

Business scenario

Optimising patient care through service desk enhancements

Service desk at scale

For a Trust of 6,000 clinical staff this can 'give back' as much as 11,000 clinical hours per year

Within NHS Integrated Care Boards (ICB), each individual Trust typically has its own dedicated Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) services.

DDaT services can often be seen as a blocker by Healthcare Professionals, as they find themselves pulled away from patient care to deal with IT concerns and can spend a significant time waiting for issue resolutions or technical service requests to be fulfilled through the service desk.

The streamlining of service through automation, digital self-service, upskilling colleagues, improving processes, and standardising tools across Trusts within an ICB can overcome these challenges and allow the Service Desk to be viewed as an enabler for patient care, rather than a blocker.

Challenges

Non-standard and sub-optimal tooling leads to long wait times for requests and inaccurate IT services, frustrating healthcare professionals reliant on efficient tools.

Inconsistent IT processes and policies increases administration burden and lead times, impacting the cost, speed and quality of patient care.

Outages to core clinical systems can be highly disruptive and costly. Preventing access to vital patient information, and scheduling, and may affect the delivery of treatments.

Stretched service desk and IT resource and no 24x7 support results in **healthcare professionals** spending **longer waiting times** on the phone to the service desk, rather than with patients.

Solution approach

Standardisation and **optimisation** of the **Service Request Portal** and processes, **improving** ease of **navigation** and **request fulfilment, to increase the** speed, productivity and accuracy.

Standardisation of **process** and **policy** across IT Services to ensure **consistent ways of working**, and improved onboarding across Trusts.

Introduction of standard **service performance** reporting and **trend analysis**, through visual dashboards and metrics to enable **proactive performance management**.

Service desk consolidation or leveraging IT resource across Trusts within the ICB to **account** for **peaks** and **24/7 IT support**.

Benefits

Enabling healthcare professionals to spend less time navigating IT and its challenges, allowing time to **focus on patient care, and clinical** activities:

- **Reduced time** spent on the phone to the service desk, waiting for access or issues to be resolved
- Established IT processes, and a proactive approach to service performance to **reduce outages to clinical applications** and enable a quicker resolution time and reduced cost of outage.
- Leveraging of IT resource to **adapt across Trust demand requirements**, including knowledge and best practice sharing to **enable an efficient end-to-end IT service** for Trusts.