



Department
for Work &
Pensions

NIST | Secure
Adaptive | by design

UKAuthority's Resilience & Cyber4Good 2024

How DWP is utilising a two-pronged offensive against cyber attacks

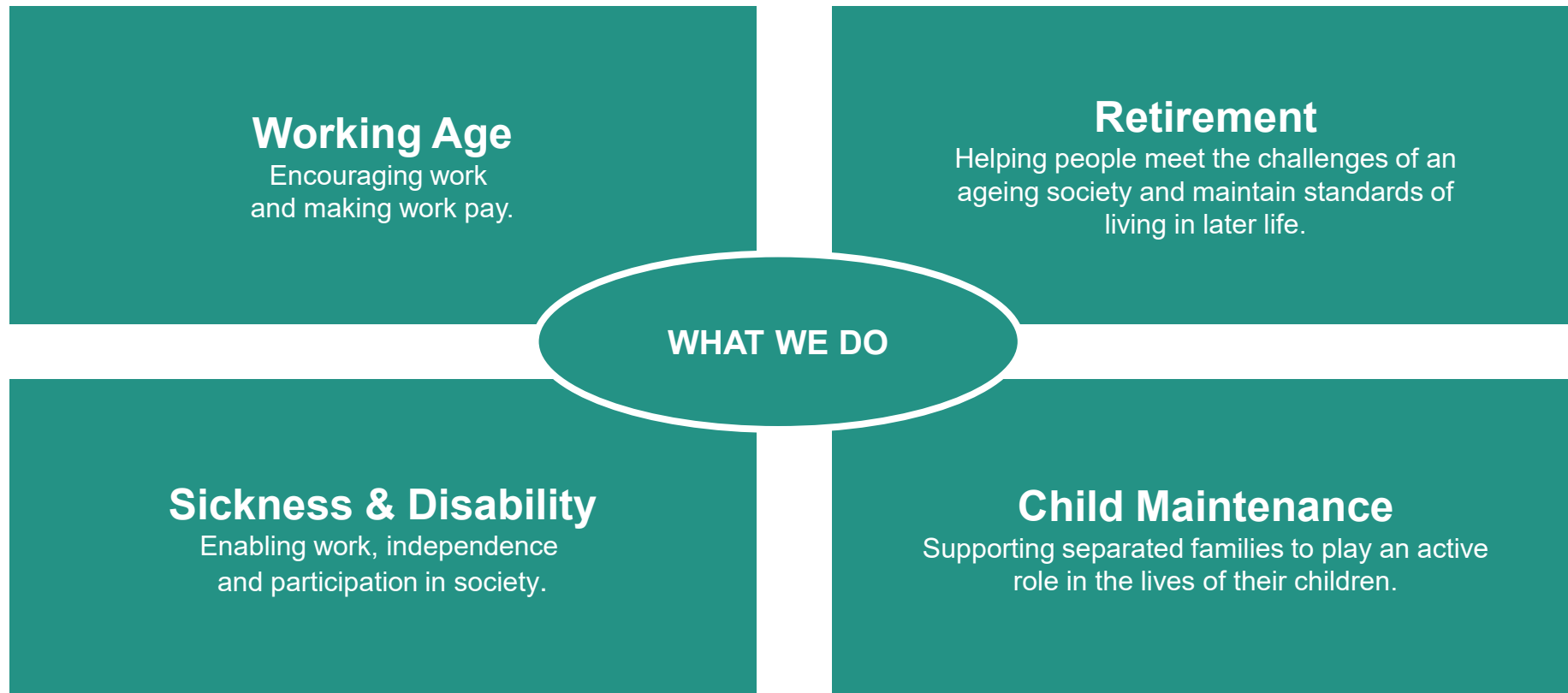
September 2024

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is responsible for welfare, pensions and child maintenance policy.

As the UK's biggest public service department it administers the State Pension and a range of working age, disability and ill health benefits to around 20 million claimants and customers.

DWP is a ministerial department, supported by [15 agencies and public bodies.](#)

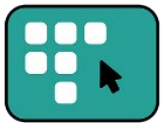
DWP exists to contribute towards fair, safe and fulfilling lives, reducing poverty supported by reducing dependency on welfare support whilst providing choice, personalisation and a high quality of service for all our customers.



What we do

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DWP exists to contribute towards fair, safe and fulfilling lives, reducing poverty supported by reducing dependency on welfare support whilst providing choice, personalisation and a high quality of service for all our customers.



