

Report for Nantwich Town Council Policy Committee

Item 5

Date of Meeting: 24th June 2021

Cyber Information Security Policy

1. Purpose of Report

To consider recommendations for the adoption of the attached Cyber Information Security Policy.

2. Background

During one of the internal audits of the Town Council in 2020/21 the auditor recommended the adoption of a cybersecurity policy. The attached policy will meet these requirements of the internal audit.

3. Considerations

The attached draft Cyber Information Security Policy is a template provided by the IASME (Information Assurance for Small and Medium Enterprises Consortium) a not-for-profit organisation, giving permission for organisations and business to use and adapt. The Town Council's IT provider has worked with the Clerk in providing the template and working to ensure the requirements within the policy are met by the Town Council.

The IT provider has also assisted the Town Council in its application for Cyber Essentials certification to strengthen the security of the Town Council, and most staff are undertaking cyber training provided by the SLCC for which a certificate will be issued to those members of staff who pass the course.

Cyber Essentials is a government-backed certification, awarded to companies which follow the core principles of cyber security outlined by the cyber essentials scheme. This industry-recognised programme ensures businesses will be guarded against the most common threats faced. This includes mitigating risks such as malicious website links and emails, phishing attacks, and Malware. On 15 June 2021, the Clerk received confirmation that the Town Council has been successful in its application and is now accredited with the certification and can use the official logo.

4. Recommendations

4.1 That members considered the attached policy and recommend adoption to Full Council.

5. Financial Implications

There is no direct financial impact as a result of the policy, however there is a financial cost associated with Cyber Essentials certification of £44.99 per month and the cyber training staff are undertaking at £49 per person.

6. Equalities Impact

There would be no equalities impact as a result of this policy

7. Personnel Implications

There would be no personnel implications as a result of this policy. However, the introduction of the policy together with the training of staff, will aid with a better understanding by staff of the risks associated with cyber crime.

8. Environmental implications

There would be no environmental implications as a result of this report.

9. Consultation

Not applicable.