

**21 Nov 2023****SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS****Issue**

1. The Forestry Commission has carried out a review of its security policies and documents, with a focus on cyber security given the recent rise in the number of attacks.
2. These documents describe the overarching management of security incidents and management processes. This framework will help the Forestry Commission ensure that all incidents or security weaknesses that may affect our assets are reported and dealt with in a timely manner.

**Recommendations**

3. The EB are invited to note this suite of policies and agree that these should be adopted.

**Background**

4. Recent reporting against security functional standards, Departmental Health Security Health Checks and Government Internal Audit Agency (GIAA) audits has identified security weaknesses across the Forestry Commission. The Incident Management and Physical Security policies have been drafted to address some of these issues through the assistance of the Security Risk Management Forum (SRMF).
5. In addition, two further policies are proposed for approval:
  - FC Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy. In response to the rapid change/progression in this technology and the potential for use by the Forestry Commission and its staff.
  - IT security alignment policy. To simplify the various policies currently already in place. It aims to take best practice from current policies and make it easier for staff to understand the application of security policy to them.

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