



# HBL ICT Registration Authority Policy

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## Document Control

<b>Document Owner</b>	Phil Turnock (Managing Director HBL ICT)	<b>Approved by</b>	HWE ICB Operational Executive Team
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## Version Control

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6.1.0	Live	Policy approved by HWEICB Executive Committee	19 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	

## Terms and Acronyms

Term	Definition
<b>“Authentication Token”</b>	Refers to Physical Smartcards, Virtual Smartcards, Authorised Devices and iPad Devices which enable healthcare professionals to access clinical and personal information appropriate to their role and the type of Identity Solution. Note – the Authentication Token is not the HBL ICT provided RAS or Nebula access Token solution
<b>“Authorised Devices”</b>	Means an alternative to smartcards, a device as approved by FIDO 2 Consortium that provides Assured Level 3 Authentication.

<b>“Data Protection Laws”</b>	Is the applicable legislation protecting the fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals, in respect of their right to privacy and the processing of their personal data, as amended from time to time, including Regulation (EU) 2016/679, 'the General Data Protection Regulation' ("GDPR") and the Data Protection Act 2018) and the Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003, together with decisions, guidelines, guidance notes and codes of practice issued from time to time by courts, data protection authorities and other applicable Government authorities;
<b>“Physical Smartcards”</b>	This is an approved physical card. Physical Smartcards are supplied by the authorised supplier(s) of cards to NHS Digital and are similar to chip and PIN bank cards.
<b>“RA Agent ID Checker”</b>	An individual who has undertaken appropriate training who is authorised to undertake identity verification and identity creation.
<b>“RA Agent”</b>	An individual who has undertaken appropriate training who is authorised to undertake identity verification, identity creation, creation and assignment of authorisation tokens and assign access rights to a user. In addition, they can perform a range of administrative tasks to maintain good RA records and processes
<b>“RA Manager”</b>	An individual appointed by the Executive Management Team of an organisation to set up and run the organisations Registration Authority processes and procedures. In addition, they are responsible for ensuring good governance and report annually to the organisation's EMT on RA activity. In addition, they are required to undertake appropriate training to discharge these responsibilities and arrange training for all other RA team members. They are also authorised to undertake identity verification, identity creation, creation and assignment of authorisation tokens and assign access rights to a user.
<b>“Registration Authority (RA)”</b>	Means NHS Digital as the single national Registration Authority and all other organisations that run a local Registration Authority on a delegated authority basis from NHS Digital.
<b>“Virtual Smartcards”</b>	Is a solution that provides access functionality, but the card itself may be stored on a device, approved for use by NHS Digital and or its partners.
<b>RPA</b>	Robot Process Automation
<b>CIS &amp; CIM</b>	Care Identity Service and Care Identity Management - the strategic identity service for health and social care created as part of NIB 2020
<b>FIDO</b>	Fast Identity Online
<b>RA</b>	Registration Authority
<b>Sponsor</b>	Refers to an individual appointed by the Executive Management Team of an organisation who is authorised to request and approve that digital identities be created and appropriate and specific access assigned to staff within the organisation
<b>IAL</b>	Identity Assurance Level
<b>AAL</b>	Authentication Assurance Level

## Implementation Plan

<b>Development and Consultation</b>	<p>IG within Partner organisations</p> <p>Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Luton ICT Shared Services (HBL ICT) is committed to the fair treatment of all, regardless of age, colour, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender reassignment, nationality, race, religion or belief, responsibility for dependents, sexual orientation, trade union membership or non-membership, working patterns or any other personal characteristic. This policy / procedure will be implemented consistently regardless of any such factors and all will be treated with dignity and respect. To this end, an equality impact assessment has been completed on this policy.</p>
<b>Dissemination</b>	<p>HBL Partner(s) to who HBL ICT provide Registration Authority (RA) services, their Boards and IG Structures and all staff who are issued with an NHS Issued Smartcard to access NHS Computer Systems.</p> <p>HBL Clients who purchase Registration Authority Services from HBL ICT Services.</p> <p>This policy will be included in the ICBs Publication Scheme in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000</p>
<b>Training</b>	<p>Staff Awareness sessions, Registration Authority Position holders, Sponsors in those HBL Partner(s) to who HBL ICT provide Registration Authority (RA) services</p>
<b>Monitoring</b>	<p>3rd Party Audit, DSP Toolkit, spot check</p>
<b>Review</b>	<p>The policy will be reviewed annually or when National Policy updates requires</p>
<b>Equality, Diversity and Privacy</b>	<p>Completed Separately</p>

