

## **Electronic Staff Record**



Digital technology touches many parts of our lives, from keeping in touch with our friends using social media, booking a taxi through an App or managing our banking online – we all frequently interact with technology.

More than 2.3 million employees across England and Wales now access their payslip online, equating to over 95% of the NHS. In December 2023 approximately 96,000 payslips were set to print in ESR across the NHS, the majority of which will be filed away until they are needed for proof of earnings, and yet online payslips are available via the Electronic Staff Record solution to all NHS employees with an ESR record.

During October 2023 circa 19,238 employees that received a paper payslip also viewed the online version. That's 19,238 paper payslips that need not have been printed across the NHS.

More and more NHS organisations are now seeing the benefits of switching off their paper payslip processes and empowering their staff to enable them to access their online payslips immediately when made available, often before payday, at a time to suit them.

The COVID-19 pandemic was a catalyst for change and many organisations moved staff from office to remote working, making the receiving, handling and distributing of paper payslips outdated, inconvenient and unsafe. The legacy of the pandemic is that many more staff than ever continue to work remotely across the NHS meaning that digital capability continues to be a priority.

Between January and December 23 over 110,000 employees switched to online payslips in ESR.

As of December 2023, over 964,000 employees are now notified via ESR when their latest payslip is available.



Switching to online payslips is simple and brings many benefits to the Employee, the Organisation, the Environment and the NHS overall.







## Employees

- ✓ Available to view at a time convenient to employees, no waiting for the post to arrive
- ✓ Can select to receive an email advising when your latest payslip is ready
- ✓ Can be viewed

   anywhere on any device
   home, work, mobile
   phone and tablet from
   any geographical
   location
- ✓ Historical payslips/P60s from the organisation are available at the touch of a button, ideal for mortgage/earnings enquiries
- ✓ Ability to save PDFs locally on personal devices/PCs
- ✓ Easy for employees to switch to online payslips via their Self Service account
- ✓ Can be viewed before payday where defined by the employer







## Organisations

- ✓ Payslips are automatically available to employees once the payroll processing has completed
- ✓ Organisations can determine themselves how many days before payday their employees are able to access their online payslip, this can be particularly attractive for weekly paid staff
- ✓ If made available early enough, queries can be dealt with and rectified in time for pay day
- ✓ No more waiting for the delivery of the paper payslips, or risking late deliveries
- ✓ Time is freed up for payroll staff to do other duties (no longer required to sort, batch or envelope payslips/P60s)
- ✓ Saves costs on postage, distribution and admin



- Environmental /Security /Health & Safety
- ✓ Supports the Greener NHS National Programme strategy -Delivering a net zero National Health Service.
- ✓ Supports your

  trust/integrated care

  system Green Plan for
  carbon reduction.
- ✓ Helping the environment by reducing your Carbon Footprint
- ✓ Reduces internal transport costs, particularly where there are many community sites
- ✓ Reduces the risk of Information Governance breaches
- ✓ Removes the need for physical storage space
- ✓ Improves Health and Safety no lifting of large bags for redistribution

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Moving to online payslips has saved the Trust over £20k annually in postage costs alone and has allowed our payroll staff to focus on more important tasks than sorting and distributing paper payslips.

Anne Davies – Payroll Manager Sandwell & West Birmingham NHST

# Seven easy steps to get online payslips





**⊙** Next steps

Switching to online payslips and getting your employees online is easier than you think.

Once you have gone through your consultation process with key staff, the Board and Unions and made your employees aware, follow these seven steps to get you online and start realising the benefits it will bring to your employees and your organisation.

Shrewsbury & Telford
Hospital made the transition
from paper payslips to
electronic payslips in August
2020 and it went a lot more
smoothly than we anticipated,
with very few queries. As a
result I strongly recommend
making the transition to
electronic payslips as there
are many benefits including
extra potential processing
time for the payroll team.

Andy Lloyd – Chair, West Midlands Payroll & Pensions SIG



## **Switching to online payslips**

Employee Self Service

Ensure employees have access to Employee Self Service over the internet Trust Level Opt Out

Opt out of receiving paper payslips at Trust level

Exceptions

Review any exceptions and opt in at individual level or via mass update Offset Date

Set the number of days before payday when payslips are viewable Online Payslip Generation

Run the Payroll and ensuite the generation of online payslips is included Leavers & Exceptions

Produce copy payslips for leavers and exceptions Employee View

Employees can view their online payslips

#### **More information**

A toolkit is available, providing your organisation with all the information and resources you will need to switch to online payslips. Go to the <a href="ESR Hub">ESR Hub</a> for more details.

### Would you like to discuss further?



Contact your regional

NHS ESR Functional Account

Manager



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