Certificates Section

Configure and/or provide the certificates that should be used for each domain served by ESS.

The third section of the ESS installer GUI is the Domains section, here you will configure the certificates to use for each previously specified domain name.

Certificate details configured via the UI in this section will be saved to your `deployment.yml` under eac components' `k8s: ingress:` configuration with the cert contents (if manually uploaded) being saved t `secrets.yml` in Base64.

This section covers all certificates to be used by the main components deployed by the installer, additio certificates may be required when enabling specific integrations - you will specify integration specific ce on each respective integrations' page.

Config Example

- `deployment.yml`

```
spec:
  components:
    elementWeb:
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls: # Selecting `Certmanager Let's Encrypt`
            certmanager:
              issuer: letsencrypt
            mode: certmanager
      secretName: element-web
    integrator:
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls: # Selecting `Certificate File`
            certificate:
              certFileSecretKey: integratorCertificate
              privateKeySecretKey: integratorPrivateKey
            mode: certfile
      secretName: integrator
    matrixAuthenticationService:
```

```
      k8s:
        ingress:
          fqdn: mas.example.com
          tls:
            certmanager:
              issuer: letsencrypt
            mode: certmanager
      secretName: matrix-authentication-service
    synapse:
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls: # Selecting `Existing TLS Certificates in the Cluster`
            mode: existing
            secretName: example
      secretName: synapse
    synapseAdmin:
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls: # Selecting `Externally Managed`
            mode: external
      secretName: synapse-admin
    wellKnownDelegation:
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls:
            mode: external
      secretName: well-known-delegation
```

- `secrets.yml`

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: element-web
  namespace: element-onprem
data:
  elementWebCertificate: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
  elementWebPrivateKey: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
```

