

Spotlight on the LGA Cyber 360 –

Building resilience and readiness in case of cyber attack

(or... ‘Don’t fool yourselves into thinking cyber resilience is just about technology’)



James Ailward

Head of ICT Operations
(Chief Technology Officer)

Apprentice studying a Masters in Business
Administration (Leadership Practice)

Primary school governor



Dorset Council

“Dorset – a great place to live, work and visit”

3 year old unitary council – since April 2019



Cyber security context

Corporate risks flagged at the highest level

Converging the ICT infrastructures of 6 former councils

Introducing new technical capabilities: vulnerability management, security ‘event’ identification tools and immutable backup

Specialist cyber skills development & raising user awareness re phishing



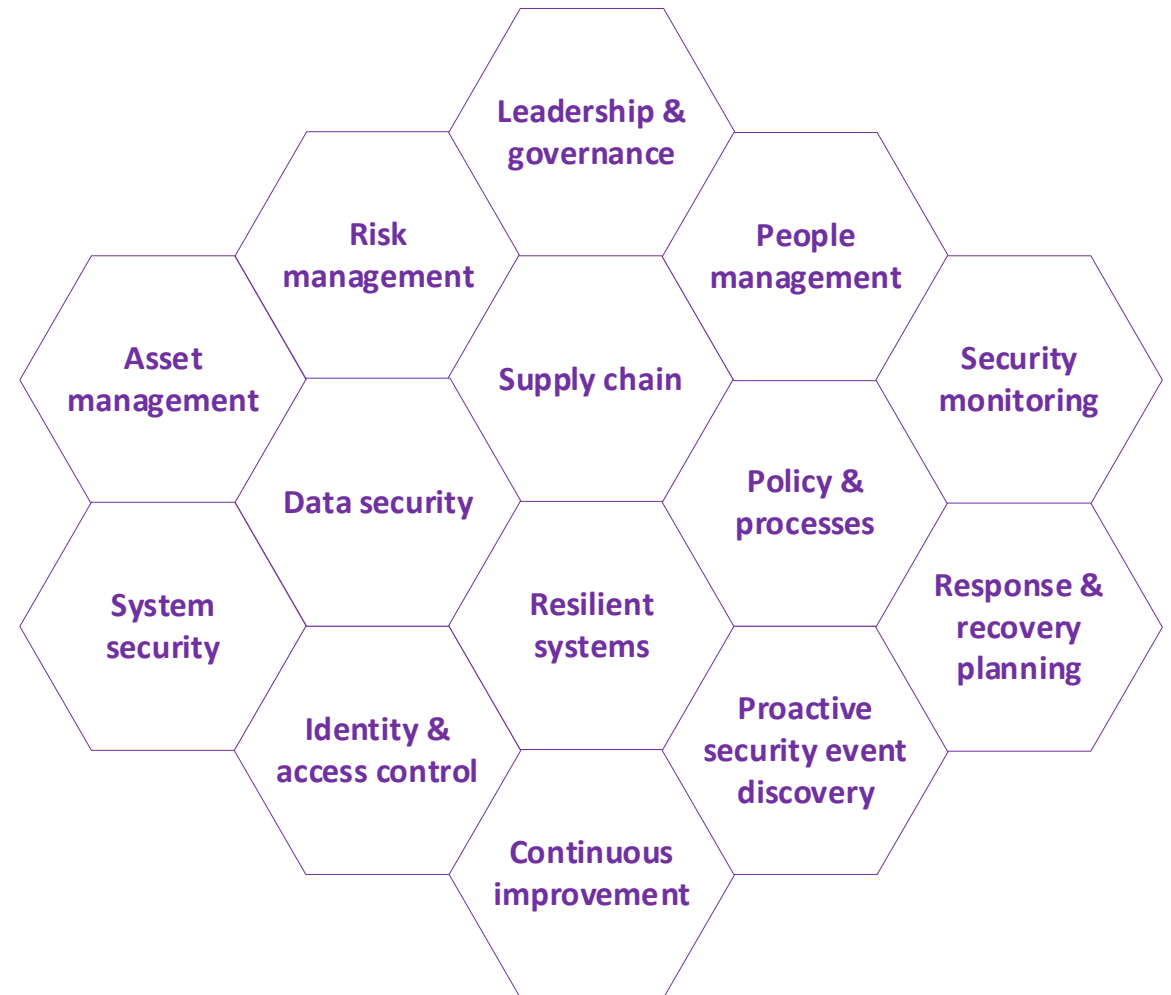
What is the LGA Cyber 360?

Dorset Council was the first Cyber 360 (pilot)

A funded opportunity to gain advice, support and a fresh perspective from experts and peers

Brings a more holistic perspective of the organisation's people, culture, and processes

