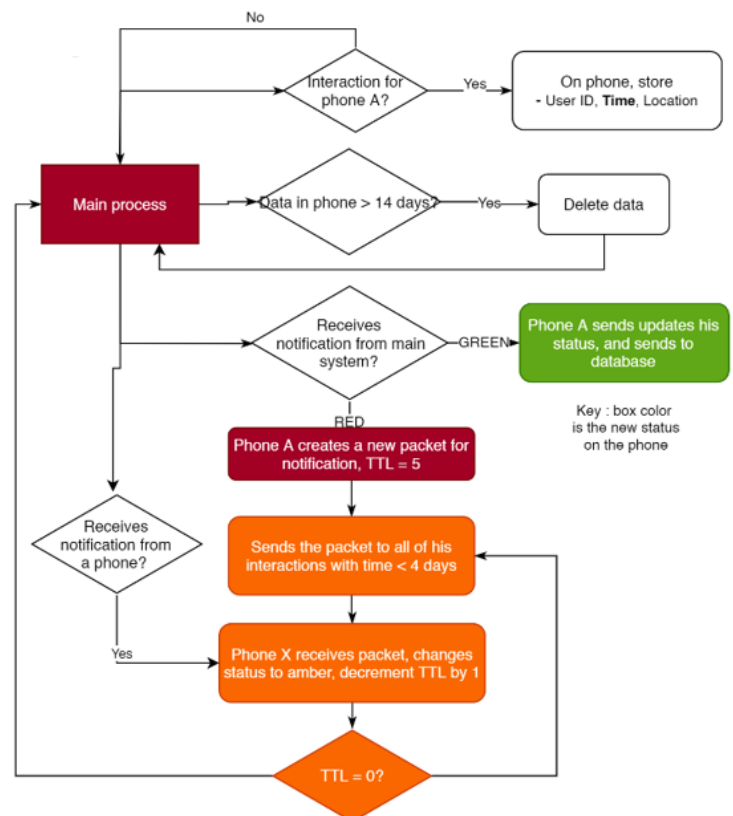


## Overview of the system

1. **Interaction tracking.** When users are in range, packets of data are sent through Bluetooth and stored on the phone. This data is backed up to the cloud.
2. **Updating user status.** When a status is changed, all user's statuses who have been in contact are updated using a TTL feature which decrements on every transmission, effectively mirroring the transmission cone.
3. Allowing medical professionals to **confirm positive tests** and send these to the user. This is done through an NHS integrated software which allows automatic updating of status.
4. **Notify users** that they have been in contact with an infected user. A set of high-speed servers send notifications once a user has a confirmed case and when a user has had an interaction with an infected or potentially infected user.
5. **Feed infection statistics** to the UK dashboard. These statistics are fed through specific locational databases and sent through the REST API. This allows an efficient system - local databases can be mapped to the regions specified by the UK dashboard.



## Meeting Difficult NFRs

**Availability and Reliability:** 99.99% successful delivery rate is achieved by increasing the reliability of the system through **backing up data** on both local storage and central database, and each phone having a cloud backup. In the central storage, each level in the 3-tier database backs up each other. Secondly, there is **buffering** for any communication between server and user application to prevent loss of data/notification in absence of Internet.

**Scale:** **Central server is a scalable unit** so that the server can process various reports and interaction data and propagate the notification over 5 hops within 1 hour. In the 3-tier database, **data storage is split up by locations**. Level 1 stores local, level 2 regional, and level 3 national data; this prevents overloading of the database from request congestion and allows the system **to handle the large user base**.

**Privacy and Security:** Interaction data is **stored on user devices** and only sent to central server when there is a change in the status. All interaction data **older than 14 days is deleted** to ensure the privacy of users. **User IDs are changed every 4 to 5 days** for further protection. Various **firewalls** are in place to avoid data breaches and if a request to harm the database is detected, the system can stop the request through several **security servers** which are in place. Only the most recent four days are backed up to the cloud to **minimise data retention** and for the purpose of allowing users to get back on track if they lose or damage their phones.