```
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: integrator
  namespace: element-onprem
data:
  certificate: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
  privateKey: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: matrix-authentication-service
  namespace: element-onprem
data:
  certificate: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
  privateKey: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: synapse
  namespace: element-onprem
data:
  synapseCertificate: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
  synapsePrivateKey: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: synapse-admin
  namespace: element-onprem
```

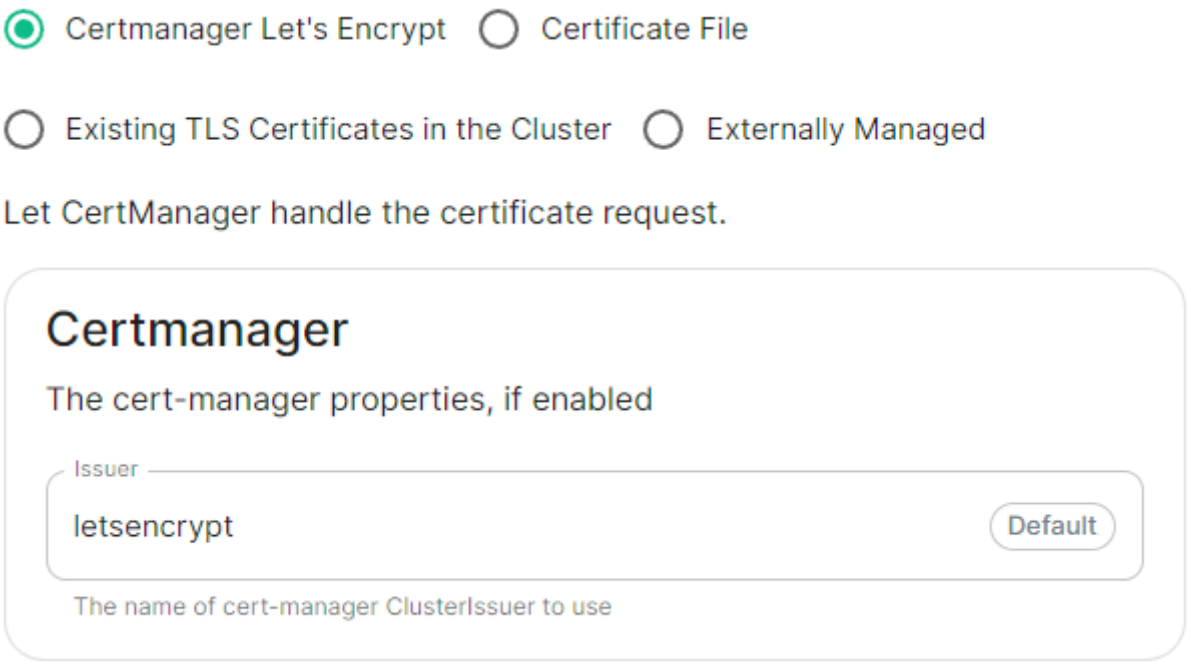
```
data:
  synapseAdminUICertificate: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
  synapseAdminUIPrivateKey: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: well-known-delegation
  namespace: element-onprem
data:
  wellKnownDelegationCertificate: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
  wellKnownDelegationPrivateKey: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
```

You will need to configure certificates for the following components:

- Well-Known Delegation
  - Well-Known files are served on the base domain, i.e. `https://example.com/.well-known/matrix/client` and `https://example.com/.well-known/matrix/server`.
- Synapse
  - Please note, if you opt to turn on DNS SRV (via the Cluster Section), the Synapse certificate MUST include the base domain as an additional name.
- Element Web
- Synapse Admin
- Integrator
- Matrix Authenication Service

For each component, you will be presented with 4 options on how to configure the certificate.

Certmanager Let's Encrypt

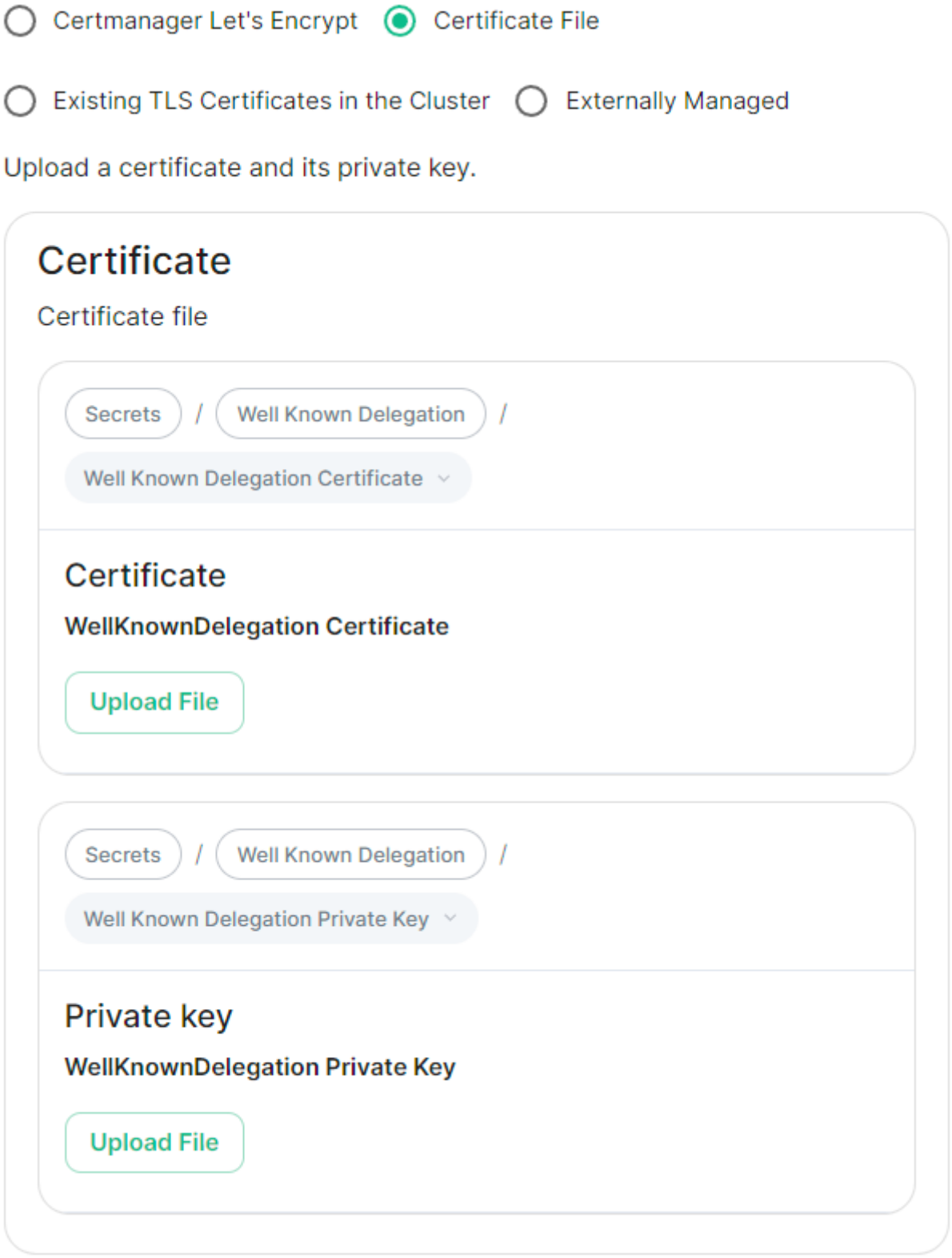


Config Example