## References

<b>External : Legislation, Guidance and Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NHS Digital National Registration Authority Policy v2.5</li> <li>• NHS Digital Registration Authorities Operational and Process Guidance v5.2 • DH Gateway Document (reference number 6244) 'Registration Authorities: Governance arrangements For NHS Organisations'</li> <li>• NHS Care Record Guarantee,</li> <li>• The Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR</li> <li>• DSPT (Data Security and Protection Toolkit)</li> <li>• Additionally, the policy now reflects current best practice around Identity &amp; Access Management as informed by the National Cyber Security Centre which covers what needs to be considered in identity verification and security requirements in relation to authentication to clinical systems and other systems which hold personal information. In particular this includes:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Good Practice Guide 43 – Requirements for Secure Delivery of Online Public Services <a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/requirements-secure-deliveryonline-public-services-good-practice-guide-43">https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/requirements-secure-deliveryonline-public-services-good-practice-guide-43</a></li> <li>○ Good Practice Guide 44 – Authentication and Credentials for use with HMG Online Services <a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/authentication-and-credentialsuse-hmg-online-services-gpg-44">https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/authentication-and-credentialsuse-hmg-online-services-gpg-44</a></li> <li>○ Good Practice Guide 45 – Identity Proofing and Verification of an Individual <a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/identity-proofing-andverification-individual-gpg-45">https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/identity-proofing-andverification-individual-gpg-45</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Internal : Related Documentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptable Use Policy</li> <li>• Information Governance Policy</li> <li>• Mobile Device Policy</li> <li>• Confidentiality Policy</li> <li>• Information Security Policy</li> </ul>
<b>Enclosures</b>	None

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# 1 Introduction

It is of paramount importance that patients are confident that their medical records are kept safe, secure and confidential in line with The Care Record Guarantee for England. To achieve this objective all healthcare professionals/worker requiring access to Spine enabled systems must be registered with a national digital identity, issued a NHS Smartcard and assigned an appropriate access control position according to their healthcare role.

## 1.1 What are NHS Smartcards?

NHS Smart card is an approved physical smartcard and / or Virtual Smartcard. Physical smartcards are supplied by the authorised supplier(s) of cards to NHS Digital, are similar to chip and PIN bank cards and enable healthcare professionals to access clinical and personal information appropriate to their role.

## 1.2 What is the Care Identity Service (CIS) & Care Identity Management?

The Care Identity Service is the new Smartcard registration application available to all organisations to perform Registration Authority activities. As an integrated application, it enables an automated 'workflow' approach that provides greater levels of governance, accountability, auditability and enables more efficient ways of working.

Care Identity Management is replacing the legacy Care Identity Service application, to meet modern security, adaptability and design standards.

## 1.3 What is the ESR Interface to Care Identity Service?

The ESR Interface to CIS, also known as Integrated Identity Management (IIM) combines the separate processes, maintained within Registration Authority and Human Resource teams, for capturing and managing an employee's identity and access to the Spine. This allows for greater efficiency when controlling access to records on computer systems linked to the Spine.

## 1.4 What is the User Registration Process?

The user registration process operates locally and broadly consists of the following three stages:

- A user is identified for a NHS Smartcard – this can be via:
  - an individual (sponsor) explicitly requesting the individual be registered in CIS or CIM or other means such as employment into a role or requirements of a job changing.
  - The user provides appropriate identification as per NHS Employers Identity Check standards to ensure their identity is verified and recorded to e-GIF Level 3.
- Access to the relevant Spine enabled application is permitted on assignment of an Access Control Position. The RA Manager or the Advanced RA Agent directly assigns the user to the Access Control Position or grants the assignment where the request has been approved by the Sponsor.



