

HSCIC Information Assurance and Cyber Security Committee Proposal

April 2014

Purpose

1. To recommend the implementation of the Information Assurance and Cyber Security Committee (IACSC) as proposed within the Interim Cyber Security Review (ICSR) and subsequently endorsed by the HSCIC Board.

Board Actions

2. To approve the implementation of the IACSC as a sub-board.
3. To consider and ratify the proposal to assign Sir Ian Andrews to the Chair of IACSC and to assign Sir Nick Partridge and Jan Ormondroyd as the 2 other Non-Executive Directors to the membership of IACSC.

Background

4. The ICSR made a number of recommendations in relation to the governance of information risks and threats which were consolidated into Workstream 1 of the HSCIC Cyber Security Programme. Since the establishment of the programme, work has progressed with the original members of the ICSR steering committee to consider the necessary governance model for Information Assurance and Cyber Security
5. The ICSR steering committee has made the following recommendations which are proposed to the HSCIC Board for approval
 - a. That the Information Assurance and Cyber Security Committee is established as a sub-board in similar standing to the Assurance and Risk Committee (ARC)
 - b. That the constitution of the IACSC shall comprise of 3 Non-Executive Directors, one of which shall be the Chairperson. A minimum of two Non-Executive Directors will be required to be in attendance (including the Chair) along with either the SIRO¹ or Caldicott Guardian in order to be quorate.
 - c. That Sir Ian Andrews is assigned as Chair. The Infrastructure Security Team has worked with Sir Ian for around 9 months and have benefitted enormously from the wealth of experience he has gained throughout his career in security-related roles with the Ministry of Defence and the UK Serious Organised Crime Agency. He is, therefore, the ideal candidate to help HSCIC address the Cyber Threat – identified as one of our most significant risks.
 - d. Also in regular attendance will be:
 - i. Chief Executive Officer;
 - ii. Director of Operations and Assurance Services (in the capacity of HSCIC SIRO);
 - iii. Director of Human Resources;
 - iv. Caldicott Guardian and Lead Clinician; and
 - v. A representative from Office of the Government SIRO.
 - e. The Terms of Reference will be ratified at the first full IACSC meeting.

¹ Senior Information Risk Owner

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6. The IACSC will undertake to provide strategic direction and ownership of Information Assurance and Cyber Security risks, threats and operations across the organisation and will implement a structure of governance to other activities as appropriate. The IACSC will be accountable to the HSCIC Board and will work closely with the ARC, providing assurance and evidence as needed to ensure the HSCIC is actively and appropriately managing Information and Cyber risk.
 7. The establishment of the IACSC aligns with updated Central Government guidance for SIROs which supports the establishment of security sub-boards to support ARC and the organisation Board in considering this emerging and increasingly important area. Discussions with Cabinet Office are underway to request representation in support of the IACSC and its emergence as a front runner in this approach.