```
spec:
  components:
    componentName: # `elementWeb`, `integrator`, `synapse`, `synapseAdmin`,
`wellKnownDelegation`
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls:
            certmanager:
              issuer: letsencrypt
            mode: certmanager
      secretName: component # Not used with 'Certmanager Let's Encrypt'
```

Select this to use Let's Encrypt to generate the certificates used, do not edit the Issuer field as no other options are available at this time.

Certificate File



Config Example

- `deployment.yml`

```
spec:
  components:
```

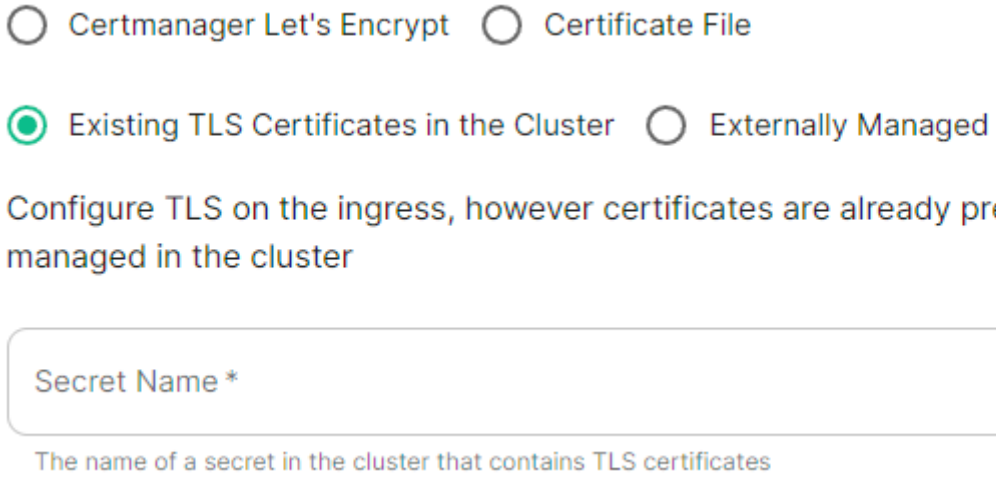
```
    componentName: # `elementWeb`, `integrator`, `synapse`, `synapseAdmin`,
`wellKnownDelegation`
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls:
            mode: certfile
            certificate:
              certFileSecretKey: componentCertificate
              privateKeySecretKey: componentPrivateKey
      secretName: component
```

- `secrets.yml`

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: component
  namespace: element-onprem
data:
  componentCertificate: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
  componentPrivateKey: >-
    exampleBase64EncodedString
---
```

Select this option to be able to manually upload the certificates that should be used to serve the specified domain. Make sure you certificate files are in the PEM encoded format and it is strongly advised to include the full certificate chain within the file to reduce likelihood of certificate-based issues post deployment.