- A NHS Smartcard is created that links the user to their record on the Spine and the required level of access. Access to the Spine enabled applications is then established.

## 1.5 What Security and Confidentiality Measures are Implemented?

All Spine enabled applications use a common security and confidentiality approach. This is based upon the healthcare professional's/worker's organisations, roles, areas of work, and activities that make up the required access and the position they have been employed to undertake.

Access Control Positions provide healthcare professionals/workers with the access to patient information required to perform their role within the organisation, satisfying both clinical and Information Governance needs.

## 2 Purpose of this Document

This document lays out the RA Policy requirements that HBL ICT Services Registration Authority adheres to. It is based on the National Registration Authority Policy v2.5.

### 2.1 Background

This document outlines:

- The RA hierarchy and the principle of delegated authority to local organisations to run their RA.
- The requirements for creating a nationally verified digital identity.
- The roles and responsibilities within organisations that run their own Registration Authority activity.
- Requirements in relation to authentication, and authentication methods including Smartcards and other approved devices.
- The requirement to develop and implement a local RA Policy.
- Failure to comply with RA Policy requirements.
- Service updates and what this means.

## 3 Registration Authority Hierarchy

In Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) terms there is a single Registration Authority (NHS Digital). All organisations that run a local Registration Authority do so solely on a delegated authority basis from NHS Digital.

As NHS Digital is the single Registration Authority it needs to assure itself that organisations are operating appropriately and discharging their duties in an effective and consistent fashion. This policy outlines the minimum national requirements to provide such assurance: as such deviation from this policy document due to a local preference is not permitted. In addition, HBL ICT RA Managers are required to read and comply with RA operational guidance available at <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/registration-authorities-and-smartcards>

The original DH Gateway document (DH 6244) 'Registration Authorities: Governance

Arrangements for NHS Organisations' outlines some of the requirements for delegated authority to local organisations to run their own RA activities and/or be a Registration Authority, for both their own users and users in other local organisations.

This policy document outlines the full range of mandatory requirements that HBL ICT services adheres to carry out this activity. The mandatory requirements in relation to organisational set up and appropriate governance oversight are:

1. There needs to be a Board/Executive Management Team (EMT) level individual who has overall accountability in the organisation for RA activity. The responsible individual must report annually to the organisation on this activity. This only relates to RA.
2. RA Managers are appointed by the Board/EMT and this appointment is confirmed in an official document (e.g. minute, letter of appointment, email from SRO etc.) which must be held by each individual appointed to these positions, and be made available for inspection when required (see Appendix C).
3. RA Managers are accountable for the running of RA service in HBL ICT within the Partner and Customer organisations under binding agreement. RA Managers are required to set up the systems and processes that ensure that the policy requirements contained in this document are met and local processes meet these requirements and cater for local organisational circumstances (**NOTE: deviation from the national policy requirements due to a local preference is not permitted**).
4. RA Managers and Agents need to keep up to date with national policy requirements, initiatives and changes. In order to do this, it is mandatory that their email address is entered as part of their personal details held within the database of registered users (The Spine User Directory).
5. RA Managers have a line of professional accountability to uphold good RA practice to NHS Digital.
6. The Registration Authority and, where different, employing organisation must:
  - have sufficient governance, processes and oversight in place to comply with the Data Protection Laws, including (but not limited to) providing fair processing information to all users, the NHS Code of Practice on confidential information, as amended from time to time, and the Care Record Guarantee; and
  - be registered for the latest Data Security Protection Toolkit and have a current latest status rating of at least 'standards met'.

#### **Accountable Board/EMT Member:**

Simon Carey – Associate Director

#### **RA Managers:**

Waseem Khan

## 4 Creation of a National Digital Identity

NHS Digital's strategic aim is to create a single, non-repudiated, trusted, digital identity for healthcare workers. This will be pivotal to enabling national access to health information in a secure way.

