

NI CyberBase Programme 2021



THE CHALLENGE

Cyber attacks are on the increase with more organisations experiencing significant disruption and financial loss as a result. UK Government Cyber Security Breaches Survey 2020 identified 46% of UK businesses experienced a cyber attack in the last year.

- What would your business or organisation do if it happened to you?
- What would be the impact and cost to your business or organisation?
- How well prepared is your business or organisation?
- How well prepared is Northern Ireland in the event of a cyber attack?

These are some of the key questions facing business and public sector leaders in NI. This FREE NI CyberBase programme aims to help.



46%

of UK businesses experienced a cyber attack



80%

of UK businesses say cyber security is a high priority risk



15%

of UK businesses have considered impact of cyber attack on their supply chain

Example of PRIVATE SECTOR costs

19 March 2019

NORSK HYDRO hit by ransomware attack. **22,000** computers across **170** sites in **40** countries are frozen.



NORSK HYDRO refuses to pay ransom. **35,000** workers resort to pen and paper.

June 2019

recovery costs TO DATE estimated at **£45m**

Example of PUBLIC SECTOR costs

February 2020

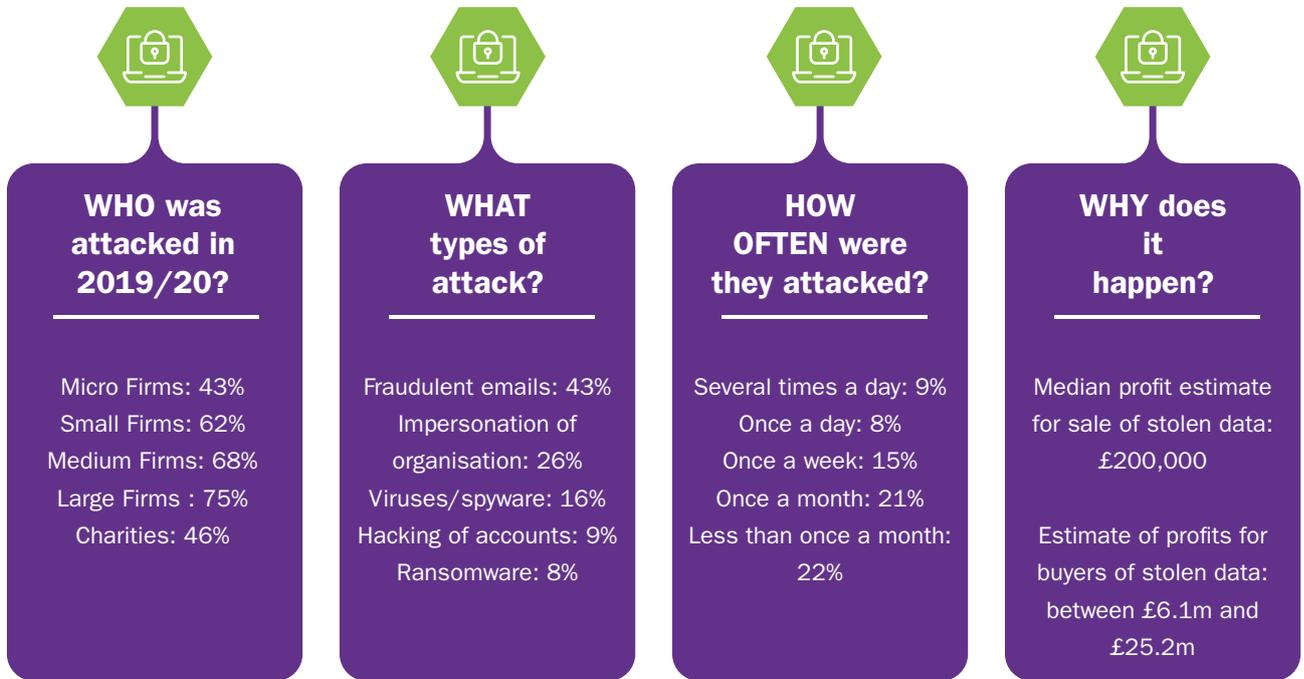
Redcar and Cleveland District Council hit by ransomware attack.

March 2020

135,000 residents lose online services. Staff resort to pen and paper.

August 2020

overall recovery cost revealed: **£10.4m**



Global Data Breach root causes



Data from Cyber Security Breaches Survey 2020

THE PROGRAMME - HOW WILL IT HELP

The NI Cyber Security Centre (NICSC) exists to improve Northern Ireland's ability to defend itself from the increasing number of cyber attacks we see on a daily basis. We have developed this programme to help you improve your organisation's resilience to this malicious cyber activity.

