Guidance

Cyber Security Model: Risk Assessment (RA) Workflow

October 2017
1. What is the Risk Assessment (RA)?

The Risk Assessment is the first stage in the Defence Cyber Protection Partnership (DCPP) Cyber Security Model. It is a questionnaire that assesses the Cyber Risk Profile of a contract, and which can be completed by The Authority\(^1\).

There are five possible Cyber Risk Profiles: Not Applicable, Very Low, Low, Moderate and High.

Once completed, a Risk Assessment Reference (RAR) is generated, which should be issued to suppliers that have been invited to tender and are required to complete a related Supplier Assurance Questionnaire (SAQ).

An SAQ is not required for contracts assessed as Not Applicable, however suppliers are still recommended to achieve Cyber Essentials certification.


2. How to use this guide

This guide includes a workflow diagram of the questions which must be completed by The Authority when responding to the RA. The answers provided by The Authority in each case, relating to a requirement, will determine which questions are asked.

The question references (e.g. RA01) in the workflow refer to the full question and answer options listed on page 4. Use both the workflow and the questions to understand what information will be required when responding to the RA.

To view associated question-level guidance, visit Octavian, the online service at https://supplier-cyber-protection.service.gov.uk/ and complete a sample assessment.

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1 The Authority is the person accountable for determining the Cyber Risk Profile appropriate to a contract and, where the contractor has not already been notified of the Cyber Risk Profile prior to the date of this contract, shall provide notification of the relevant Cyber Risk Profile and cyber security instructions as soon as reasonably practicable; and notify the contractor as soon as reasonably practicable where The Authority reassesses the Cyber Risk Profile relating to a specific contract.
3. Risk Assessment workflow diagram

General contract information
5 questions

Q3
Does this contract involve the transfer of MOD identifiable information from customer to supplier or the generation of such information by the supplier?

No
Yes

No, I want to complete a sample Risk Assessment
No, I want to complete a Risk Assessment for a new Ministry of Defence contract

Q4 to Q7

RA01

Yes
No

Will any MOD identifiable information associated with this contract be transferred, stored or accessed by the supplier in electronic form?

RA02

Yes
No

RA03 to RA07

RA08

RA09 to RA10

Contract risk assessment
10 questions, plus information/confirmation screens

Cyber Risk Profile
RA13 Declaration
RAR
4. Risk Assessment questions

Q3 Is this Risk Assessment for work that you are sub-contracting as part of a larger contract that you are bidding for?
   Yes - provide SAQ reference
   No, I want to complete a sample Risk Assessment

Q4 Provide a name and description for the contract.

Q5 Does the contract have start and end dates?
   (estimate indicator available)
   Yes - provide dates
   No, it is a rolling contract

Q6 Provide the value of the contract (MOD ONLY)
   (estimate indicator available)
   Contract value
   Currency

Q7 Which Ministry of Defence sub-organisation is the contracting authority (MOD ONLY)
   Air Command
   Army Command
   DE&S (Defence Equipment and Support)
   DIO (Defence Infrastructure Organisation)
   Dstl (Defence Science and Technology Laboratory)
   HOCS (Head Office and Corporate Services)
   JFC (Joint Forces Command)
   Navy Command
   UKHO (UK Hydrographic Office)
   Other

RA01 Does this contract involve the transfer of MOD identifiable information from customer to supplier or the generation of such information by the supplier?
   No
   Yes

RA02 Will any MOD identifiable information associated with this contract be transferred, stored or accessed by the supplier in electronic form?
   No
   Yes

RA03 Is there anything about the information handled in this contract that could make it more of a target for an adversary than routine activity?
   No
   Yes, a moderate increase is possible
   Yes, a high increase is expected

RA04 What would be the impact if the confidentiality of the information is compromised?
   Low
   Moderate
   Substantial
   Severe

RA05 What would be the impact if the integrity of the information is compromised?
   Low
   Moderate
   Substantial
   Severe

RA06 What would be the impact if the availability of this information is compromised?
   Low
   Moderate
   Substantial
   Severe

RA07 In delivering this contract, will the supplier require direct access to your network/system(s), or indirect access through the use of removable media?
   No
   Yes

RA08 What level of access (privilege) will the supplier need?
   Normal-user-level access
   Privileged-user-level access

RA09 What is the highest level of classification of information associated with this contract?
   OFFICIAL
   SENSITIVE
   TOP SECRET

RA10 If the information relates to personal data, how many data sets are included?
   No personal data
   1 to 1,000
   1,001 to 100,000
   100,001 to 500,000
   500,001 and over
   Unknown

Cyber Risk Profile

User presented with Cyber Risk Profile
   If you do not think that this reflects the cyber risk associated with this contract then click "Save and View Answers" to review your responses and make any necessary corrections.
   If you think this adequately represents the cyber risk, click "Next" and submit your declaration.

RA13 Declaration

I have authority to complete the Risk Assessment.
   The answers provided have been verified with all appropriate personnel and are believed to be true and accurate in all respects.
   All information which should reasonably have been shared has been included in the responses to the questions.
   Should any of the information on which the responses to this Risk Assessment are based change, my company undertakes to notify the Ministry of Defence as soon as is reasonably practicable.
   My company acknowledges that the Ministry of Defence reserves the right to audit the responses provided at any time.
   For and on behalf of my company, I confirm the above statements.

Risk Assessment Reference (RAR)

User is provided with unique reference
   Issue this Risk Assessment Reference (starting RAR) to all suppliers who are bidding for this contract and ask them to complete a Supplier Assurance Questionnaire.
   Click "Publish" to allow Supplier Assurance Questionnaires to be submitted against this contract.