



NYHDIF

Northern, Yorkshire and Humberside
Digital and Information Forum

**Network Meeting - 16th January 2026
Virtual**

Lee Rickles - CIO Humber (Chairing in place of James Rawlinson)

1.0 NYHDIF Future - Leadership and Committee Transition

Current Chair (James) and Vice Chair (Lee, CIO Humber) have served 4–5 years, exceeding typical rotation periods under the constitution. They propose opening nominations to the wider membership for both Chair and Vice Chair roles. They are willing to continue if no others step forward but strongly encourage “new blood.” A formal electronic voting process will follow expressions of interest.

Separately, Alastair and Janet will conclude their support roles at the end of the 2026/2027 Financial year.

- Conclusion: Call issued for expressions of interest via email to CIO Humber; formal election process to follow. Transition planning for management support roles to begin immediately.

2: Regional and National Digital Updates

- Discussion Points:
- **SDN Update (Caroline/Paul):** DSDN conference registered 103 delegates; AI workshop was most popular (68 registrants). SDN Strategy Day highlighted demand for AI governance and training. Upcoming Digital Workforce Action Planning Workshop scheduled for 29 January. Informal Digital Transformation Group meets bimonthly.
- **NHS England Regional (Glenn):** Plans to repeat AI audit (last conducted 12 months ago) to identify scalable use cases and develop case studies (e.g., Annalise CT in Doncaster, hiding-in-use in Bradford). Ethical AI framework development underway with clinical/academic partners. ABT trials funded in Leeds (Tortoise) and Sunderland (Heidi) to produce adoption playbooks. Potential 4-year Frontline Productivity funding agreement discussed, with AI and ambient voice as priority areas.
- **Cybersecurity (Matt):** Shared data on major incidents: 42% due to unpatched vulnerabilities, 25% due to lack of MFA. Emphasized organizational responsibility for patching and MFA. Reassured that none of the 12 recent incidents affected Northern and Yorkshire trusts. Highlighted risks in shared systems as potential blind spots.
- Conclusion: Strong consensus on urgency of AI governance, workforce development, and cybersecurity hygiene. Opportunities for NYHDIF-SDN collaboration identified.

3: Regional Collaboration on AI, Federated Data Platform, and EPR Standardization

Summary

- **Discussion Summary:** Multiple speakers highlighted how national bodies are undergoing restructuring (e.g., voluntary redundancies, unclear future models), leaving regional organizations without reliable guidance. Teams within NHS England (e.g., Care Planning, NHS App, Wayfinder, Comcare, Single Patient Record) operate in silos and fail to coordinate, even on cross-cutting priorities like the Reasonable Adjustment Flag.
- **Key Points:**
 - The Single Patient Record was notably absent from the national Medium Term Plan, despite ongoing business case development at Treasury.
 - Existing shared care records may persist, but a national “record locator” is seen as ineffective and not user-centered.
- Clinicians report being overwhelmed by fragmented data (e.g., “47 PDF documents”) that lacks integration or usability.
- **Context/Background:** Years of top-down, short-window funding have incentivized organizations to work in isolation rather than collaborate, undermining system-wide digital maturity.

Federated Data Platform (FDP) Concerns

- **Discussion Summary:** Strong skepticism was voiced about the FDP, particularly regarding Palantir’s role, limited interoperability, and the high cost of migrating from existing data platforms (e.g., Databricks). One trust is refusing to adopt FDP except for statutory compliance.
- **Key Points:**
 - FDP lacks real-time interoperability capabilities promised during procurement.
 - Migration is resource-intensive and disrupts reporting/analytics for 6–12 months.
 - Value proposition is unclear: “What does it add that I can’t get already?”
 - Concerns about ethics and social values tied to Palantir’s involvement.
- **Context/Background:** Organizations have already invested heavily in alternative data infrastructure; forced migration without clear benefit is seen as wasteful.

Topics for future NYHDIF discussion: AI (esp. Ambient Voice) and FDP

Supplier Presentation – KCL Digital



NYHDIF CNWLxKCLD
EHR Optimisation Overview

Next Meeting:

NYHDIF – 20th March Xscape Castleford