

HSCIC Cyber Security Programme Update

For Information

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Purpose

1. To provide the IACSC and HSCSC Board with a formal update to the progress of the HSCIC Cyber Security Programme (CSP) and in particular, to provide greater detail of progress in the Assuring Data Security (ADS) project which has been commissioned by Secretary of State.

Cyber Security Programme

2. The programme has recently completed the first draft of the Strategic Outline Case and this has been sent to internal stakeholders for review. Positive responses have been received so far in initial consultation and it is expected that the final SOC will be ready to proceed through the HSCIC Corporate Assurance Panel (CAP) process at the end of September. The overall status for the programme is GREEN.
3. QinetiQ have started work on the HSCIC Risk Assessment and Risk Appetite work through formal engagement with Non-Executive Directors, Executive Directors and their Directors. QinetiQ plan to run a number of interview and discussion meetings over the following 4-6 weeks to gather the required information and evidence to produce the final report and risk appetite. It is expected that a second set of interviews will be undertaken with Executive Directors to discuss the Risk Appetite findings with them before presenting the final findings to the IACSC and Board. DH sponsor team will also be consulted as the results of this work are developed to gather their direction and guidance on alignment of the risk appetite to DH expectations. The final results of this project will be an agreed Cyber Security Risk Assessment which will detail the key risks and threats HSCIC should address, and a considered Cyber Security Risk Appetite which will inform future strategic decisions and programmes. Final documents are expected for December meetings of the HSCIC Board and IACSC.
4. Work continues on internal workstreams including Human Resources and progress is being made on internal processes for Security Clearance, after care monitoring and leavers/movers processes. In the last 6 months over 120 Security Clearances have been conducted in support of major National Systems transition activities. The Operational Security Team will be working with HR over the coming weeks to further identify staff across the organisation who hold clearances which may not have been conducted through central process.

Assuring Data Security Project

5. The ADS project is being managed as part of the overall HSCIC CSP and is included within the overall business case for completeness. The project has encountered a number of delays due to the complicated nature of the procurement process however these have now been resolved and the project team is confident in the timelines provided in the plan. Should any further uncontrolled delays be encountered, immediate escalation will be undertaken. The current high level plan is included below for acknowledgement by the IACSC and HSCIC Board.
6. QinetiQ has been chosen following a lengthy engagement with the supplier community and discussions are now being undertaken to develop the detailed specification for the delivery of the project. QinetiQ are currently planned to start work

formally on 1st September, final contracts are currently being agreed with procurement.

7. A number of risks are being managed as part of this project and the IACSC are requested to acknowledge and provide any appropriate guidance to assist the project team.
8. **Lack of Volunteer Organisations – Impact High / Likelihood Medium - Reducing**
There is a risk that we do not receive a positive response to our initial engagement with Health organisations. The initial contact list includes over 110 organisations and we have also contacted internal staff to canvas their views on other possible volunteers based on previous engagements. Engagement is being sought with the Joint GP IT Committee and the HSCIC Pharmacy Lead to gain further support across the sector.
9. **Procurement Delays – Impact High / Likelihood Issue - Reducing**
Due to the complexity and scale of the required procurements across a very niche industry the project has encountered unique challenges which have taken time to resolve. The current project plan has been revised to account for these challenges however there is still a risk that other challenges may introduce delays. The project team is working closely with procurement to mitigate this issue and Government Digital Service (GDS) are also providing assistance.
10. **Delays during testing – Impact Med/Low / Likelihood Medium – Stable**
Due to the number of organisations and suppliers involved in the project there is a risk that issues during test allocation and implementation introduce further delays. This has been mitigated by implementing regular reporting, escalation and robust process. This process will remain in the sole control of HSCIC and tracking and reporting is established. The overall process and template forms will be issued with the second test supplier specification to further minimise the risk of issues during the allocation of tests.
11. The high level milestone plan is provided below.

Milestone	Date
Communications Sent	22/08/14
Initial Engagement with Volunteer Organisations	01/09/2014 to 15/09/2014
Testing Period	30/09/14 to 28/11/14
Report development and review	27/10/2014 to 05/12/2014
Interim Report with HSCIC	12/12/14
Final approval process and refinement	January 2015 – February 2015

12. The scope of the project has been limited initially to Health organisations following conversations with Department of Health and Special Advisers. Due to the timescales involved, it has been considered that following this initial work, further exercises which widen the scope would be of significant in coming years.

13. The initial batch of letters have been sent to CEO and SIROs as of 21st August and a further batch is planned for the 27th or 28th of August depending upon initial response and the addition of any other volunteer organisations obtained through media contact.
14. The Interim Report delivered in December will be for consideration of HSCIC and DH pending final direction for approval processes of the final documentation. The contract for management partner support includes provision until end of February 2015 to allow for further refinement of the documentation and analysis before final delivery to Secretary of State.

Other Cyber Security Activities

15. A number of high profile activities have been undertaken as part of the expanding role of the Infrastructure and Operational Security Teams. Changes in assurance approach and increased willingness of programmes to engage with cyber security activities has resulted in a noticeable positive change in security culture.
16. The Infrastructure Security Team has worked closely with the SPINE2 programme to implement new and improved security measures which provide greater protection than was available in the previous system. Assurance activities have included independent security testing, 'lights out' testing which is done without prior knowledge, and a security review performed by BT Global Defense and Security to verify the security stance of the system.
17. The Security teams will be providing on-call support to the new systems whilst more strategic team structures are implemented through the Cyber Security Programme. Agreement has also been reached to prioritise recruitment, initially funded by the SPINE2 programme, to establish the strategic capability for all future programmes.
18. The IACSC and HSCIC Board are asked to note the above updates and provide any additional steer or guidance as appropriate.