

NHS Business Classification Scheme (BCS) - Press Release – August 2007

A national project is underway to create a model Business Classification Scheme (BCS) for the NHS across the United Kingdom. The project is focussing on creating a BCS aimed at Trusts delivering direct patient care, that sit under the umbrella of the Strategic Health Authorities, to assist in their endeavours to comply with the Department of Health's Records Management Code of Practice 2006. Though currently aimed at working Trusts, other NHS bodies like the NHS Business Services Authority and Strategic Health Authorities will also be able to apply a considerable part of the model framework to their own organisations.

The BCS project has been making steady progress since its inaugural meeting in London in January 2007. Since then, the working project group has widened to include representatives from senior health bodies and Trusts in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales making this a truly collaborative endeavour.

Project review meetings are being held every two months to discuss progress to date, review the documentation and contributions made by Trusts around the country and the work undertaken by the project team to date. A number of local and regional file plans have been generously contributed to the BCS and the project group has developed a process to review, consolidate and rationalise these into a common BCS model for the NHS.

The working group has also fine-tuned the scope and parameters of the project to ensure the project is both achievable and deliverable. The Group aim to release a high-level draft of the BCS to the NHS community by December 2007 and is on target.

This project is lead by a collaboration between the chairs of the national groups the Records Management Society (Chair: Dr Paul Duller - Tribal) and the Health Archives and Records Group (Chair: Karen Waite - Cornwall & Isles of Scilly NHS Trusts; Corporate Records Manager).

For further information about the NHS Business Classification Scheme Project please contact:

karen.waite@rcht.cornwall.nhs.uk
paul.duller@tribalgroup.co.uk

or