Supporting the health sector – UK experience

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Context

- National Health Service (NHS) managed by the UK's 4 home countries, including digital strategy
- Each has a central digital service authority e.g. NHS Digital for England
- Healthcare managed by local organisations such as NHS Trusts or Boards, apart from primary care (independent contractors mostly)
- Social care managed by Local Authorities
- Increasing move to bring local organisations in to "Integrated Care Systems" at subregional level.
- Jisc (UK NREN) mostly concentrates on the interface between the NHS and research and education e.g. for clinical placements students and supporting clinical research. Longstanding NHS-HE Forum events.
- Jisc does provide services to the NHS where there is an opportunity for the public good: T&I, roaming and some connectivity and Cloud.





Connectivity

To date the health systems have had their own NHS private Wide Area Networks

- So, network connections of NHS organisations to the Janet network have been limited to a few opportunistic organisations, or those heavily involved with research. Although Janet is part of the networks in Wales and Kent for internet.
- Government policy has now shifted to "internet first" for the public sector
- The migration will take many years, but the Janet network could be more of interest to health with this model, especially as Jisc, along with all NRENs, have had to significantly invest in cyber security.
- Health organisations are also moving to the Cloud and Jisc can help there too



Use of Health Data

A new UK organisation, Health Data Research UK (HDR UK), has been set up over the last 4 years to coordinate the way that the UK uses health data for research

- Many of the organisations that are part of Health Data Research UK are connected to Janet
- Any further help that Jisc might give is constrained by the emerging policies of:
 - Data held in "Trusted Research Environments", some NHS Cloud, some academic, some commercial
 - Data not to move, analytics to be brought to the data
 - Linkage of datasets across different Trusted Research Environments using specialist software to combine them without bringing the data in to one place.
- Jisc may create a Trusted Research Environment, and is already developing Learning Analytics service for our members



Visited eduroam in the NHS

Health organisations implement eduroam to support clinical placement students

- Can be by widening the footprint for eduroam from a university to its health partner sites
- Or NHS organisation joins the eduroam federation as a visited organisation
- Implemented in about 200 NHS sites

Open Athens

Open Athens is a federated access service used by many organisations, particularly for library and knowledge management, it has used by NHS libraries for many years

The NHS is in the process of implementing its own federated access approach, to include access to clinical systems



govroam

Service to the NHS, Local Authorities and wider public sector

- Following in the footsteps of the Netherlands and Belgium
- Based on eduroam technology and design
- Not something offered by commercial companies or the NHS support organisations, so a gap where Jisc's experience can help.
- One difference from eduroam is a regional federation model can be included between national and local organisation levels e.g. for Wales, Yorkshire and Humberside, Greater Manchester
- Works well where it is implemented by health and local authority organisations in a geographical area, supports integrated working between health and social care.
- "Visited govroam" encouraged for eduroam organisations
- Low-cost subscription model



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