Health Solutions Wales
Atebion Iechyd Cymru

IRSS **Information Requirements and** **Standards Sub Committee**	**Subject:** **Data Transfer Service (DTS) –** **replacement service for X.400** **EDI/Workflow Messaging within the** **NHS**
	Implementation date: **July 2003** **(this is a retrospective DSCN)**

DATA SET CHANGE CONTROL PROCEDURE

Summary of change:

This DSCN gives notification of the closure of the X.400 NHS Managed Message Handling Service and the introduction of the replacement service for EDI / Workflow Messaging within the NHS

> **Change Proposal Reference No:**
> **IRSS 04/03/02**

The Information Requirements and Standards Sub Committee (IRSS), is responsible for approving information standards.

Please address enquiry's about this DSCN to the Data Standards and Information Quality Team, HSW, Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF24 0HA Tel: 029 20502539 or E-mail Data.Standards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk

Data Set Change Notices are available via the Intranet Service HOWIS http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/ or by contacting the above address.

DSCN numbering format = sequence number/year of issue, (W) for Welsh DSCN's.

DATA SET CHANGE NOTICE 06/04(W)

Reference: **DSCN 24/2003 (English)**

Subject: Data Transfer Service (DTS) – replacement service for X.400
                        EDI/Workflow Messaging within the NHS

Effective Date: July 2003 (retrospective DSCN)

Reason of Change: The current EDI / Workflow messaging standard which the NHS
                        utilises (i.e. X.400) is not a defined technology with the Electronic
                        Government Interoperability Framework (GIF). In addition, the
                        contract to provide the X.400 service ends on 7th November 2003.

Background:

The X.400 NHS Managed Message Handling Service (MMHS) was the standard for application
to application electronic messaging within the NHS. Some of the key NHS applications that used
this standard include: GP Payments, Patient Registration, Pathology Messaging, Cancer call and
recall, NHS-Wide Clearing Service, Central Registration.

The X.400 MMHS will formally close on the 7th November 2003 and the introduction of the DTS
has been negotiated by the NHS Information Authority to provide an alternative means to carry
these messages. The DTS is provided by BT Syntegra and is available for NHS organisations to
use from 26th June 2003.

All NHS EDI / Workflow applications that currently use the X.400 standard for
messaging need to migrate to use the DTS before 7th November 2003.

The Welsh Assembly Government has secured funding to cover the cost of a
programme of work, and the necessary changes that are required to migrate. This is to
ensure that NHS Wales organisations that make use of the existing MMHS are
successfully migrated to DTS before the due date. For example, this includes NHS
Trust Pathology systems, GP practices and the NHAIS systems operating within the
Business Service Centre.

Benefits of New Service:

The DTS has the following benefits:

- Provide an approved NHS messaging standard for EDI / workflow application to
  enable migration from X.400 (by NHS Information Standards Board)
- Reduce the complexity of X.400 migration for end sites
- Provide appropriate and consistent service levels for data transfers
- Enable encryption over NHSnet of sensitive data with minimal impact on the end site

- Eliminate the need for end site messaging servers
- GIF compliant secure data transfer infrastructure

Impact in Wales:

The implementation of the DTS started in August 2003, with migration being completed during November 2003. All message exchanges involving BSCs, and result reporting from Trusts to GPs, which used the X400 service, have now been transferred to the DTS service

BT Syntegra, via the NHS Information Authority, manages the replacement service. Health Solution Wales will act as the owner of the service for Wales, the revenue implications of which is currently centrally funded by the Welsh Assembly Government.
.

For Data Standards queries please contact:

Jennifer Evans
Information Analyst
Data Standards and Information Quality Team
HSW, 14th floor, Brunel House
Cardiff
CF24 0HA

Tel: 029 20502539
Fax: 029 20502504

E-mail: Datastandards@hsw.wales.nhs.uk