



<b>Subject:</b>	Cyber Security – Appsec conference and CSIT Summit
<b>Date:</b>	12 April 2017
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Colin McCabrey, Economic Development Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Some time in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to provide an update Members on two Cyber Security events taking place in Belfast in May 2017. The events are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Appsec Conference – this takes place on 8-12 May 2017</li><li>- The CSIT Cyber Security Summit – this takes place within the framework of the Appsec Conference from 9-10 May 2017.</li></ul>

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	<p>Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Note the contents of the report</li> <li>- Advise whether Members of the Committee may wish to attend elements of either programme.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Members will be aware that the Cyber Security sector has been identified by the MATRIX Panel as one of four areas where Northern Ireland has potentially world-class strength. Belfast, in particular, has emerged as a global hub for Cyber Security. The Centre for Secure Information Technologies (CSIT) at Queen’s University in the Titanic Quarter is the largest Cyber Security Centre in Europe and is recognised by Government Communication Headquarters (GCHQ) as an Academic Centre of Excellence.</p>
3.2	<p>On the back of the research expertise at the Centre, there have been 8 FDI investments in the sector over the last few years. The most recent of these was an investment by a company called Black Duck, based in Boston. Black Duck’s investment last year came with a commitment to create at least 60 high paid jobs within the company. Research indicates that there is significantly more growth potential in this area if industry, academia and government can work more closely together going forward.</p>
3.3	<p>Members will be aware that, at the City Growth and Regeneration Committee in January 2017, Stephen Wray from Deloitte and David Crozier from CSIT gave an overview of the scale of the sector in Belfast as well as the potential for the future growth of the sector. They also outlined work that was under way to develop a Cyber Security Action Plan for Northern Ireland. Belfast City Council is a partner on the group that is developing this Action Plan, working alongside organisations such as Department for the Economy, both Universities and the PSNI.</p>
3.4	<p>At that meeting, David Crozier also referenced upcoming Cyber Security events that the City was to host and Members asked that additional information on the Conferences be presented at an upcoming meeting of the Committee.</p>

3.5	Appsec takes place from the 8-12 May 2017 at Belfast Waterfront. It is Europe's biggest web security conference. The conference programme will consist of over 50 software security talks, 3 days of training courses and a number of social events.
3.6	Running alongside the conference is the 7 <sup>th</sup> world Cyber Security Technology research summit hosted by CSIT. Taking place on 9-10 May 2017, the summit will bring together the international research community, industry leaders, government policy makers, start-ups and SMEs from around the world. The theme for the 2017 summit is "Security for a future digital society" and will focus on planning for future cyber security challenges.
3.7	Programmes for both the Appsec Conference and the CSIT Cyber Security Summit are attached in Appendix 1 and 2. The Appsec conference is very technical in nature. However, there are a number of keynote addresses and plenaries in the Cyber Security Summit which focus on themes that may be of interest to Elected Members including Cyber Security and Society; and Developing an International Cyber Innovation Ecosystem.
3.8	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>No specific resource allocations at this point. If Members wish to attend, arrangements can be made with CSIT to facilitate access.</p>
3.9	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>No specific equality or good relations implications.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
4.1	<p>Appendix 1 – Programme for Appsec 2017</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Programme for CSIT Cyber Security Summit 2017.</p>