



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL



Finance and Economic Overview and Scrutiny Committee

20 February 2024

Report of Councillor Richard Cleaver,
Deputy Leader of the Council

Cyber Security Resilience Grant Update

Report Author

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Purpose of Report

To update committee members regarding the completion of the Cyber Treatment Plan which was funded by the Cyber Security Resilience Grant.

Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. Notes the completion of the Cyber Treatment Plan attached at Appendix A.

Decision Information	
Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	Exempt Appendix A – Cyber Security Treatment Plan
What are the relevant corporate priorities? (delete as appropriate)	Effective council
Which wards are impacted?	All

1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance

1.1 The costs associated with the delivery of the Plan is referenced in the report. The protection of Cyber Security is a key activity for the Council and is included in the Council's Strategic Risk Register.

Completed by: Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer

Legal and Governance

1.2 There are no governance and legal implications associated with this report.

Completed by: Mandy Braithwaite, Legal Executive

Risk and Mitigation

1.3 Cyber Security is a recognised risk to the Council and is included within the Strategic Risk Register.

Completed by: Tracey Elliott, Governance and Risk Officer

2. Background to the Report

- 2.1 On 27 April 2022 the Leader of the Council approved the acceptance of the Cyber Security Resilience Grant award of £150k from the Department for Housing Levelling up and Communities (DLUHC).
- 2.2 The purpose of the grant was to fund the actions identified in the Cyber Security Treatment Plan which the Council produced in conjunction with the Local Digital Cyber support team. The plan identified the improvements the Council should implement to increase Cyber Security and Resilience. The Cyber Security Treatment plan is included at Appendix A.
- 2.3 The plan was expected to be completed over a 12-month period and quarterly meetings were held with Livtech, who were the organisation responsible for monitoring the completion of the actions included in the plan on behalf of DLUHC. Positive feedback was received during the meetings regarding the progress the Council was making with completing the identified actions.
- 2.4 Livtec signed off the completion of the plan on 23 May 2023 as the Council only had 2 outstanding actions to complete. One action has been completed but the completion of the final action has been delayed due to the delivery timeframe of the required equipment. The equipment has now been received and the final action is expected to be completed by 31 March 2024.
- 2.5 Cyber security remains a key priority for the Council, for example, the National Cyber Security Centre process weekly checks against our external Internet Protocol addresses to identify any weaknesses or changes that have been made that reduce our cyber security resilience and the Council will complete any required actions.
- 2.6 An annual penetration test is also completed to ensure that the Council is Public Sector Network compliant, this penetration test will identify any weaknesses in our systems which need to be addressed prior to certification being issued.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 3.1 To ensure members are updated regarding the completion of the Cyber Security Treatment Plan.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Exempt Appendix A – Cyber Security Treatment Plan