

Reference: FOI.ICB-2627/005

Subject: Recorded Assurance for Software Based Data Erasure of End of Life IT Equipment

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>Thank you for your response and for providing the associated disposal policy.</p> <p>FOI.ICB-2526/435: Recorded Assurance for Software Based Data Erasure of End of Life IT Equipment</p> <p>To avoid any misunderstanding, I would like to clarify the distinction I am drawing. I am not questioning the adequacy of your processes or suggesting anything is being done incorrectly. My enquiry relates solely to the type of recorded assurance held by your organisation.</p> <p>The policy provided confirms that data destruction certificates are issued and retained, and that these certificates record that destruction or sanitisation has been completed, along with associated device details and dates.</p> <p>A certificate confirming that a destruction or erasure process was carried out demonstrates that a recognised method was applied. What I am seeking to understand is whether your organisation holds any recorded evidence of the outcome, namely evidence that the data on a specific storage device is irrecoverable, rather than confirmation that the process was executed.</p>	
<p>With that distinction in mind, please confirm:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do the certificates held by your organisation contain an explicit statement warranting or guaranteeing that the final data state of each specific storage device is irrecoverable? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certificates do not contain an explicit statement warranting or guaranteeing that the final data state of each specific storage device is irrecoverable.

2. If such a statement exists, please provide the exact recorded wording as it appears on the certificates currently relied upon. Any commercially or security sensitive information may be redacted as appropriate.
3. If no such explicit outcome based warranty wording exists, please confirm whether the certificates instead confirm that a certified erasure or destruction process was completed, rather than providing recorded evidence demonstrating irrecoverability of the final data state.

For clarity, this request relates specifically to recorded outcome evidence demonstrating irrecoverability of data on the individual storage device, not documentation confirming that an accredited or certified method was applied.

2. N/a.
3. Certification confirms a certified data erasure process was completed.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 9 April 2026 and has been approved for release by Seb Habibi, Interim Chief Transformation and Digital Information Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.