This **FREE** programme, commissioned by the NICS, in conjunction with Local Government Civil Contingencies, is an opportunity for your organisation to gain access to professionals in cyber response, to assess your organisation's level of preparedness and support to help you further develop your cyber response capability.

Programme Objectives:

(A) **BASELINE** >>> (B) **EDUCATE** >>> (C) **EXERCISE** >>> (D) **PLAN** >>> (E) **NETWORK**

The programme will be delivered by Business Consultancy Services and has been developed with the support and cyber security expertise from NICSC, Local Government Civil Contingencies Group and National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC).

➤ Phase 1 (From Dec 2020)

BASELINE: an initial engagement and information gathering process to establish the levels of maturity of NI businesses and organisations in respect of their preparedness for cyber attack.

➤ Phase 2 (From Feb 2021)

EDUCATION AND EXERCISING: a combination of developmental events and simulation exercises. The exercises will bring together a small number of participant organisations to rehearse and practise, in a supportive and coached environment, their reactions to sustained cyber attack.

➤ Phase 3 (From Summer 2021)

NI MULTI-SECTORAL EXERCISING: larger exercises to exercise interoperability/co-ordination response within or across NI sectors.

Following completion of the formal exercise programme, objectives D & E will be attained through an ongoing programme of contact, engagement, learning and development.

➤ Plan

Develop cyber action planning in NI within and across participant organisations, based on event response, implement and test lessons learned, with a special emphasis on interoperability and response planning.

➤ Network

Create a safe space for organisations to share, develop and learn across organisations and peers, supported and guided by the NICSC, reinforcing the ability of Northern Ireland PLC to recover from a sustained cyber attack.

Simulation Exercises

The Phase 2 exercises will bring together companies and organisations on a cross-sectoral basis to test their organisation’s response plans in a safe, detailed and realistic simulated cyber attack. Participants will be coached and supported, with the emphasis on learning and development. These will not be technical exercises: participants will be making decisions about supply chains, communications, public relations, potential costs, etc.

The large-scale Phase 3 exercises will enable participants to rehearse their incident response and continuity arrangements planning in a realistic and pressured simulation. All exercises will focus on interoperability, with the aim of minimizing disruption across sectors.

THE OPPORTUNITY – KEY BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPANTS

This is an opportunity for your organisation to participate in a programme that will give you access to professionals in cyber response, to assess the level of preparedness for your organisation, to receive support to help develop your level of cyber preparedness further. There will be a limited number of places, so we would recommend early registration. **There is no fee or charge for participation.**

All participants will receive the following:

- Access to NI threat assessment;
- Access to baseline assessment results for NI;
- Access to an education events; and
- Certificate to confirm participation in NI CyberBase Programme 2021.

Based on the baseline survey results, a number of organisations across each relevant sector will be able to access the following:

- Simulation exercise which will help organisations assess the effectiveness of their own cyber incident response and continuity arrangements; and
- Multi-sectoral simulation exercise with other organisations to exercise interoperability with others.

“

It is easier and cheaper to attack a network than it is to defend it. The barriers to entry are coming right down, and so the task of the defenders is becoming harder.

”

George Osborne,
Chancellor of the Exchequer, 2015

NEXT STEPS

What We Need From You



Resources

- The support of your senior management structure.
- The involvement of a small team who have responsibility for your incident response planning.



Time

- Educational events will be hosted in a virtual environment and will last no more than two hours.
- Exercises will provide an opportunity to exercise a incident response scenario and will last no more than 4 hours, including hot debrief. Participants will normally be invited to only one exercise.



Input

- We need your involvement and commitment to making the development programme a success and a benefit to Northern Ireland as a whole. Your participation and open engagement with the Programme will be critical to its success.

TO REGISTER

The following link will take you to a registration page and which will provide more information. You will be asked to complete a short survey which consists of six simple questions, designed to help develop a baseline of cyber security readiness in NI and nominate the key contact person from your organisation for the NI CyberBase Programme. .

Completion of the survey will register your application to the Programme. Responses will be evaluated by the project team with further communications issuing in January. Education and exercise events will be scheduled over a 6 month period from February 2021. **The closing date for registration is Friday 22nd January 2021.**

Programme contact point and any questions please contact via:
nicyberbase@finance-ni.gov.uk

Registration link