



BRIEFING NOTE

For Elected Representatives



one person.
one record.
one system.

Goes Live: **6 June 2024**

What is encompass?

Health and Social Care Trusts have begun to implement a new digital programme across Northern Ireland called 'encompass'.

This means there will be one digital health and social care record for every person in Northern Ireland.

The new programme will no longer require paper records, and our staff will be able to access service user information at the touch of a button.

This will be rolled out across our Trust on 6 June 2024 and in time, your constituents will be able to access their own records directly via a portal called 'My Care'.

Check the benefits...

- Hospital appointment reminders available to patients via text message
- Less repetition in telling your story over and over to different health providers
- Improved quality and consistency of care
- A patient portal to give you digital access to your own records
- Built in safety checks for allergies, infection risk and dosage



If you haven't already accepted the meeting invite for the All-Party Meeting on 9th May, [click here](#) to register

Northern Ireland currently uses lots of different systems which cannot easily communicate with each other. Many of these systems are old and require replacement.



is an HSCNI wide programme which will introduce a new nationwide digital care record for every person in Northern Ireland.

South Eastern Trust went live with encompass on 9 November 2023 and it will be our turn on 6 June 2024.

The three remaining Health and Social Care Trusts will follow suit over the coming 18 months.

Our staff are working extraordinarily hard to prepare for this major change with staff training having begun on 8 April.

The new devices required to support this change have been deployed and testing has begun to ensure everything is ready and in place for June.

When encompass is being implemented, patients arriving in our hospitals will see many more staff onsite, helping us move from a paperless system to the digital programme. Your constituents may also see staff using devices which look like mobile phones. They are using these to access patient records and input information.

During the implementation period, there may be some disruption to our services as staff adjust to the new ways of working so we are asking everyone to be patient as we implement this new way of working.

Click [here](#) to find out more!

At present, General Practice (GP) and Primary Care are currently not within the scope of the encompass programme.

GPs however, will have access to encompass via EpicCare Link. This is an online read-only view of a person's electronic health record.

Primary Care and Non-Trust clinicians can view patient records, place referrals and radiology orders.

