UK Digital Identity and Attributes Trust Framework (UK DIATF)

Build trust in your digital identity services with UK DIATF Gamma

bsi Your partner in progress

What is the UK DIATF Gamma Framework and why is certification required?

The **UK Digital Identity and Attributes Trust Framework (UK DIATF)** is a set of rules defined by the UK government for organizations to adhere to. By doing so they can have their service certified, demonstrating it is a trustworthy and safe digital verification service (DVS).

Gamma is the **highest level of assurance** within the framework. It demonstrates that organizations meets robust requirements for **identity verification, fraud prevention, and cybersecurity**.

Certification to the UK DIATF Gamma level is essential for organizations providing digital verification services where high-trust identity checks are required, such as **DBS digital vetting**, and is strongly recommended for R**ight to Work** and **Right to Rent checks**.

Achieving UK DIATF Gamma certification assures customers, partners, and regulators that the organization's services meet the UK's most stringent digital identity standards.
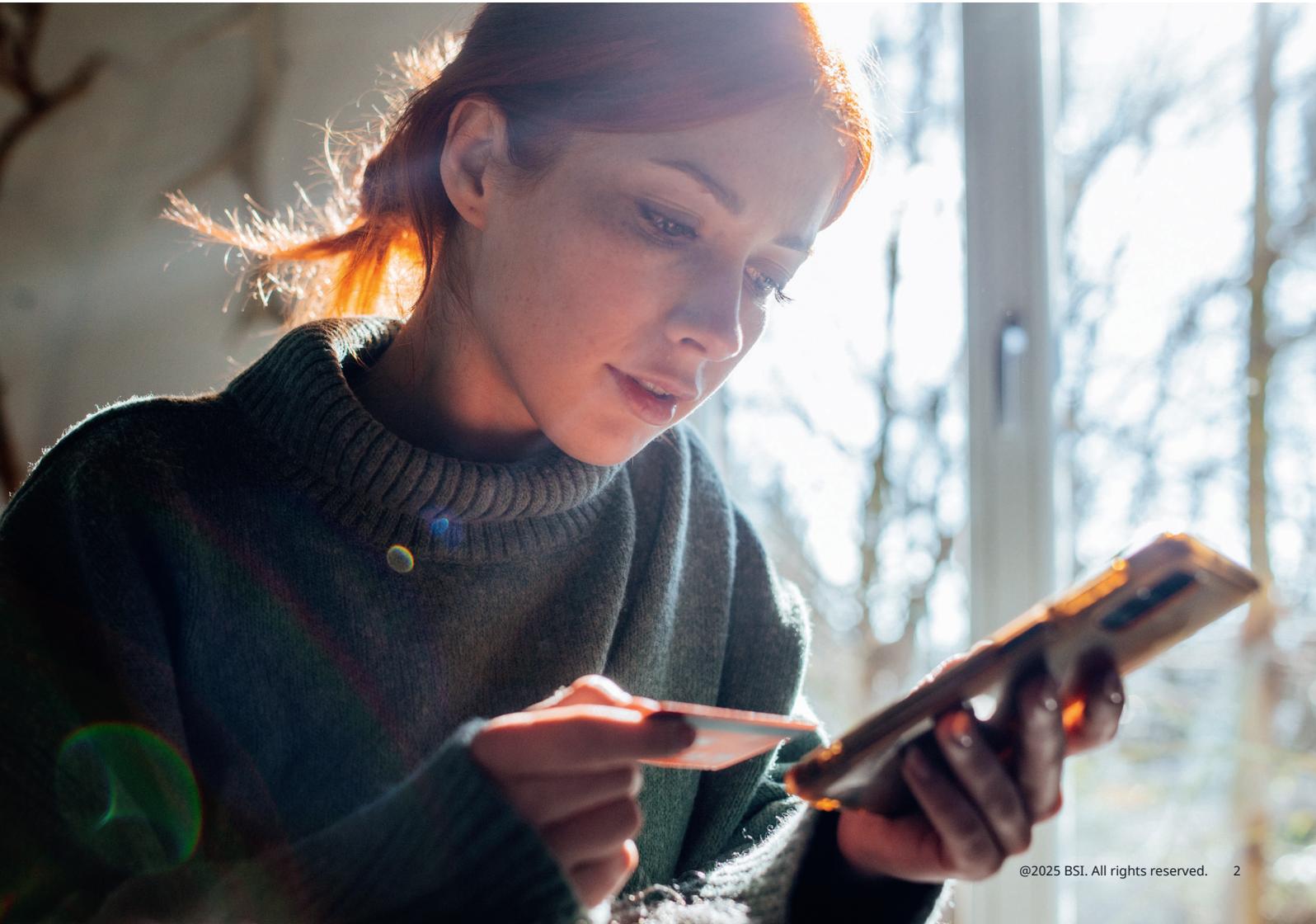
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

UK Digital Identity and Attributes Trust Framework (UK DIATF) Gamma Certification

1. Who needs to certify to UK DIATF Gamma?

Any organization who provides digital verification services in whole or part e.g. creating digital identities and attributes or shares digital identity and attribute information. Organizations who perform at least one of the five roles defined in the trust Framework can be certified. These are:

- Identity Service Providers (ISPs);
- Attribute Service Providers (ASPs);
- Orchestration Service Providers;
- Holder Service Provider;
- Component Service Provider.