NHS Digital, as the single Registration Authority for health and social care, needs to be assured that users who have a digital identity created are subject to the same minimum standards of identity verification, to prove the individual has ownership of the identity irrespective of which local Registration Authority creates the identity. This is vital as the identity created is a national identity and must be trusted by each organisation where an individual is required to access the National Spine to access data. To achieve this, identity is required to be verified to the National Cyber

Security Centre Good Practice Guide 45 – 'Identity Proofing and Verification of an Individual'. This provides assurance that the identity is valid across any organisation an individual works within.

In order to ensure this, the following requirements in creating a digital identity are mandatory and are adhered to by HBL ICT Services Registration Authority.

To ensure this, the following requirements in creating a digital identity for accessing national services are mandatory:

1. Identity must be verified (subject to the requirements of section 5 below) either:
  - a. In-person, in a face-to-face meeting.
  - b. Or remotely and digitally, through the online self-service registration solution, or until rescinded sometime in 2022/2023 by following the emergency guidance for video registration. Please see this guidance at Registration authorities and smartcards - NHS Digital).

In both instances, it must be done by examining original identification evidence documents provided by the health and care worker and checking that the identity relates to the individual who presents the documents.

2. For in-person verification, the person verifying the identity must be trained to do so. In Registration Authority terms this means that individuals holding the roles of RA Managers and RA Agents must perform in-person checks at face-to-face meetings since part of their responsibilities and requirements are that they are trained to carry out this activity. The RA Manager is responsible for training all other RA staff who will conduct in-person ID checking to ensure that appropriate standards exist, and they can evidence good ID checking as part of the Data Security and Protection Toolkit requirements.
3. Remote, online verification using the self-service registration solution will require a health and care worker to provide digital images of original identification evidence documents, a photo compliant with the Home Office Passport Photo Requirements and undergo to a face scan. Under the control and purview of NHS Digital authorised 3rd Party suppliers will verify the digital identity and provide the result to NHS Digital (more details can be found here).
4. The documents that can be used to verify an identity face to face have been jointly determined by NHS Digital and NHS Employers and the list is contained in the NHS Employers 'Verification of Identity Checks' standard which can currently be found at

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/recruit/employment-checks/identitychecks>. However, GPG 45 processes and NHS Employers guidance, around managed risk, allow for additional documents to be considered provided they meet the GPG45 evidence category requirements.

5. For the online, remote self-service registration a limited subset of the identification evidence documents will be accepted to ensure compliance with GPG45 and levels 3 and 4 identity requirements.
6. Any changes to a person's core identity attributes (Name, Date of Birth or National Insurance Number), irrespective of whether their identity was verified in-person or remotely, need to go through the face-to-face check with a person holding an RA role and provide appropriate documentary evidence.
7. Different types of Authentication Tokens meet different levels of security classification. For further information see <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/registration-authorities-and-smartcards#registration-authorities>. The local Registration Authority and, where Registration Authority Policy 10 Copyright © 2022 NHS Digital 10 different, employing organisation must ensure that the Authentication Token provided to a user is appropriate for that user's role.
8. NHS Smartcards (or other AAL3 (Authenticator Assurance Levels) mechanisms) can only be issued to individuals who have a national verified digital identity. This is also the case for processes that are used to issue temporary access to an individual – they need to have a verified identity first.
9. GPG 45 outlines four levels of identity assurance. NHS Identity will support these four levels of identity assurance. In practice NHS Identity will combine the level 3 and level 4 identity requirements. Level 4 being a level 3 identity with the addition of a biometric indicator. A level 3 or level 4 identity is required to access clinical, sensitive and person identifiable information. Level 1 and 2 identities will be able to be registered but are aimed at people who do not need access to the types of information that requires a level 3 or 4 identity.
10. Users must be able to easily access support and report and receive assistance with any operational issues, thefts, losses or unauthorised uses of Authentication Tokens, requirements for PIN/password resets, and terminations of Authentication Tokens.