Existing TLS Certificates in the Cluster

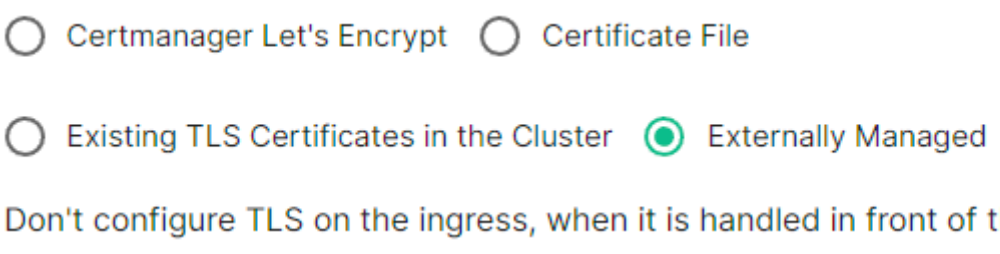


Config Example

```
spec:
  components:
    componentName: # `elementWeb`, `integrator`, `synapse`, `synapseAdmin`,
`wellKnownDelegation`
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls:
            mode: existing
            secretName: example
      secretName: component # Not used with 'Existing TLS Certificates in the Cluster'
```

This option is most applicable to Kubernetes deployments, however can be used with Standalone. Select this option when secrets containing the certificates are already present and managed within the cluster, provide the secret name that contains the TLS certificates for ESS to use them.

Externally Managed



Config Example

```
spec:
  components:
    componentName: # `elementWeb`, `integrator`, `synapse`, `synapseAdmin`,
`wellKnownDelegation`
      k8s:
        ingress:
          tls:
            mode: external
      secretName: component # Not used with 'Externally Managed'
```

Select this option is certificates are handled in front of the cluster, TLS will not be configured on the ingress for each component.

Well-Known Delegation

If you already host a site on your base domain, i.e. `example.com`, then you should either ensure your web server defers to the Well-Known Delegation component to serve the `.well-known` files or you should set Well-Known Delegation to `Externally Managed` and manually serve those files.

This is because Matrix clients and servers need to be able to request `https://example.com/.well-known/matrix/client` and `https://example.com/.well-known/matrix/server` respectively to work properly.

The web server hosting the base domain should either forward requests for `/.well-known/matrix/client` and `/.well-known/matrix/server` to the Well-Known Delegation component for it to serve, or a copy of the `.well-known` files will need to be added directly on the `example.com` web server.

If you don't already host a base domain `example.com`, then the Well-Known Delegation component hosts the `.well-known` files and serves the base domain i.e. `example.com`

Getting the contents of the `.well-known` files

1. Run `kubectl get cm/first-element-deployment-well-known -n element-onprem -o yaml` on your ESS host, it will output something similar to the below:

Config Example

```
apiVersion: v1
data:
  client: |-
    {
        "m.homeserver": {
            "base_url": "https://synapse.example.com"
```

```
        }
    }
   server: |-
    {
        "m.server": "synapse.example.com:443"
    }
 kind: ConfigMap
metadata:
  creationTimestamp: "2024-06-13T09:32:52Z"
  labels:
    app.kubernetes.io/component: matrix-delegation
    app.kubernetes.io/instance: first-element-deployment-well-known
    app.kubernetes.io/managed-by: element-operator
    app.kubernetes.io/name: well-known
    app.kubernetes.io/part-of: matrix-stack
    app.kubernetes.io/version: 1.24-alpine-slim
    k8s.element.io/crdhash: 9091d9610bf403eada3eb086ed2a64ab70cc90a8
  name: first-element-deployment-well-known
  namespace: element-onprem
  ownerReferences:
  - apiVersion: matrix.element.io/v1alpha1
    kind: WellKnownDelegation
    name: first-element-deployment
    uid: 24659493-cda0-40f0-b4db-bae7e15d8f3f
  resourceVersion: "3629"
  uid: 7b0082a9-6773-4a28-a2a9-588a4a7f7602
```

2. Copy the contents of the two supplied files (client and server) from the output into their own files:
   - **Filename:** `client`

     ```
     {
         "m.homeserver": {
             "base_url": "https://synapse.example.com"
         }
     }
     ```

   - **Filename:** `server`

     ```
     {
     "m.server": "synapse.example.com:443"
     }
     ```

3. Configure your webserver such that each file is served correctly at, i.e for a base domain of `example.com`:
    - `https://example.com/.well-known/matrix/client`
    - `https://example.com/.well-known/matrix/server`

Revision #5
Created 2024-11-06 10:22:12 UTC by Kieran Mitchell Lane
Updated 2025-05-15 08:06:25 UTC by Kieran Mitchell Lane