Civic Centre, Castle Street,
Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8AN

Main Tel: 01685 725000 www.merthyr.gov.uk

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

FULL COUNCIL REPORT

Date Written	14th September 2021
Report Author	Ryan James
Service Area	ICT
Exempt/Non-Exempt	Non-Exempt
Committee Date	6th October 2021

To: Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

Cyber Resilience Strategy 2021-2024

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

1.1 Cyber resilience focusses on ensuring that there is a combination of cyber security and business resilience processes to reduce or minimise the impact on services and systems, ensuring that they continue to provide their intended outcomes.

1.2 Cyber resilience is of critical importance. The amount of data stored by public bodies is growing and digital technology is performing vital functions in public services.

1.3 This Cyber Resilience Strategy 2021-2024 (Appendix 1) will raise cyber resilience and security at a strategic level, ensuring the organisation sufficiently protects its information assets.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION that

2.1 The implementation of the Cyber Resilience Strategy 2021-2024 be approved.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

3.1 The public sector faces an ever-growing range of cyber threats, as demonstrated by the 2017 WannaCry attack. The COVID-19 pandemic has further emphasised the importance of cyber resilience, with reliance on the internet increasing and with a surge in COVID-19 related cyber-attacks.

3.2 The strategy provides direction on how to recognise, manage and respond to the increasing threats we all face online. By doing this, we can safely reap the benefits offered by the digital age.

3.3 We will ensure that our people are well informed and prepared to make the most of digital technologies safely; Our organisation recognises the risks in the digital world and are well-prepared to manage them; We have confidence in and trust our digital services; We have a growing and renowned cyber resilience approach.

3.4 In addition, the strategy will reference out several key information security policies and approaches designed to protect information assets, by addressing the continually evolving threat and risk landscape, whilst protecting the strategic goals of the Council.

3.5 As a public service we are reliant on digital systems. They make it possible to provide innovative and integrated public services that deliver to those most in need and promote growth. It is crucial that cyber resilience is considered as critically important to keep citizens confident in using our digital systems.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

5.0 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1

	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Neutral / Not Applicable
1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives	4 of 4	0 of 4	0 of 4
2. Sustainable Development Principles - How have you considered the five ways of working: • Long term • Prevention • Integration • Collaboration • Involvement	5 of 5	0 of 5	0 of 5
3. Protected Characteristics *(including Welsh Language)*	2 of 10	0 of 10	8 of 10
4. Socio-economic Disadvantage	3 of 6	0 of 6	3 of 6
5. Consultation and Engagement	**Undertaken**	**Due to be Undertaken**	**Not Required**
	0 of 1	0 of 1	1 of 1

6. Data and Evidence to inform the proposal	Yes	No
	1 of 1	0 of 1

7. Biodiversity and the resilience of Ecosystems	Maintained	Enhanced	Reduced	Neutral / N/A
	0 of 1	0 of 1	0 of 1	1 of 1

Summary	
The main positive impacts are:	Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives Sustainable Development Principles Data and Evidence to Inform the Proposal.
The main negative impacts are:	None

ELLIS COOPER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COUNCILLOR ANDREW BARRY
CABINET MEMBER FOR GOVERNANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	**Document(s) Date**	**Document Location**

Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?	No

Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.