## 5 Roles and Responsibilities

In order to discharge the responsibilities delegated from NHS Digital in relation to Registration Authority activity there are requirements each organisation which is acting as a Registration Authority must meet in relation to roles and responsibilities within the local organisation. These are as follows:

- The Board/EMT person accountable for RA activity within the organisation must be overtly identified and named. Part of this ensures that the RA Manager knows who to raise issues with.
- The Board/EMT individual must report to the Board/EMT annually on RA activity and must sign off on RA Data Security and Protection Toolkit submissions.

- RA Managers are responsible for running the governance of RA in the organisation. As such they must agree and sign off on local operational processes and guidance and should assure themselves regularly that these processes are being adhered to (NOTE: local processes must comply with this national policy process and guidance set out by NHS Digital). They are also responsible for registering RA staff in their own organisations and any RA Managers in child organisations. They are also responsible for ensuring the effective training of RA Agents and Sponsors within their organisation.
- New roles have been created in the Registration Authority software, Care Identity Services, to allow the RA Manager to delegate certain aspects of RA activity. These include Advanced RA Agents, RA Agents (ID checking only) and Local Smartcard Administrators. However, these delegated permissions do not extend to any of the areas covered in point 3 above. This is explained in the following table:

RA Manager CANNOT delegate	RA Manager CAN delegate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsibility for running RA Governance in their organisation</li> <li>• Responsibility for ensuring local processes are in place that meet policy and guidance for the creation of digital identities, production of smartcards, assignment of access rights, modifications to access and people and certificate renewal and card unlocking</li> <li>• Assignment of RA Agents and sponsors and the registration of RA Agents and Sponsors</li> <li>• The training of RA Agents and Sponsors and ensuring they are competent to carry out their roles and adhere to policy and process. A RA Hosting organisation parenting another RA Hosting organisation is responsible in providing training to the RA Manager in the next level down</li> <li>• Facilitation of the process for agreeing the organisation's access control positions</li> <li>• Responsibility for ensuring that appropriate auditing is carried out</li> <li>• Responsibility for ensuring users are compliant with the terms and conditions of Smartcard usage</li> <li>• Verification of user's ID to GPG45 level 3, when they register users</li> <li>• Responsibility for ensuring the security of (old) paper-based RA records</li> <li>• Responsibility for ensuring all service issues are raised appropriately locally and nationally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of local processes that meet the Registration Authority Policy and guidance for the creation of digital identities, production of NHS Digital smartcards, allocation of other approved devices assignment of access rights, modifications to access and people and certificate renewal and card unlocking</li> <li>• Operation of core RA processes of registering a user, the approval and granting of access, the modification of personal details and the modification of access rights</li> <li>• The implementation of the local auditing process</li> <li>• Ensuring users accept terms &amp; conditions of Smartcard use when registering them</li> <li>• Operational security of (old) paper-based RA records</li> <li>• Raising service issues as appropriate and through the correct channels</li> </ul>

Identity checking must be carried out by those holding an RA role – RA Managers RA Agent and RA ID Checker Roles.

## 5.1 RA Manager Responsibilities

- Responsible for running RA Governance in their organisation – **RA Managers CANNOT DELEGATE THIS**
- Responsible for the development of local processes that meet policy and guidance for the creation of Authentication Tokens, digital identities, production of smartcards, assignment of security device, assignment of access rights, modifications to access and people, removal of

access rights in a timely fashion where there is no business justification for the rights to be retained and certificate renewal and card unlocking.

