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<b>Title</b>	National Fraud Initiative 2026	
<b>Purpose</b>	To advise of NFI Download in October 2026	
<b>Intended Audience</b>	All HR and Payroll Users	

## SUBJECT

National Fraud Initiative 2026

## DETAIL

Users are advised that the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) is due to take place in October 2026 and that ESR will produce the relevant return for organisations requested by the Cabinet Office. This will be sent automatically to the Cabinet Office as in previous years.

## ACTION REQUIRED

There is no user action in respect of submitting the actual return.


Under the fair processing agreement, there is a need for employers to bring this return to the attention of all employees via local intranet, email bulletins, payslip messages etc. As these messages must be specific to each employer there will not be a national payslip message provided.

Any organisation that has agreed with the Cabinet Office to not take part in the NFI for 2026 should raise a Priority 4 SR for the attention of David Cant, NHS Central Team, detailing which payrolls are not to be included by **24th August 2026**. Users will have to consider if CIC, Hospice and ALB payrolls should take part in this exercise and notify of any exclusions.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For the specification for the Cabinet Office National Fraud Initiative click on the following link:  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-fraud-initiative-public-sector-data-specifications>

Details on NFI fair processing can be found by clicking on the following link:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fair-processing-national-fraud-initiative>

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Any organisation paying their NHS employees via a non-ESR payment system, for example for Locum Doctors or Bank staff, will need to consider how they will provide this additional data as part of the NFI Return.

**NEXT UPDATE**

None