

Information Standards Notice – New

Acting under delegated authority from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, the Data Alliance Partnership Board (DAPB) has approved a new information standard for publication under section 250 of the Health and Social Act 2012.

You must comply with the change to this standard by the full conformance date specified below.

Standard details	
DAPB unique identifier	DAPB4019 Amd 77/2020
Name	Reasonable Adjustment Digital Flag
Approval date	27 July 2023
Publication date	12 September 2023
Standard definition	
Description	<p>Under the Equality Act 2010, organisations have a legal duty to make changes in their approach or provision, called reasonable adjustments, to ensure that services are as accessible to people with disabilities as they are for everyone else. This duty aims to address the recognition that people with disabilities may have equal access to care and services, but without specific adjustments being made, that access may not be equitable.</p> <p>NHS England has built the Reasonable Adjustment Digital Flag in the NHS Spine to enable health and care professionals to record, share and view details of Reasonable Adjustments across the NHS, wherever the person is treated. The flag indicates that Reasonable Adjustments are required for an individual and optionally includes details of their significant impairments, underlying conditions and key adjustments that should be considered.</p> <p>The flag aims to enable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear identification of all patients for whom Reasonable Adjustments may be required. • Identification of patients with impairments including learning disability or autism (and all other relevant key impairments).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and sharing of key adjustments that will help a care episode go well or happen at all. • Ubiquitous, consistent visibility and structure of the information – wherever a patient is treated in health and care. • Identification and maintenance of the information recorded and shared through the Reasonable Adjustment Digital Flag in conjunction with the wishes of patients and carers - leading to tailored, personalised care.
Scope (Health and Social Care Act 2012)	Health Services, NHS Services, Adult Social Care
Applies to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This standard applies to the following organisations and services: • All providers of NHS care or treatment • All providers of publicly funded social care • Social care or services bodies (in their role as service providers) • Independent contractors providing NHS services including primary medical services (GP practices), dental services, optometric services, and pharmacy services • Independent Healthcare Provider Network Organisations • NHS Foundation Trusts and NHS Trusts • Providers of NHS and / or social care from the voluntary and community or private sectors • Providers of public health services, including advice and information.
Impacts upon	Implementation of this information standard impacts all health IT systems suppliers providing systems to the above providers; suppliers should work with their customers to determine necessary changes.
Legal authority	<p>This information standard is published under section 250 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.</p> <p>This information standard conforms to the Equality Act 2020</p>

Link to further documentation	<p>The Change Specification, Requirements Specification and Implementation Guidance are available on the NHS England website:</p> <p>www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/dapb4019</p> <p>Further guidance is published by NHS England:</p> <p>https://www.england.nhs.uk/learning-disabilities/improving-health/reasonable-adjustments/</p>
Contacts	
Sponsor	Nicola Easey, Head of Health Improvement Learning Disability & Autism, NHS England
SRO	<p>Business Change and overall accountability – Nicola Easey, Head of Health Improvement Learning Disability & Autism, NHS England</p> <p>Technical – Ciaron Hoye, Chief Information Officer - Primary Care GP Provider Support Unit, NHS Birmingham and Solihull</p>
Business Lead	Dr Hannah Brown, GP and SME for the Reasonable Adjustment Digital Flag, NHS England and Ponteland Medical Group, Northumbria Primary Care
Help Desk	england.radfproject@nhs.net
Dates	
Implementation date	12 September 2023
Conformance dates	<p>Implementation will follow a phased approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1: By 31 March 2024, organisations will have a process in place to record reasonable adjustments. Phase 2: By 30 June 2024, suppliers are asked to register with NHS England for connection to the national asset. <p>Full conformance is expected by 31 December 2025.</p>
Post Implementation Review date	30 June 2026

The controlled version of this Information Standards Notice is published on the NHS England website: www.digital.nhs.uk/isce/publication/isns

Update 6 March 2024: Following discussion and feedback, the RADF team have reviewed and adjusted the time frames for conformance.

Update 19 January 2024: The Help Desk section of the ISN has been updated to include a dedicated project mailbox.