- Implements local RA policy and RA processes adhering to national guidance and this policy
- Assign, sponsor and register RA Agents and Sponsors.
- Train RA Agents and Sponsors and ensuring they are competent to carry out their roles and adhere to policy and process – If an RA hosting organisation with a child hosting organisation – need to train RA Manager at next level down.
- Facilitate the process for agreeing the organisations access control positions.
- Responsible for auditing.
- Responsible for ensuring users are compliant with the terms and conditions of Smartcard usage and other registered devices.
- Verifies user's ID to GPG45 Level 3 or 4, when they register users.
- Ensuring leavers from an organisation have their access rights removed in a timely way.
- Responsible for the security of (old) paper-based RA records.
- Ensure all service issues are raised appropriately locally and nationally.

## 5.2 RA Agent Responsibilities

- Verify users ID to GPG45 Level 3 or 4.
- Register users and provide them with Authentication Tokens.
- Grant users access assignment.
- Renew Smartcard certificates for users if self-service functionality not used.
- Responsible for ensuring users at the time of registration or assigned a role in the organisation comply with the individual terms and conditions applicable to access to the NHS Care Records Service Ensuring leavers from an organisation have their access rights removed in a timely way.
- Adhere to local processes that meet policy and guidance for the creation of Authentication Tokens, digital identities, production of smartcards, allocation and registration of other approved devices, assignment of access rights, modifications to access and people and certificate renewal and card unlocking.

## 5.3 Sponsors

Sponsors are appointed and entrusted to act on behalf of each partner and customer organisation in determining who should have what access and maintaining the appropriateness of that access. Their role is primarily identification of the type of access to information a user needs via a National application.

Sponsors are responsible for granting on behalf of each partner and customer organisation, who can access what healthcare information. Sponsors will be held accountable by each partner and customer organisation Board for their actions. Sponsors are responsible to each partner and customer organisation Board to ensure only appropriate access to National Applications is granted. Sponsors will be identified by the RA Manager as being suitable persons by virtue of their status and role. Sponsors will be registered by the RA Manager on behalf of each partner and customer organisation in accordance with guidance. Sponsors will be staff with sufficient seniority to understand and accept the responsibility required. Registration Sponsors are responsible to the RA Manager for the accuracy of information requests provided to the Registration Authority Office, and for using the CIS system for 'self-service' activities in relation to Position Based Access Control when this is fully implemented.



The Registration Authority Office will maintain the list of Sponsors.

All Sponsors are required to provide documentary evidence to prove their identity. RA forms may be scanned and transmitted by post or e-mail and sent to the Registration Authority Office for processing. Registration Sponsors are responsible for making sure that National application users are given the minimum appropriate level of access needed to perform their job. The areas of responsibility with respect to National application user access should be clearly defined for each Sponsor.

Registration Sponsors and Registration Authority Office Staff will report any RA related incidents, using the HBL ICT incident reporting procedure to the RA Manager. Additionally Sponsors and Registration Authority Office staff will report any operational difficulties especially where these have patient healthcare implications to the RA Manager. Some circumstances will require a report to be made to the appropriate organisation's Caldicott Guardian.

## 6 Requirements in Relation to NHS Smartcards and Virtual Smartcards

NHS Digital will allow a range of Virtual Smartcards in addition to centrally issued physical NHS Smartcards. These Virtual Smartcards will include approved mobiles, approved tablets, approved devices/operating systems and other approved peripherals and authentication methods. These additional authentication methods must meet the National Institute of Systems and Technology (NIST SP800 – 63 Digital Identity Guidelines for a Authentication Assurance Level 3 authentication, available at <https://pages.nist.gov/800-63-3/>), this describes the cryptographic strength of authentication methods that is required to access sensitive data. In addition, devices and authentication methods need to meet FIDO 2 standards for how devices utilise the required cryptography (available at <https://fidoalliance.org/>) and must be accredited by the FIDO alliance. Any device or authentication method that meets both standards will be acceptable for authenticating to national clinical systems and the choice of device that meets these standards is down to the local organisation.

