

Committee: Governance, Audit and Performance Committee

Date:
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Title: Cyber Security Update

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Councillor De Vries – Cyber Security Lead

Summary

1. The Council is required to regularly report the work undertaken on cyber security. This report updates members on the second year of the Local Government Association's (LGA) stock take questionnaire.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the Committee notes the update

Financial Implications

3. All financial implications are funded from the existing budget.

Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None

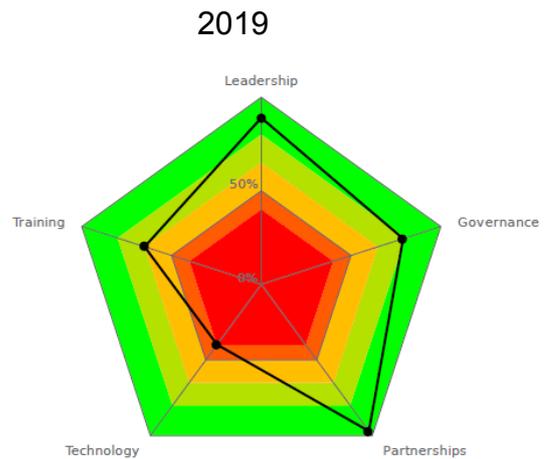
Impact

Communication/Consultation	All staff are made aware of the importance of vigilance around cyber security and the consequences of an attack.
Community Safety	A cyber-attack could have impacts on the ability of the Council to undertake its core functions such as paying Housing Benefit.
Equalities	None

Health and Safety	A cyber-attack could have impacts on the ability of the Council to undertake its core functions such as emptying bins which could have Health and safety implications.
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	All staff are made aware of the importance of vigilance around cyber security and the consequences of an attack.

Situation

5. As part of the National Cyber Security Strategy, the LGA was granted phased funding by the Cabinet Office to ensure that councils are as resilient against cyber-attacks as possible. The first phase of the LGA programme took place over summer 2018. Every council in England completed an online stock take questionnaire concerning their cyber security arrangements.
6. The first stock take gave Uttlesford District Council a rating of Amber-Amber which was in line with most other small local authorities.
7. Following the initial stock take the Council successfully bid for two grants to enhance the security measures in place. The Council was successful with both bids and was awarded a total of £11,400.
8. This grant money has been used to carry out staff training to develop departmental Business Continuity plans, to carry out a Cyber exercise with ICT and the Corporate Management Team and for further cyber specific training and enhanced security software.
9. In August 2019 the LGA ran the second year of the stock take which was developed using a Cyber Security Self-Assessment tool.
10. The outcome of the second stock take is that the Council has made significant moves forward in enhancing its already secure systems in respect of cyber prevention and is now rated Amber-Green. On the next page the RAG (Red Amber Green) rating charts for the current and preceding year.



11. The individual assessment is now broken down into ten categories with relative weighting. The Council scores for each are shown below

Category	Score
Leadership, reporting and ownership	Green
Governance, structures and policies	Amber Green
Partnerships, information, advice and guidance	Green
Technology, standards and compliance	Red
Technology and standards – Identify	Amber
Technology and standards – Protect	Green
Technology and standards – Detect	Red
Technology and Standards – Respond	Amber Green
Technology and Standards – Recover	Amber
Training and awareness	Amber Green

12. The Council remains in the red zones for two categories, but as the 2019 chart in paragraph 11 shows, has significantly improved in most areas when compared to 2018.

13. Work has already commenced on removing the remaining red areas. The Council will be applying for additional funding from the LGA to support this work. Any award will be added to the £30,000 annual budget set for cyber security.