

# Digital Social Care Record Funding Criteria, Process, Funding and Training

NHS England has made available funding available to Integrated Care System to support care providers to implement a Digital Social Care Record (DSCR) system. The Digital Social Care Record (DSCR) funding program is due to finish in March 2025, after which the funding opportunity will be withdrawn.

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICS are working towards a forecasted deadline of **28<sup>th</sup> February 2025** for all applications to be submitted and funding paid to applicants.

Bottom line - get your application in as soon as possible.

The ICS can currently fund up to £6000 per registered location or 50% of the year one implementation costs, whichever is the lower of the amounts.

For example, they would potentially be able to contribute £6000 towards £14,000 of year one implementation costs. If your year one implementation costs were £7000, they would be able to potentially contribute £3500.

Retrospective funding may also be possible if you invested in the DCSR system and signed your supplier contract after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 and meet the criteria below.

## Criteria

- You must be a CQC registered Adult Social Care provider in either Staffordshire or Stoke-on-Trent. This includes care homes, home care, supported living and shared lives services. Unregistered locations cannot be funded.
- You must invest in a Digital Social Care Record (DSCR) system from the list of accredited suppliers.

All 'assured supplier solutions' have been assessed as meeting the minimum expected capabilities and have signed up to the contractual terms of the NHS Digital Catalogue Agreement.

Click here to see the current list of [Assured solutions for digital social care records | Digitising Social Care](#)

Guidance on choosing the right solution for your business can be found here [Writing a Specification for a Digital Social Care Record System](#)

- Review the shortlisted systems.
- Review supplier literature.
- Request demos.

- Speak with suppliers to understand **how they can meet your needs** as a care provider.
- You must have a current **Data Security Protection Toolkit (DSPT)** at Standards Met level or would be willing to achieve compliance within the current financial year. At SARCP we can support you in completing the DSPT if you haven't already done so.
  - Go to our website at <https://sarcp.net> or email us at [dsptsupport@sarcp.com](mailto:dsptsupport@sarcp.com)
- You have an active NHS mail account or will activate your NHS mail account within the current financial year. There is a guide available: [How to complete the NHSmail social care provider registration portal](#)

Having a current Data Security Protection Toolkit (DSPT) is a pre-requisite to accessing NHSmail.

## Application Process

The process for applying for funding is as follows:

- Complete and return the application form.
- Attach copy invoices of
  - The contract quote for system.
  - licence fees.
  - training provided by supplier.
  - costs to purchase or rent devices (these can be bought from other retailers).

Application is reviewed and agreed in principle based on quotes – an email will be sent to you to confirm this.

Once your system set up, or costs start to be incurred please send evidence to [digitalfundingenquiries@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:digitalfundingenquiries@staffordshire.gov.uk) <<mailto:digitalfundingenquiries@staffordshire.gov.uk>>

The Actual amount of funding to be paid is then formally confirmed.

An MOU document will be sent to you and a request for you to complete a short online survey (link will be in MOU document).

A Purchase Order will be created and sent via email to you.

You then issue an invoice quoting PO number and send to [apinvoices@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:apinvoices@staffordshire.gov.uk) <<mailto:apinvoices@staffordshire.gov.uk>>

please copy in

[digitalfundingenquiries@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:digitalfundingenquiries@staffordshire.gov.uk) <<mailto:digitalfundingenquiries@staffordshire.gov.uk>>

## Funding

ICS can contribute funding towards:

- Year one contract costs.
- System licences.
- Devices such as tablet computers, provided you can show that these were purchased for the sole purpose of DSCR.
- Some elements of network infrastructure amendments (case by case basis).
- Training from the system supplier.

They cannot fund:

- Beyond the first-year costs.
- eMAR systems.
- Rostering systems.
- Call bells systems.
- Additional technology solutions.

## Training

Digital Social Care have listed a variety of free and paid for training courses that could support you and your staff.

### [Overview](#)

[Theme 1: Using technology to support person-centred care](#)

[Theme 2: Technical skills for using technology](#)

[Theme 3: Communicating through technology](#)

[Theme 4: Using and managing data](#)

[Theme 5: Being safe and secure online](#)

[Theme 6: Ethical use of technology](#)

[Theme 7: Digital learning, development, and wellbeing](#)

There is also a wide range of training and development opportunities offered by [Care Market Development Team - Staffordshire County Council](#)

Finally, if you have any questions then don't hesitate to contact us using the email [dscrsupport@sarcp.com](mailto:dscrsupport@sarcp.com).