

WELSH INFORMATION STANDARDS BOARD

DSC Notice:	DSCN 2025 / 20
Date of Issue:	28 th October 2025

Welsh Health Circular/Official Letter: TBC	Subject: Maternity Data Record Standard
Sponsor: Karen Jewell (Clinical Policy Sponsor – Welsh Government)	
Standard Type: Operational	
Effective From: TBC	

DATA STANDARDS CHANGE NOTICE

A Data Standards Change Notice (DSCN) is an information mandate for a new or revised information standard.

This DSCN was approved by the Welsh Information Standards Board (WISB) at its meeting on 16th October 2025.

WISB Reference: ISRN 2025 / 10

Summary:

To introduce a new data set for Maternity Data Record Standards, to establish a national standard that will consistently record, share and use maternity data across healthcare systems. All data items and corresponding values will be included within this DSCN.

Applies to:

All NHS Wales Health Boards

Please address enquiries about this Data Standards Change Notice to the Data Standards Team in Digital Health and Care Wales

E-mail: data.standards@wales.nhs.uk

The Welsh Information Standards Board is responsible for appraising information standards. Submission documents and WISB Outcomes relating to the approval of this standard can be found at:

https://nhswales365.sharepoint.com/sites/DHC_DST/Lists/Information%20Standards%20Assurance%20Submission%20Log/AllItems.aspx

DATA STANDARDS CHANGE NOTICE

Introduction

The absence of a single maternity solution in Wales presents a critical risk to safe, consistent care. Developing an All-Wales Maternity Data Record Standard will mitigate these risks by unifying practice, improving safety, empowering patients, and delivering value for the NHS.

The purpose of this work is to establish a national standard that ensures maternity data is consistently recorded, shared, and used across healthcare systems. This standard will underpin safe, effective, and equitable care by embedding best practice into everyday workflows, improving interoperability, and supporting clinicians while empowering women and birthing people to actively participate in their care.

By making accurate and essential information available at the right time and place, the maternity data record standard will enhance quality, safety, and coordination of care, reduce variation across Health Boards, and strengthen public trust in maternity services. It will also enable comprehensive, standardised data collection to support national reporting, continuous improvement, and evidence-based policy, while aligning as closely as possible with the NHS Digital Maternity Record Standard [DAPB3066 – Digital Maternity Record Standard](#) to ensure cross-border interoperability.

Description of Change

This is a new standard developed in alignment with NHS England's Digital Maternity Record Standard [DAPB3066 – Digital Maternity Record Standard](#) whilst ensuring Wales-specific requirements are incorporated.

Data Dictionary Version

The current release: version 4.25 of the NHS Wales Data Dictionary will be the final version published on the existing platform.

The NHS Wales Data Dictionary will be moved to a new and improved platform.

In the interim, please visit [DHCW Data Standards](#) to access notice publications or contact data.standards@wales.nhs.uk

Actions Required

Local Health Boards / Trust:

- Health Boards' established implementation groups must work closely with their supplier to ensure the system aligns with the Information Specification outlined within this document.

Digital Health and Care Wales:

- Ensure that all national systems have been updated to comply with the standard set out in the Information Specification within this DSCN.
- Enable the seamless flow of data into a Central Data Repository (CDR) via the National Data Resource (NDR).
- Maintain the DSCN as Operational and Clinical Practices evolve.

Maternity Data Record Standard

Scope

The development of a National Maternity Data Record Standard for NHS Wales will cover maternity services delivered across the full continuum of care, secondary care (inpatient and outpatient), community, and primary care settings, ensuring that information is consistently recorded and shared wherever women and birthing people receive maternity services.

The standard will:

- Define a national framework for maternity data recording requirements across NHS Wales.
- Support consistent documentation and workflows across Health Boards, while allowing flexibility for local service design.
- Facilitate seamless information sharing across care settings and borders, supporting continuity of care for women and birthing people who move between England and Wales.
- Enable consistent, high-quality data capture to support safe clinical care, national reporting, service improvement, and policy development.

To maximise efficiency and interoperability, the project will align as far as possible with NHS Digital's Digital Maternity Record Standard (DAPB3066), adapting only where necessary to reflect Welsh requirements (e.g., Welsh Guidelines, Welsh-specific value sets and reference data).

As part of the project, Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW) will develop the standard and prepare a Data Standards Change Notice (DSCN), supported by a Welsh Health Circular (WHC) from Welsh Government. The DSCN will be submitted to the Welsh Information Standards Board (WISB) for appraisal and formal issue, with Health Boards required to implement the standard following approval.

This scope ensures that Wales has a national maternity information framework that is interoperable, future-proof, and capable of supporting consistent, high-quality maternity care across all settings.

Information Specification

The data items required for Maternity Data Record Standards are listed below.

Mandatory/Optional/Required codes are described as follows:

- *M* (Mandatory) – These data items **MUST** be reported without exception. Failure to submit these items will result in the rejection of the record.
- *R* (Required) – These data items **MUST** be reported where they apply. It is a legal and contractual requirement to submit these data items where the service has been provided to a patient. Failure to submit these data items will not result in the rejection of the record but may affect the derivation of national indicators or national analysis.
- *O* (Optional) – These data items **MAY** be submitted on an optional basis at the submitter's discretion.

Appendix

Maternity Data Record Standard – [Information Specification](#)