Managers will provide reasonable access to any system, area or individual that will allow the Information Governance Department to assess compliance to this policy through the Spot-check Programme

## 6 Key References

- i. The Data Protection Act 2018
- ii. The General Data Protection Regulations
- iii. The Information Security NHS Code of Practice
- iv. The NHS Confidentiality Code of Practice
- v. The Records Management NHS Code of Practice
- vi. Freedom of Information Act 2000
- vii. Data Security and Protection Toolkit
- viii. The Computer Misuse Act

## 7 Associated Documents

- i. All associated documents are available via the Trust Intranet at:  
[http://imt012/Policies Procedures and Guidelines/default.aspx](http://imt012/Policies_Procedures_and_Guidelines/default.aspx)
- ii. Procedures:

## 8 Training

- i. Training for implementation of this policy is contained within the Trust overall training program and is reference by the Information Governance and Information Security Policy and Framework

## 9 Policy Administration

### 9.1 Consultation, Communication and Implementation

| Consultation Required  | Authorised By | Date Authorised | Comments |
|--|---------------|-----------------|----------|
| Impact Assessment  |               |                 |          |
| GDPR   | R Cowell      | 19/03/2018      | None     |
| Have the relevant details of the 2010 Bribery Act been considered in the drafting of this policy to minimise as far as reasonably practicable the potential for bribery? | Yes           |                 |          |

|   |                                 |                        |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| External Stakeholders   |                                 |                        |
| Trust Staff Consultation via Intranet   | Start date: January 2018        | End Date: January 2018 |
| Describe the Implementation Plan for the Policy (and guideline if impacts upon policy)<br>(Considerations include; launch event, awareness sessions, communication / training via CBU's and other management structures, etc) | By Whom will this be Delivered? |                        |
| The policy is existence already   |                                 |                        |

### Version History

| Date       | Version | Author Name and Designation                                   | Summary of Main Changes  |
|------------|---------|---|--|
| 21/08/2017 | 1.0     | Russell Cowell,<br>Head of Information Governance             | Policy has been completely reviewed and re-written. Policy version set to version 1.0 to reflect the substantial changes and the fact that it has been developed as an integrated policy set   |
| 03/09/2018 | 1.1     | Russell Cowell,<br>Head of Information Governance             | Periodic review with minimal wording update and KPI review. Addition of IT Operations Manager as 'Approving Officer'   |
| 31/03/2020 | 2.0     | Russell Cowell,<br>Head of Information Governance             | Major review and revision of wording considering lessons learned, introduction of new governance arrangements, insertion of GDPR definitions and provisions following independent external review by Data Protection Officer   |
| 04/12/2020 | 3.0     | Russell Cowell,<br>Head of Information Governance             | General review and minor update on policy wording to make provisions clearer based on experience. Enhancements to provisions on cyber security, re-organisation of paragraphs within policies (without word changing) so some text noew moved into other policies and vice versa |
| 31/03/2022 | 3.1     | Russell Cowell,<br>Head of Information Governance             | Review only and re-approval. No changes  |
| 31/03/2023 | 3.2     | Russell Cowell,<br>Head of Information Governance and Records | General wording review and re-approval by Information Governance Committee. Update to job title of Head of Information Governance to add "and Records" to title. Re-allocation of policy sponsorship to the Chief Information Officer  |

## 10 Initial Equality Impact Assessment Screening Tool

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Name of policy/ business or strategic plans/CIP programme:</b>  | <b>Details of policy/service/business or strategic plan/CIP programme, etc:</b> |   |
| <b>Confidentiality Policy</b>  |   |   |
| <b>Does the policy/service/CIP/strategic plan etc affect (please tick)</b>   |   |   |
| Both <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |   |   |
| <b>Does the proposal, service or document affect one group more or less favourable than another on the basis of:</b> | <b>Yes/No</b>   | <b>Justification/evidence and data source</b>   |
| Age  | No  | All confidential information is treated equally and all monitoring systems are neutral in terms of their application against Equality and Diversity   |
| Disability: including learning disability, physical, sensory or mental impairment.                                   | No  |   |
| Gender reassignment  | No  |   |
| Marriage or civil partnership  | No  |   |
| Pregnancy or maternity   | No  |   |
| Race   | No  |   |
| Religion or belief   | No  |   |
| Sex  | No  |   |
| Sexual orientation   | No  |   |
| <b>Human Rights – are there any issues which might affect a person’s human rights?</b>                               |   | <b>Justification/evidence and data source</b>   |
| Right to life  | No  | Obligations laid out within the policy are primarily defined by the Data Protection Act. All confidential information is treated equally and all monitoring systems are neutral in terms of their application against Equality and Diversity. There would be no impact on the Human Rights as the Policy is a direct reflection of legislation, which itself would have considered the impact on Human Rights |
| Right to freedom from degrading or humiliating treatment   | No  |   |
| Right to privacy or family life  | No  |   |
| Any other of the human rights?   | No  |   |
| EIA carried out by:  | 01/04/2022  | Russell Cowell, Head of Information Governance  |
| Quality assured by:<br>PGP Meeting   |   |   |