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| **D I R E C T I O N S** |

**NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND**

The Health and Social Care Information Centre (Establishment of Information Systems for NHS Services: Assuring Transformation Data Collection) Directions 2015

The National Health Service Commissioning Board gives the following Directions to the Health and Social Care Information Centre in exercise of the powers conferred by sections *254(1), (3) and (6), 262(3)(b), 262(7)* of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

In accordance with section 254(5) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the National Health Service Commissioning Board has consulted the Health and Social Care Information Centre before giving these Directions.

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

1. – (1) These Directions may be cited as The Health and Social Care Information Centre (Establishment of Information Systems for NHS Services: Assuring Transformation Data Collection) Directions 2015 and shall come into force on 01 November 2015.

(2) The Health and Social Care Information Centre (Establishment of Information Systems for NHS Services: the Assuring Transformation Data Collection) Directions 2014 are hereby revoked.

1. In these Directions–

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| “The 2012 Act” | means the Health and Social Care Act 2012[[1]](#footnote-1); |
| "Assuring Transformation Data" | Any data collected pursuant to these Directions or pursuant to the Health and Social Care Information Centre (Establishment of Information Systems for NHS Service: the Assuring Transformation Data Collection) Directions 2014; |
| “The Board” | means the National Health Service Commissioning Board[[2]](#footnote-2); |
| “CAP” | means Clinical Audit Platform, which is a system delivery function of the HSCIC that uses a secure interface for the collection of confidential information; |
| "Information Standard" | means a document containing standards in relation to the processing of information as provided for in section 250(2) of the 2012 Act. References to the number and title of an Information Standard are to the number and title given to a particular Information Standard within the Information Standards Notice; |
| "Information Standards Notice" | means the document published by or on behalf of the Board or the Secretary of State to confirm the making or amendment of an Information Standard, summarise its purpose and scope, reference the documentation in which the details of the Standard are set out and mandate compliance with it; |
| “HSCIC” | means the Health and Social Care Information Centre[[3]](#footnote-3); |
| "Identifiable Data" | means information which is in a form which identifies any individual to whom the information relates or enables the identity of such an individual to be ascertained; |
| “Learning Disability Census Data” | means data collected by the HSCIC under The Health and Social Care Information Centre (Learning Disability Census) Directions 2014 or any identical or similar datasets collected at the request or direction of the Secretary of State for Health which relate to periods earlier than or subsequent to the period in which those Directions are in force; |
| “Learning Disability Cohort Patient” | means a person in an in-patient bed for mental and/or behavioural healthcare who has either learning disabilities and/or autistic spectrum disorder (including Asperger’s syndrome); |
| “Regional Team” | means a division of the Board which holds budgetary and commissioning responsibilities on behalf of the Board; |
| “Relevant Organisation” | means an organisation type that is listed under “Applies to” in the Specification; |
| “SCCI2007” | is the unique reference number for the Assuring Transformation Collection Information Standard; |
| “Specification” | means the Assuring Transformation Collection Specification that has been published by the Board version 1.2 dated 29/10/2015 (Document ID: SCCI 2007 Amd 37/2015, Document Title: Assuring Transformation Specification) and annexed to these Directions at Annex A or any subsequent amended version of the same document that is published by the Board; |
| “Technical Output Specification” | means the Assuring Transformation v 2.0 Technical Output Specification version 1.0 dated 16/09/2015 and annexed to these Directions at Annex B or any subsequent amended version of the same document that is published by the Board. |

**Establishing and Operating the Assuring Transformation Data Collection System**

1. – (1) Pursuant to its powers under sections 254(1) and 254(6) of the 2012 Act, the Board directs the HSCIC to establish and operate a system for the collection of the information described in sub-paragraph (2) from the Relevant Organisations, such system to be known as “the Assuring Transformation Data Collection System”.

(2) The information referred to in sub-paragraph (1) is the information described in the Technical Output Specification.

(3) Pursuant to its powers under sections 254(1) and 254(6) of the 2012 Act, the Board directs HSCIC to carry out the activities described in sub-paragraph (1):

1. in accordance with the criteria in the Specification and in the Technical Output Specification;
2. in particular through making the CAP available to CCGs and Regional Teams in the form specified in the Technical Output Specification; and
3. generally in such a way as to enable and facilitate compliance with Information Standards Notice SCCI2007.