Not simply promoting conformity to a rigid set of compliance rules



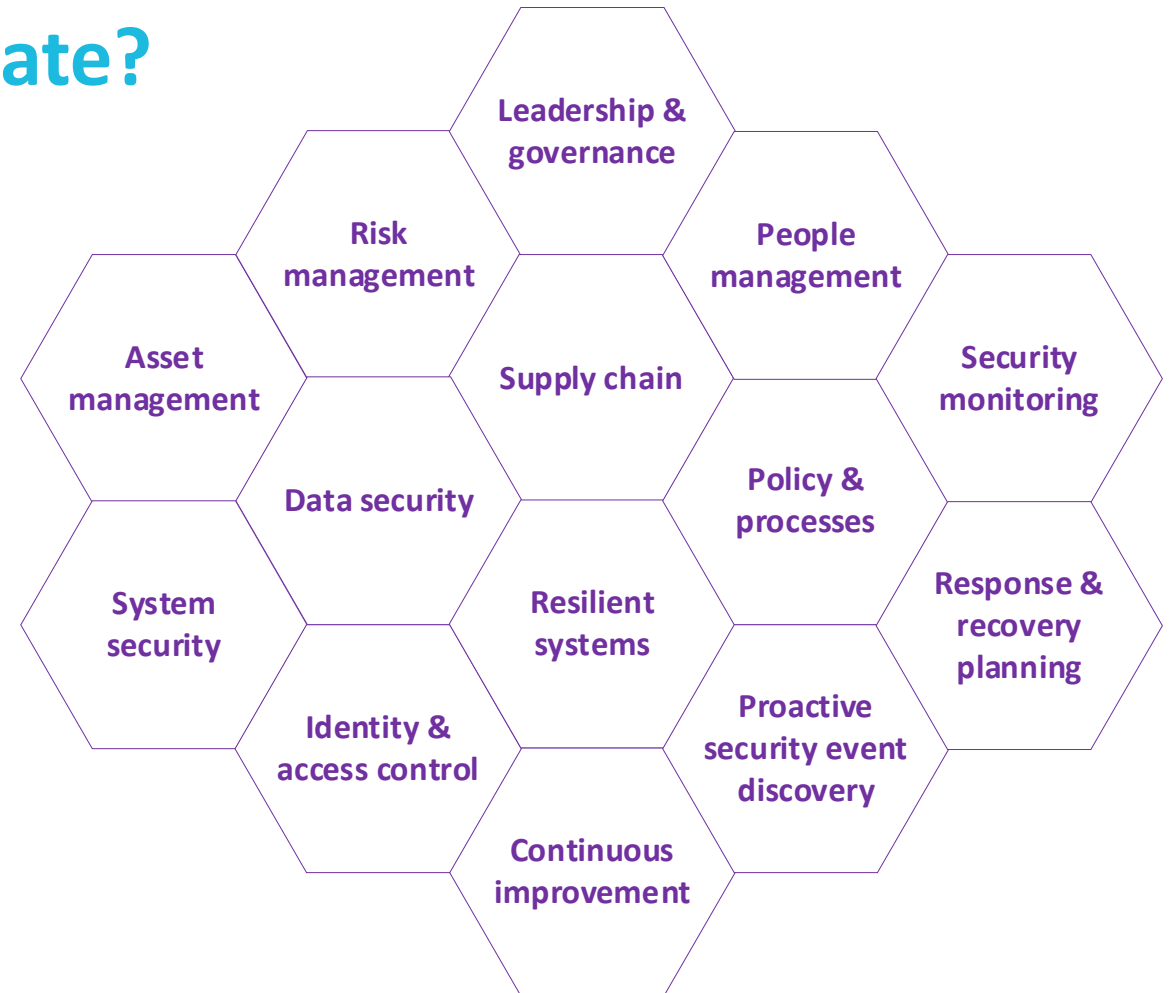
Why did Dorset Council participate?

Critically - not just focused on the technology

Dorset Council learning culture – value gained by being open

Opportunity to contribute to leadership

Apprenticeship emphasising the importance of different perspectives & contributing externally



What did it involve?

Cyber 360 planning with LGA team involving Head of ICT and Cyber Security lead

Identifying participants and briefing them

Determining the scope and planning the exercises

3 days, conducted virtually

Day 1 – senior elected members and officer leadership

Day 2 – senior business and functional leadership

Day 3 – ICT team and general ICT users



Follow Up Visit – whole organisation business & ICT service continuity exercise'



How did it feel?

Constructive enquiry and dialogue, collegiate

Open feedback and discussion of initial impressions at the end of each day

Opportunity to tease out issues to influence final report

Requires you to look again at things you may already have known (or thought you did)

Real value from breadth of Cyber 360 team experience and perspectives





What have we learned?

Emphasised the breadth of aspects necessary to achieve cyber security readiness, and their criticality

Demonstrated the importance of business/ICT continuity planning and exercising for cyber security incidents

Highlighted a need to tighten up on cyber security governance

Showed the value of effective information assets ownership and management

Highlighted a need to strengthen our cyber security posture through our supply chains

Suggested more specific training for higher profile targets in the Council – e.g. CEO, SIRO, Councillors





How has Cyber 360 added value?

Raised the profile of cyber security issues across the organisation – not just a technology issue

Built a degree of confidence (not complacency) in our organisational posture and capability

Added weight to the assurance we can give interested parties – e.g. audit/scrutiny committees, internal/external audit

Clear advice on areas to improve - has built some momentum towards addressing identified weaknesses



Cllr Jill Haynes

Cabinet member

Portfolio holder for Corporate Development and Transformation

“The Cyber 360 assessment was a very positive experience for both the council and myself.

Although I have had a number of cabinet roles over the years I was relatively new to the Digital area and by no means an expert.

What this review did was to confirm my confidence in our team.

The review also raised areas of further work and gave us contacts to help us going forward. I would recommend the process to all councils as understanding the cyber threat is vital.”

Signposting

Local Government Association Cyber 360

<https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/financial-resilience-and-economic-recovery/lga-cyber-360>

LGACyberSecurity@local.gov.uk

Title: *Closed session for local authority Chief Executives - leading through a cyber incident*

Time: 30/06/2022, 12:10 - 13:10

Location: King's Suite

Speaker(s): Mark Carroll - Chief Executive
(London Borough of Hackney)

Jon McGinty - Managing Director
(Gloucester City Council)

Chair: Sarah Pickup - Deputy Chief Exec.
(Local Government Association)

