



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

Securing the UK's Connected Places

Why Cyber Security Matters

Andrew Elliot, Deputy Director
21 June 2023



Horizontal Approach

Vertical Approach

Built and Natural Environment

- Smart buildings
- Environmental monitoring

Public Realm

- CCTV
- Footfall sensors
- Facial recognition
- Parking sensors

Critical Infrastructure

- Smart meters
- Predictive and preventative maintenance
- Smart local energy systems

Health and Social Care

- Council housing environment monitoring
- Remote healthcare
- Healthy aging and assisted living

Transport

- Automated traffic lights
- Smart roads
- Mobility as a service
- Smart stations/airports



DSIT

The Cyber Strategy 2022



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The UK is at the forefront of the secure and sustainable adoption of connected places technology for the benefit of citizens and businesses.

Connected places, sometimes known as smart cities, have the potential to provide tangible benefits to society: managing traffic, reducing pollution, and saving money and resources. However, the interconnectivity that allows places to function more efficiently also creates cyber vulnerabilities and the potential for cyber attacks.

We will build on the NCSC’s security principles for connected places to reduce the risks posed to businesses, infrastructure, the public sector and citizens.

We will strengthen the capability of local authorities and organisations such as ports, universities and hospitals, to buy and use connected places technology securely.

And we will build an international consensus for a consistent and effective approach to the security of connected places.

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– *National Cyber Strategy 2022*

The Secure Connected Places Team

SUPPLY

Ensuring that the UK has a thriving and diverse supplier base with cyber security at its heart.

Ensuring that there is a strong understanding of the threats to connected places, and that security practices and processes are built in by design.

DEMAND

Providing support to local government, and others operating and managing connected places, so that they are able to procure, deploy and manage place-based technologies securely and sustainably.

INTERNATIONAL & GOVERNANCE

Supporting the supply- and demand-side pillars by overseeing the structures which connect DSIT's work to the rest of UK Government.

Facilitating efforts to share knowledge and collaborate with international partners.

Examples of work to date



The screenshot shows a GOV.UK webpage. The header includes the GOV.UK logo and a search bar. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home > Government > Cyber security'. The main heading is 'Guidance Secure connected places (smart cities) guidance collection'. Below this is a summary: 'A collection of important guidance on the security of connected places, also known as smart cities.' The source is cited as 'From: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology; Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, and Julia Lopez MP', published on 25 October 2021, and last updated on 6 July 2022. There is a 'Get emails about this page' button. A 'Documents' section lists 'Using this guidance collection' with an HTML icon. A 'Related content' section lists several links: 'UK connected places survey', 'Cyber Security Skills Strategy', 'Secure connected places', 'Independent evaluations of Cyber Discovery and CyberFirst Programmes', and 'Cyber security skills in the UK labour'.

GOV.UK

Home > Government > Cyber security

Guidance

Secure connected places (smart cities) guidance collection

A collection of important guidance on the security of connected places, also known as smart cities.

From: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology; Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, and Julia Lopez MP
Published 25 October 2021
Last updated 6 July 2022 — [See all updates](#)

Get emails about this page

Documents

[Using this guidance collection](#)
HTML

Related content

- [UK connected places survey](#)
- [Cyber Security Skills Strategy](#)
- [Secure connected places](#)
- [Independent evaluations of Cyber Discovery and CyberFirst Programmes](#)
- [Cyber security skills in the UK labour](#)

The image shows the cover of a report. At the top left is the text 'Surveying UK Connected Places DCMS'. At the top right is the 'Rye Tait Consulting' logo. The main title is 'Surveying UK Connected Places' in large, bold, blue letters. Below the title is the text 'Final report September 2022'. At the bottom, there are several logos: 'UK Evaluation Society', 'UK ESSENTIALS CERTIFIED', 'SNAP SURVEYS RESEARCH PARTNER', and 'Evidence Matters'.

Surveying UK Connected Places
DCMS

Rye Tait Consulting

Surveying UK Connected Places

Final report
September 2022

UK Evaluation Society

UK ESSENTIALS CERTIFIED

SNAP SURVEYS RESEARCH PARTNER

Evidence Matters
Company Partner

1 | Page connected places

The alpha Secure Connected Places Playbook



Suppliers of Connected Place Technologies

REGULATION

We are reviewing how existing regulations such as the Network and Information Systems and the Product Security and Telecoms Infrastructure contribute to the cyber security of connected places

GUIDANCE

We are analysing how we can increase the uptake of existing guidance amongst suppliers of connected places technologies

STANDARDS

We are identifying relevant standards and reviewing how they address connected places cyber security

We are analysing the role that standards have to play in increasing connected places cyber security



Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

Thank you

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