



Summer Schools 2026
a digitalhealth event  | 16-17 July, University of Nottingham

PROGRAMME **FIRST LOOK**



KEY THEMES

- + Power, influence and accountability: digital leadership in 2026 and beyond
- + From innovation to impact: scaling what actually works
- + Balancing innovation, safety and ethics in the AI era
- + Building effective NHS-supplier partnerships
- + The 10-year health plan: one year on

WORKSHOP THEMES

- + Leadership and workforce
- + Digital transformation delivery
- + Data and interoperability
- + Clinical risk and governance
- + Systems and architecture
- + The business of digital

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS



Prof Kathrin Cresswell
Professor of Digital Innovations in Health & Care, The University of Edinburgh



Andy Callow
Chief Digital & Transformation Officer, Nottingham University Hospitals



Dr Alec Price-Forbes
National CCIO, NHS England

PLUS **HAYLEY GRAFTON** **ABIGAIL HARRISON** **ANDY POOLE** **DR PENNY KECHAGIOGLOU**
THARNI VASAVAN **CLIVE FLASHMAN** **ANIL MISTRY** **HELEN BALSDON** **HEATHER CASE**

SOCIALS & NETWORKING



Welcome BBQ



Awards & gala dinner



Networking breakouts



Read
more

KEY THEMES

+ Power, influence and accountability: digital leadership in 2026 and beyond

In an era when digital leaders are increasingly held accountable for outcomes that sit beyond traditional digital control, such as suppliers, shadow IT, clinical safety, adoption, and board-level decision-making, what does modern authority really look like in the NHS? And how do digital leaders influence boards, peers and system partners, often without 'formal power'?

+ From innovation to impact: scaling what actually works

Fatigued by pilots and proofs of concepts, senior leaders want real outcomes that scale clinically, operationally and financially. Why do good digital ideas fail to scale in the NHS? How do you decide what to back, stop or decommission? And how do we effectively evaluate change?

+ Balancing innovation, safety and ethics in the AI era

Clinical safety, regulation and ethics are no longer specialist topics - they are board-level concerns, especially with AI deployment accelerating. How do senior leaders ensure that governance keeps pace with innovation? And what does 'safe AI' actually mean?

+ Building effective NHS-supplier relationships

The demands of digital transformation require a much more strategic approach to relationships between the NHS and vendors than before. How do digital leaders move away from transactional relationships to collaborative partnerships? And what are the guardrails and elements that enable a successful strategic working relationship?

+ The 10-year health plan: one year on

The 10-year health plan last July laid the foundation for large-scale change across the NHS, heralding the left shift and wholesale system transformation. One year on, where are we now? What are the emerging learnings on digitally enabled neighbourhoods? What are the next steps for success? And what does effective leadership through change look like?

WORKSHOP THEMES & TOPICS

+ Leadership and workforce

Topics include:

- How to succeed at board level as a CIO
- What does the NHSE announcement on professional registration mean for me?
- Digital transformation: tools and techniques to bring the whole organisation along with you

+ Digital transformation delivery

Topics include:

- Digitally enabled neighbourhoods: early learning from best practice
- Developing a system wide data and intelligence platform
- The core skills for true transformation and delivery capability
- Frontline productivity
- Effective partnership working: trust, transparency and joint effort

+ Data and interoperability

Topics include:

- Garbage in, garbage out: the vital importance of data quality and how to achieve this
- Embedding research into digital transformation

+ Clinical risk and governance

Topics include:

- Enabling AI and governance to keep pace

+ Systems and architecture

Topics include:

- Shared care records

+ The business of digital

Topics include:

- How to build effective NHS-supplier partnerships
- Tackling the productivity vs spending paradox in the NHS
- Demonstrating the ROI of digital programmes
- Ethical procurement
- Benefits realisation: identifying what success looks like from the beginning



SPEAKERS



Helen Balsdon
CNIO,
NHS England



Alec Price-Forbes
National CCIO,
NHS England



Dr Wajid Hussain
CMIO, Digital Clinical Informatics Team,
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Andy Callow
Chief Digital &
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Prof Kathrin Cresswell
Professor of Digital
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Abigail Harrison
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Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS FT



Anil Mistry
AI Safety Lead, Senior Clinical
Scientist in Artificial Intelligence,
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS FT



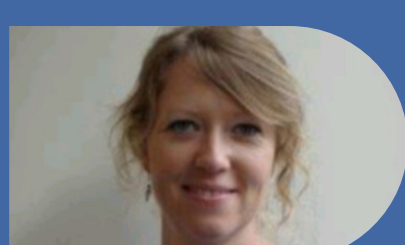
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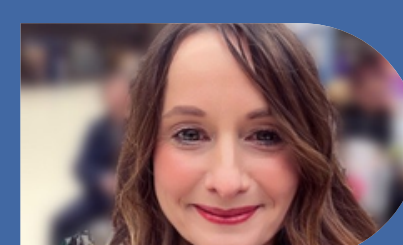
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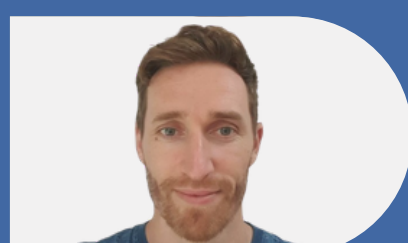
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Clive Flashman
Chief Digital
Officer,
Patient Safety Learning



Charlotte Clay
PhD Candidate in Medical
Informatics,
University of Edinburgh

OVERVIEW

WEDNESDAY 15 JULY

18:00 Welcome BBQ

THURSDAY 16 JULY

09:00 Plenary: National picture

09:45 Plenary: Power, influence and
accountability: how not to suck as a digital leader
in 2026

Coffee break / networking

11:00 Workshop breakouts

Lunch

13:30 Plenary: From innovation to impact:
scaling what actually works

14:15 Workshop breakouts

Coffee break / networking

15:45 Plenary: AI is now the top risk to patient
safety: what can organisations and patients do to
protect themselves?

16:45 Plenary: Measuring what is meaningful:
how do we effectively evaluate digital change?

19:00 Digital Health Awards

FRIDAY 17 JULY

09:00 Plenary: One year on from the 10YHP:
where are we and what's next?

09:45 Workshop breakouts

Coffee break / networking

11:15 Plenary: Digital sovereignty

Lunch

13:15 Workshop breakouts

Coffee break / networking

14:45 Plenary: Final panel session

Programme subject to change

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