2. What checks require UK DIATF Gamma certification?

To be certified under the framework, a certifying body will check that the organization and its service meet all the rules for their specific role. If the organization also provides a Digital Verification Service (DVS) to support Right to Work, Right to Rent, or DBS checks, there are extra rules for each of these use cases that must also be met.

Gamma is **mandatory for DBS digital vetting** and strongly recommended for:

- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) — Digital Vetting;
- Home Office Checks;
- White Label or Underpinning Services;
- Right to Rent Checks.

It can also be applied in other high-trust digital identity scenarios.

3. What's the difference between Gamma and the Alpha/Beta levels?

Gamma is the statutory level of the UK Digital Identity and Attributes Trust Framework (UK DIATF), introduced under the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025, making it mandatory for certain checks like DBS digital vetting. Alpha and Beta were pre-legislation phases, Alpha for testing and feedback, Beta for voluntary live use. Gamma brings full legal recognition, stricter assurance, and a trust mark.

- **Alpha** – Pilot/testing phase, no formal certification, not for public use.
- **Beta** – Voluntary certification, recognised but not legally required, lighter assurance.
- **Gamma** – Statutory requirement for some checks, full certification with surveillance, legal recognition.

4. What are the benefits of UK DIATF Gamma certification?

Certification helps organisations:

- Build trust in their identity services;
- Meet legal and compliance requirements;
- Protect against fraud and data misuse;
- Gain recognition as a trusted service provider;
- Promotes consistency in the way identities and attributes are created, managed and shared.

5. What is assessed during certification?

BSI assesses all requirements relevant to the role(s) in scope for certification, including business probity rules. Each role in the UK DIATF has specific requirements, outlined in the UK DIATF Gamma publication. For example:

- **Identity service providers** – Section 5, Section 10, and Part 3;
- **Attribute service providers** – Section 6, Section 10, and Part 3;
- **Holder service providers** – Section 7, Section 10, and Part 3.

Organizations are encouraged to review the framework to understand the requirements that apply to their roles within their businesses.

6. How long does certification take?

The certification timeline varies depending on the organization's readiness and ability to respond to findings. BSI will offer support and guidance at every stage to ensure projects are completed within agreed time frames. Typically, projects involve:

- Formal audit (Stage 1 and Stage 2);
- Time to address any non-conformities with corrective actions;
- Final certification decision.

7. Does the certification need to be renewed?

Yes, UK DIATF Gamma certification is renewed every 3 years. Over the course of the 3 years the certification includes **annual surveillance audits** and a **re-certification assessment** to ensure ongoing compliance with the trust framework.

Who needs UK DIATF Gamma Certification?

Any organisation who provides, manages or shares digital identity and attribute services/information can benefit from UK DIATF certification. This includes organizations operating in industries such as financial, medical or legal.

What does the Gamma Framework cover?

UK DIATF Gamma Certification addresses the end-to-end processes of digital identity and attribute verification, including:

- Identity proofing of individuals with no prior relationship;
- Attribute verification (e.g., right to work, criminal records);
- Secure technical and operational controls;
- Privacy and data protection requirements;
- Ongoing monitoring, audit, and compliance.

Your steps to success

Step 1

Understand the UK DIATF Gamma framework.

- Review the UK DIATF Gamma requirements and assurance profiles;
- Identify applicable criteria for the roles (ISP, ASP, Orchestration, or Relying Party).

Step 2

Prepare your organisation

- Review and strengthen identity proofing, attribute verification, and cybersecurity controls;
- Compile supporting documentation and evidence of compliance.

Step 3

Engage with BSI for assessment and certification

- Complete a readiness review;
- Undergo a formal audit against the Gamma requirements;
- Address any non-conformities.

Step 4

Maintain compliance

- Complete annual surveillance audits;
- Stay aligned with framework updates and evolving good practices.

Other frameworks and schemes to consider:

- Cyber Essentials/Cyber Essentials Plus;
- ISO/IEC 27001 Information Security Management;
- Secure Digital Applications Kitemark for web/mobile applications.

Start your UK DIATF Gamma Certification journey:

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