



Issue 35 – February 2017

## Information for all GCSX secure email users

Central Government has mandated that the use of GCSX email addresses should cease and has published a new email “blueprint” that defines how all government organisations must secure their email between each other in the future. **Devon County Council will be removing “devon.gcsx.gov.uk” email addresses** and implementing the new recommendations.

There will be a transition period while other government organisations are also implementing the requirements of the blueprint. When this transition period is complete, all email passing between government organisations will be guaranteed to be securely encrypted as it passes over the Internet, and will no longer use the GCSX email system.

Emails sent to non-government organisations and the public that have been classified as “Official” or “Official-Sensitive” by the DCC sender will continue to be handled by the Egress Switch email encryption system.

### What do you need to do?

You should see very little change to the way you send email. However, as a result of this change with effect from Monday 13 March 2017, DCC staff email addresses will no longer have ‘gcsx’ within the address.

For example [firstname.surname@devon.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@devon.gcsx.gov.uk) will change to [firstname.surname@devon.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@devon.gov.uk).

Secure shared mailboxes will also be affected and will no longer have ‘gcsx’ within the address but also the word ‘secure’ will be removed from the email address and the mailbox name

For example [mailboxnamesecure-mailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:mailboxnamesecure-mailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk) will change to [mailboxname-mailbox@devon.gov.uk](mailto:mailboxname-mailbox@devon.gov.uk)

From 13 March 2017 DCC, staff will not be able to send GCSX emails. However, to assist in the transition DCC will still accept incoming email to the old GCSX email addresses to avoid any disruption to our services and email communications. It is anticipated this will be for a period of at least six months. These incoming emails will appear in your normal mailbox. Once the transition has been completed you will be notified when DCC will no longer accept emails to the old GCSX email addresses.

### Tell people!

Therefore it is important if you currently have a GCSX email address you start notifying colleagues in other organisations that your email address is changing. A suggested way to inform colleagues that your email address will **change is to add a message to your email auto signature** e.g.

*“Please note my new email address will be [firstname.surname@devon.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@devon.gov.uk) with effect from 13 March 2017”.*

The use of Egress Switch to classify email is unaffected by this change, so you will need to continue to select the correct Egress classification before you send your email. If the information

you want to send is of a confidential or sensitive nature, continue to select “Official” or “Official-Sensitive” as appropriate. This classification process allows the underlying email and encryption systems to automatically choose the appropriate protection level for each type of email, taking into consideration the destination of the email and the sensitivity of its contents.

Shared mailboxes that are registered with Egress Switch will receive an invitation to re-register. This action **must** be completed before the mailbox can be used to send secure emails via Egress.

Information Governance has [advised our partners](#) of this change.

Central Government has published guidance for organisations on their website at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/securing-government-email>

As per [the article published on 24August 2016](#), email communications between DCC and our NHS partners with @nhs.net email addresses are encrypted, without the need for DCC staff to use GCSX or the recipient logging into the Egress Switch Portal.

**Source:** Business Support