NHS Digital Data Security & Protection Toolkit (DSPT) Requirements

CCG Mergers Briefing

Date: 28 January 2021
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Background

From 1 April 2021, 38 CCGs are merging to create 9 new CCGs.

The date of the mergers of 1 April does not align with the Data Security and Protection Toolkit deadline of 30 June 2021. This document sets out the options for existing CCGs and newly merged CCGs for completing their DSP Toolkits. The options are designed to prevent gaps in CCG assurance which impact on data sharing arrangements.

The terms 'existing CCGs' applies to the 38 CCGs who are currently going through the merger process and 'merged CCGs' refers to 9 CCGs which will exist from April 2021 (if they are successful with their merger applications).

Options for completing DSP Toolkit are:

a) **All existing CCGs that plan to merge on 1 April 2021, publish a 20-21 DSP Toolkit before they are dissolved on 31st March 2021 (though they can still technically publish until 30 June 2021).**

   The merged CCG would not be expected to complete a 20-21 DSP Toolkit. The merged CCG would then follow the standard DSP Toolkit publication cycle for 21-22, which has not yet been agreed.

b) **If all existing CCGs that make up a merged CCG do not publish a DSP Toolkit before 31st March 2021 then the merged CCG would have to publish a DSP Toolkit by 30 June 2021.**

Publication of the DSP Toolkit by the merged CCGs

If the merged CCG cannot achieve 'Standards met' in their 20-21 DSP Toolkit publication by June 2021, the merged CCG must submit an **Improvement plan** covering actions to be undertaken within a six-month period following publication **(i.e. 31st December 2021)** to achieve 'Standards met'. Once the plan is agreed by NHS Digital, the merged CCG will have a 20-21 DSP Toolkit publication status of 'Standards not fully met (plan agreed)'. Once all the actions are complete, the newly merged CCG will need to resubmit their completed improvement plan and, if agreed, their publication status will be updated to 'Standards met'.

The improvement plan may contain actions relating to individual pre-existing CCGs or across the merged CCG.
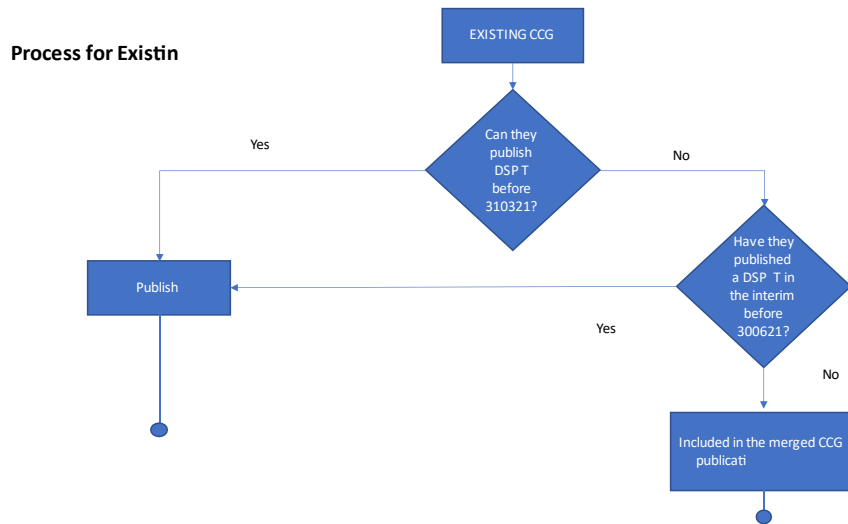
Contacting the Exeter Helpdesk

During April 2021, new CCG codes will be made available on the DSP Toolkit for the newly merged CCGs. In preparation for this an Administrator from each of the newly created CCGs is asked to log a call with the Exeter helpdesk (exeter.helpdesk@nhs.net) to request their account is set up in the merged CCGs DSP Toolkit organisation.

Process Overview

Figure 1 explains the process from the existing CCGs perspective, Figure 2 explains the process from the merged CCGs point of view.

Figure 1: Existing CCG Process

Process for Existin

EXISTING CCG

Can they publish DSP T before 310321?

Yes

No

Have they published a DSP T in the interim before 300621?

Publish

Yes

No

Included in the merged CCG publicati

Figure 2: Merged CCG Process