

The Strategic Framework for a Cyber Resilient Scotland

Action Plans (2023-25)

Vision

"Scotland thrives by being a digitally secure and resilient nation"

Digital technology is key to Scotland's future. Scottish Ministers' vision is of a Scotland that thrives by being a digitally secure and resilient nation.

There are four outcomes to achieve this vision:

- 1. People recognise the cyber risks and are well prepared to manage them**
- 2. Businesses and organisations recognise the cyber risks and are well prepared to manage them**
- 3. Digital public services are secure and cyber resilient**
- 4. National cyber incident response arrangements are effective.**

The Scottish Government and its partners will work towards realising these outcomes by implementing four Action Plans: public, private and third sector and a learning and skills Action Plan, delivered by the Scottish Government and its partners between 2023 and 2025.

Private Sector Action Plan (2023-25)

1. Increase businesses' understanding of cyber risks that may affect them

- 1.1. The CyberScotland Partnership¹ works with key business touchpoints to improve access to the range of cyber resilience resources available to businesses, including the use of the NCSC Small Business Guide.
- 1.2. The CyberScotland Partnership improves awareness of cyber risks and threats through its communication channels including the CyberScotland portal and regular bulletins.
- 1.3. The CyberScotland Partnership amplifies NCSC's authoritative cyber security guidance.
- 1.4. The CyberScotland Partnership encourages the private sectors' use of NCSC's Cyber Security Information Sharing Partnership (CISP).
- 1.5. The Scottish Government works with partners to continue to build understanding of the emerging risks from new technologies such as AI, machine learning, IOT and quantum.

2. Improve cyber resilient behaviours of the private sector workforce

- 2.1. The CyberScotland Partnership works with key business touchpoints to increase awareness of the training resources and opportunities available to improve the cyber resilient behaviours of staff.

¹ The [CyberScotland Partnership](#) is a collaboration of national partners working together to improve cyber resilience in Scotland.

3. Build the professional skills of IT and cyber security staff across the private sector

3.1. Businesses promote and encourage development opportunities for their cyber security workforce, including:

- ensuring that development opportunities are inclusive
- ensuring that cyber security upskilling and reskilling opportunities are available whenever possible, including the uptake of cyber security apprenticeships
- promoting the adoption of best practice and cyber security professional standards

4. Embed cyber security standards, regulations and compliance across the private sector

4.1. The Scottish Government and other members of the CyberScotland Partnership promote the range of cyber security advice, guidance standards and regulations available.

4.2. The Scottish Government, the NCSC, IASME and other members of the CyberScotland Partnership promote the Cyber Essentials Scheme as the baseline security standard to protect against internet-borne threats.

4.3. The Scottish Government and other members of the CyberScotland Partnership encourage businesses to consider the cyber resilience integrity of their supply chains.

4.4. The Scottish Government and other members of the CyberScotland Partnership encourage the adoption of a secure by design approach when developing products and services.

5. Raise awareness of the cyber security goods and services and expertise available to all organisations

5.1. Both public sector and private sector organisations work together to improve the visibility of and access to Scotland-based cyber security products and services.

6. Support businesses to prepare for, respond to and recover from cyber incidents

6.1. SMEs, with support from the CyberScotland Partnership, improve their incident response arrangements including:

- testing, exercising and expanding the take up of the NCSC's Exercise in a Box Toolkit
- using NCSC's Response and Recovery guidance.

6.2 The CyberScotland Partnership promotes the Cyber Incident Helpline operated by the Cyber and Fraud Centre Scotland as a practical first line of support to businesses experiencing cyber incidents.