NHS Smartcards and other approved devices and authentication methods enable an individual to access sensitive patient data, and therefore how they are issued and ensuring safe receipt and appropriate use are of vital importance. As a result, the following are mandatory requirements:

1. NHS Smartcard, device or other approved authentication method issued to anyone holding RA roles (RA Manager, Advanced RA Agent, RA Agent and RA Agent – ID Checking) must be handed over to that individual in a face-to-face encounter. This is because RA staff have significant powers in relation to the system and they are entrusted with much of the delegated responsibilities from NHS Digital – therefore it is vital that risks are minimised in the process of the Smartcard/Security Key getting to or a device being linked to the right person. It is also a Public Key Infrastructure requirement for these reasons.
2. HBL ICT has a robust and secure process in place to ensure the Authentication Tokens reach all non-RA users for whom they are intended. This is important to avoid individuals potentially gaining access to patient data when they are not the person entitled to do so.



- In the event that it is not possible to hand the Smartcard over in a face-to-face encounter when performing the identity check to the end user, the Smartcard is posted in a 'locked' state or can be collected by the user.
3. Organisations should ensure that their infrastructure is secure, in particular ensuring they meet the Warranted Environment Specification issued by NHS Digital available at <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/spine/spine-technical-information-warranted-environment-specification-wes>
  4. Only the end user for whom the NHS Smartcard, device or other approved authentication method is intended should know their passcode for their NHS Smartcard/Device, , no-one else should, including RA staff. If anyone else knows the user's passcode it breaches the Authentication Tokens terms and conditions of use and the Computer Misuse Act 1990.
  5. Robot Process Automation (RPA) solutions requiring Smartcards for nonperson specific use, form an exception to policy so the security and risks need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis. All requests for an RPA Smartcard must be submitted to the Registration Authority Manager.
  6. When NHS Smartcards and other approved devices and authentication methods users leave an organisation should have their access assignment end dated in that organisation. However, unless it can be reasonably foreseen that they will not require access in another organisation in the future, leavers should retain their Physical Smartcard or Virtual smartcard if this is stored on their personal mobile phone. Users of other authentication devices or methods will return these devices to their organisation before they leave.
  7. It is mandatory that users sign the Terms & Conditions applicable to access to the NHS Care Records Service detailed at <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/registration-authorities-and-smartcards#registration-authorities>. This reminds them of their responsibilities and obligations, including not sharing their Identity Solution, and not disclosing their passcode to others.
  8. RA staff (RA Managers, Advanced RA Agents and RA Agents) are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that users comply with these terms and conditions.

## 7 Failure to comply with Policy Requirements

Where NHS Digital is notified of significant breaches to this RA Policy, they will consider the situation and take appropriate remedial action. This will include discussing the situation with the organisation but may result in discussions with regulatory or professional bodies depending upon the seriousness of the situation.

## Appendix A. Template for acknowledgement of responsibility for provision of RA service

HBL ICT Services  
Charter House  
Parkway  
Welwyn Garden City  
AL8 6JL

FAO: Simon Carey

I confirm on behalf of \*\*\*Insert Organisation Name\*\*\* that we acknowledge that the appointed HBL ICT RA Manager is responsible for the provision of RA services supplied by HBL ICT Services.

At the time of writing, I confirm the following roles are allocated within this organisation as below:

Role	Allocated To
Privacy Officer	
Caldicott Guardian	
Board Member Responsible for RA	
Sponsors	

Yours sincerely

A N Other

## Appendix B. Comment Form

As part of HBL ICT Services Department continuous improvement regime, would you please complete this form. Any comments or feedback on this document should be addressed to the Owner. Please provide your name and contact details in case clarification is required.

**Name** [Click here to enter text.](#)

**Address** [Click here to enter text.](#)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

**Phone** [Click here to enter text.](#)

**Email** [Click here to enter text.](#)

**Please return to:**

HBL ICT Services

Charter House

Welwyn Garden City

Hertfordshire, AL8 6JL

Please confirm the document you want to give response to as:

***HBL ICT Policy/Procedure:*** [Click here to enter text.](#)

Please rate the document using the topics and criteria indicated below:

	Very Good	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
<b>Format and Layout</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Accuracy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Clarity</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Illustrations (tables, figures etc.)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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***Thank you for your time.***