

Appendix A Global and Local Risks of Cyber Crime

We live in an easily connected world through the development of the World Wide Web, new technologies and software applications such as Facebook and Twitter. There are many benefits to the end user of being connected, however there are many risks too. For example,

- Cyber crime is increasing, there were an estimated 3.6 million cases of fraud and two million computer misuse offences in a year, according to an official The Crime Survey for England and Wales.
- [Online fraud is now the most common crime within UK](#) with almost one in ten people falling victim.
- Identity fraud is also prevalent with 9 out of 10 identity frauds committed online.

Other cyber attacks continue to happen, such as ransomware attacks. Ransomware is a virus that encrypts files and prevents access to them, organisations are held to ransom for their release. Recently Lincolnshire County Council was hit with a £1 million ransom demand. Cyber crime like this is costing UK businesses £29 billion (figure from 2016).

Cambridgeshire County Council has been and will continue to be targeted by hackers and criminals. IT notice and flag phishing emails with regularity. The Symantec report suggests that globally, 1 in every 141 emails received by public bodies contains malware, 1 in every 2329 emails is a phishing attack, and as much as half of inbound email could be spam, some of which may contain a threat. This, along with the recent Member spoofing incident, has forced us to review our current position on information security.