**Analysis and Reporting**

1. – (1) Pursuant to the Board's powers under sections 254(1) and 254(6) of the 2012 Act, the HSCIC is further directed to analyse the data collected pursuant to these Directions, including by such reference or linkage to other Assuring Transformation Data and to Learning Disability Census Data as the HSCIC determines is necessary: –
   * 1. to validate the data;

(b) to produce reports in compliance with paragraph 4(2).

* 1. The HSCIC is further directed as follows:
     1. pursuant to sections 262(3)(b) and 262(7) of the 2012 Act, the HSCIC is directed to produce and disseminate to the Board the reports described in paragraphs 1(1) and (2) of the Schedule in a form and manner that complies with any relevant approvals or conditions under the Section 251 Regulations.

**S254(3) - Requirement for these Directions**

1. In accordance with section 254(3) of the 2012 Act, the Board confirms that it is necessary or expedient for it to have the information which will be obtained through the HSCIC complying with these Directions in relation to the Board’s functions in connection with the provision of NHS Services. In particular the information obtained through compliance with these Directions will facilitate or enable the achievement of the purposes of Information Standard SCCI2007 that are described in the Specification.

**Managing Patient objections**

1. Pursuant to the Board's powers under sections 254(1) and (6) of the 2012 Act, HSCIC is directed to establish the Assuring Transformation Data Collection System in such a way as to ensure that where an objection has been made by or on behalf of a Learning Disability Cohort Patient to the provision of their confidential information by a CCG or Regional Team to the HSCIC or the Board, the HSCIC will only collect that information where this would be in accordance with any guidance issued by NHS England with regard to the management of or response to such objections.
2. The HSCIC is directed by the Board pursuant to paragraph 3 of these Directions to put measures in place as part of the establishment and operation of the Assuring Transformation Data Collection System to ensure that where the HSCIC holds a record of any Learning Disability Cohort Patient's objection to the onward disclosure of their Identifiable Data by the HSCIC any dissemination of information pursuant to these Directions shall, in respect of that Patient, only include data that is not Identifiable Data.

**Fees and Accounts**

1. Pursuant to sub-section 254(7) of the 2012 Act, HSCIC is entitled to charge the Board a reasonable fee in respect of the cost of HSCIC complying with these Directions and the Board acknowledges such right and agrees to meet such reasonable fee charged by HSCIC.
2. The HSCIC must keep proper accounts, and proper records in relation to the accounts, in connection with the Assuring Transformation Data Collection System.

**Review of these Directions**

1. These directions will be reviewed when the Board approves changes to the Assuring Transformation Data Collection and when any material amendment is made to the Information Standard SCCI2007. This review will include consultation with the HSCIC as required by sub-section 254(5) of the 2012 Act (powers to direction Information Centre to establish information systems).

**Signed by authority of the NHS Commissioning Board**

**Sir Bruce Keogh**

**Caldicott Guardian**

**[INSERT DATE]**

**Annex A – Assuring Transformation Collection Specification**

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**Annex B – Assuring Transformation Technical Output Specification**



**Analysis and reporting requirements for the Assuring Transformation Data Collection**

**Reports for dissemination to the Board only**

1. The reports for dissemination to the Board only are defined in paragraph 2. of this Schedule as follows:

(1) output 5;

(2) output 6.

## Outputs outline

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| **Output** | **Style** | **Domain** | **Format** | **Suppression rules** | **Contents** |
| 5. Management Information | Excel flat file | Internal - monthly | excel | Unsuppressed | Management information will be an extract of the system. This will be at patient level detail. NHS number will be supplied and the responses to all the questions. |
| 6. Assuring Transformation Data compared to Learning Disability Census Data | Excel spreadsheet | Internal – one off | excel | Unsuppressed | Counts by commissioner/provider |

1. 2012 c7 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The National Health Service Commissioning Board was established by section 1H of the National Health Service Act 2006 (2006 c 41.), and operates as NHS England. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The Health and Social Care Information Centre is a body corporate established under section 252(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)