

# Introduction to the London SDE / AI Centre Programme

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## Introduction

### What is the London SDE?

The London Secure Data Environment (SDE) programme is part of a national effort to enable secure and more powerful analytics for NHS, academic, and commercial users. Uniquely amongst regional peers, the London SDE does not focus on a single research platform. Rather, it places a focus on developing pan-London data infrastructure and capabilities that can deliver value to patients, care providers, and commissioners. This is in addition to building data environments that support commercial research and development partnerships.

The SDE is presently led by **OneLondon**, as part of an overarching London Health Data Strategy, coalescing around three components (Figure 1).

- (1) **London Data Service (LDS)**: hosted in North-East London, the LDS serves as a data engineering and service layer for pan-London primary care and secondary care data. It handles data extraction and linkage, and provisions data warehouses and secure analytics environments for both research and NHS users.
- (2) **DiscoverNOW Research/Analytics Environment**: run by Imperial College Healthcare Partners, DiscoverNOW supports governance and operation of secure research environments for academic, commercial, and NHS research and analytics.
- (3) **London AI Centre (AIC)**: a national centre of excellence for applied data science and AI, the AIC provides frontier technology for data enrichment, federated analytics, and deployment of machine learning tools, as well as expertise in health data and advanced analytics.

Source: [Article Notebook](#)

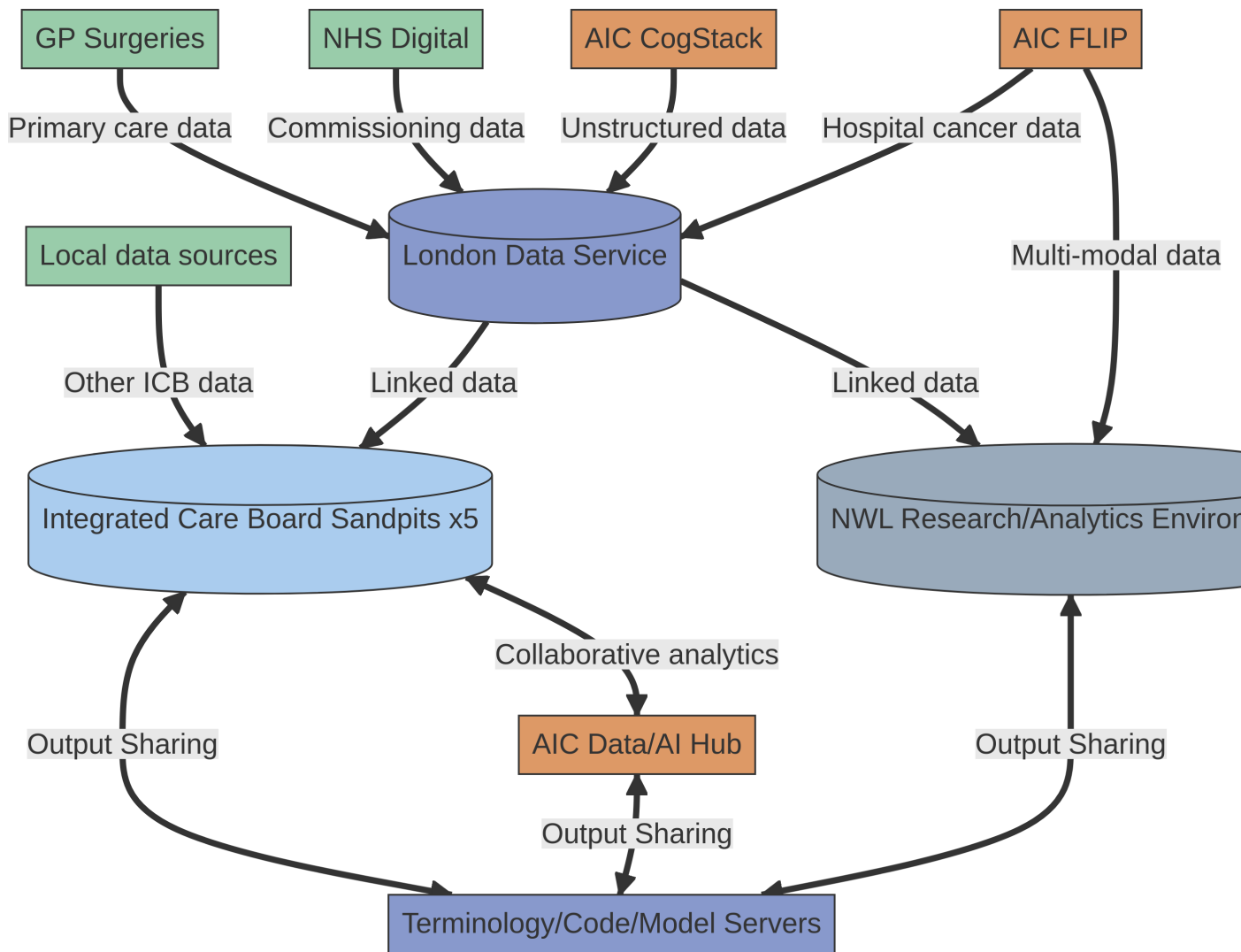


Figure 1: Summary of SDE components and data flows. Each London ICB is provisioned with its own data/analytics environment through the LDS. FLIP = Federated Learning and Interoperability Platform.

**Role of the London AI Centre**

**Ways of working**

**Broad objectives and work packages**

**Proposed use-cases**