



Adoption of the Cyber Security Strategy

Executive Portfolio Holder:	Tony Lock, Protecting Core Services
Strategic Director:	Nicky Hix, Director Strategy and Support Services
Service Manager:	Toffer Beattie, Lead Specialist Digital Change
Lead Officer:	Toffer Beattie, Lead Specialist Digital Change
Contact Details:	Toffer.beattie@southsomerset.gov.uk or 01935 462302

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is for District Executive to approve the Cyber Security Strategy for publication.

Forward Plan

2. This report appeared on the District Executive Forward Plan with an anticipated Committee date of August 2021.

Public Interest

3. Our reliance on digital technologies has been increasing steadily for some time, but the Covid 19 pandemic has seen a dramatic increase in our use of information technology and on-line platforms. Members of the public now communicate with the council mainly through digital channels; the council holds more data on individuals and businesses; new working practices see officers and members doing more official work from home; and at the same time cyber criminals are becoming more sophisticated and more determined. A clear strategy guiding the council's approach to cyber security is necessary both to guide our operations and future investments in this area, and also to reassure the public.

Recommendation

4. That District Executive recommends that the Director for Strategy and Support Services approves the draft Cyber Security Strategy for publication on the SSDC public website.

Background

5. The SWAP Cyber Security Review (issued 06/01/21) identified poor Cyber Security Governance and Management Support as an area requiring immediate attention. In the detailed comments it states:

'Failure by the Authority to put in place robust and adequate cyber security governance and management arrangements may result in a sub optimal cyber



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security strategy, policy and guidance leading to the non-identification and management of threats and increased security incidents causing operational disruption, loss of critical services and financial and reputational damage.'

This strategy paper seeks to address that shortfall by giving the strategic framework within which robust and effective governance and management can be embedded.

Report Detail

6. This is a public facing document that covers:

- What is Cyber Security and why is it important
- The purpose and scope of the Strategy
- The challenge we face as a council
- Threats, vulnerabilities and risks
- Our approach, principles, and priorities
- An implementation plan
- Critical Success Factors
- Cyber Security Governance, Roles and Responsibilities

The document is appended to this report.

Financial Implications

7. Cyber security measures are budgeted for in the IT budget. There are no financial implications arising specifically from this strategy.

Legal implications (if any) and details of Statutory Powers

8. None

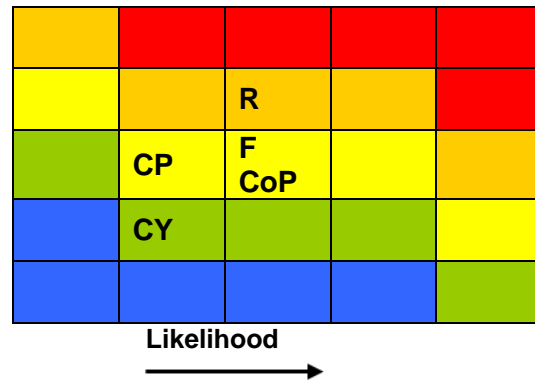
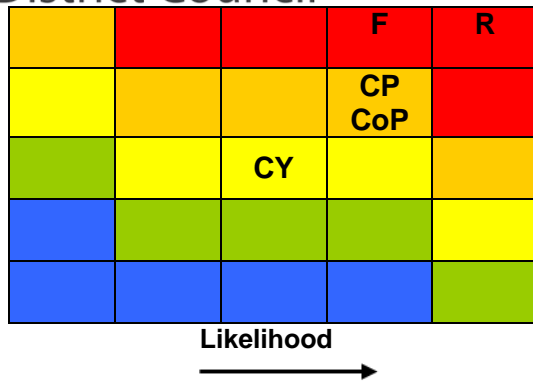
Risk Matrix

9. The matrices below show the risk to the confidentiality, integrity and availability of potentially valuable or sensitive information – with and then without an endorsed and published Cyber Security Strategy.

Risk Profile before officer recommendations **Risk Profile after officer recommendations**



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Key

Categories	Colours (for further detail please refer to Risk management strategy)
R - Reputation	High impact and high probability
CpP - Corporate Plan Priorities	Major impact and major probability
CP - Community Priorities	Moderate impact and moderate probability
CY - Capacity	Minor impact and minor probability
F - Financial	Insignificant impact and insignificant probability

Council Plan Implications

10. There are no direct implications to the Council Plan, though a robust and secure IT estate is fundamental to all we do.

Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

11. None

Equality and Diversity Implications

12. None. Equality impact relevance check form submitted

Privacy Impact Assessment

13. Nil.

Background Papers

- SSDC Cyber Security Strategy DRAFT
- Briefing video (link shared)