>100 products
and services



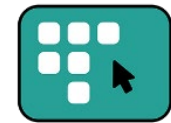
7.4m
benefit claims
processed



£244 bn
paid in benefits
and pensions



12k IT changes
each year



1B
lines of code



20m
customers



130k desktops
and **1** virtual
desktop



812 buildings
including **720**
Jobcentres



4k
Digital Staff

Our IT estate is very complex...

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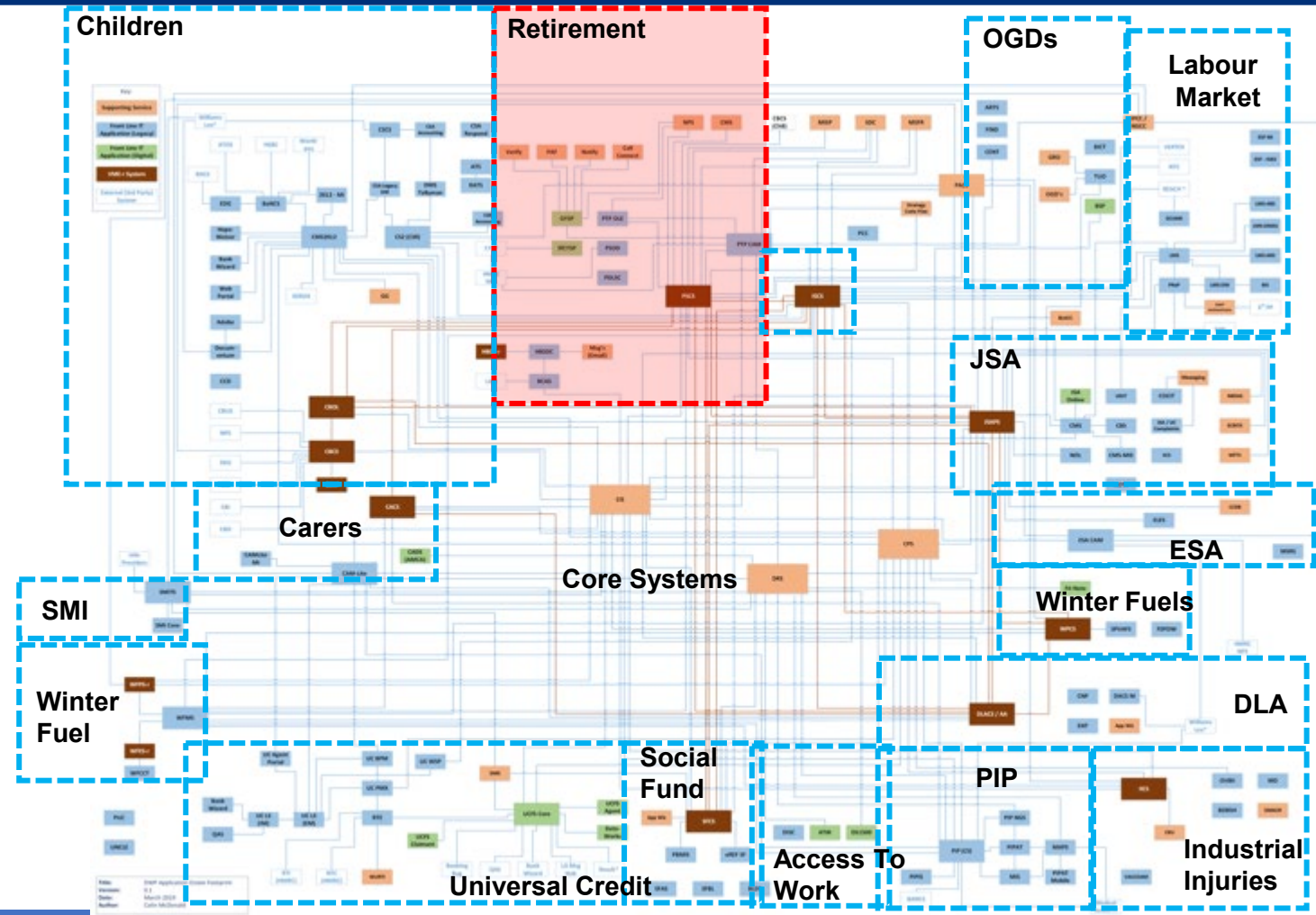
Each box is a major IT system.

Each line is connectivity between the systems.

The diagram is not complete – e.g. it only shows the major operational systems.

It's constantly changing

Broadly it shows the complexity we deal with.

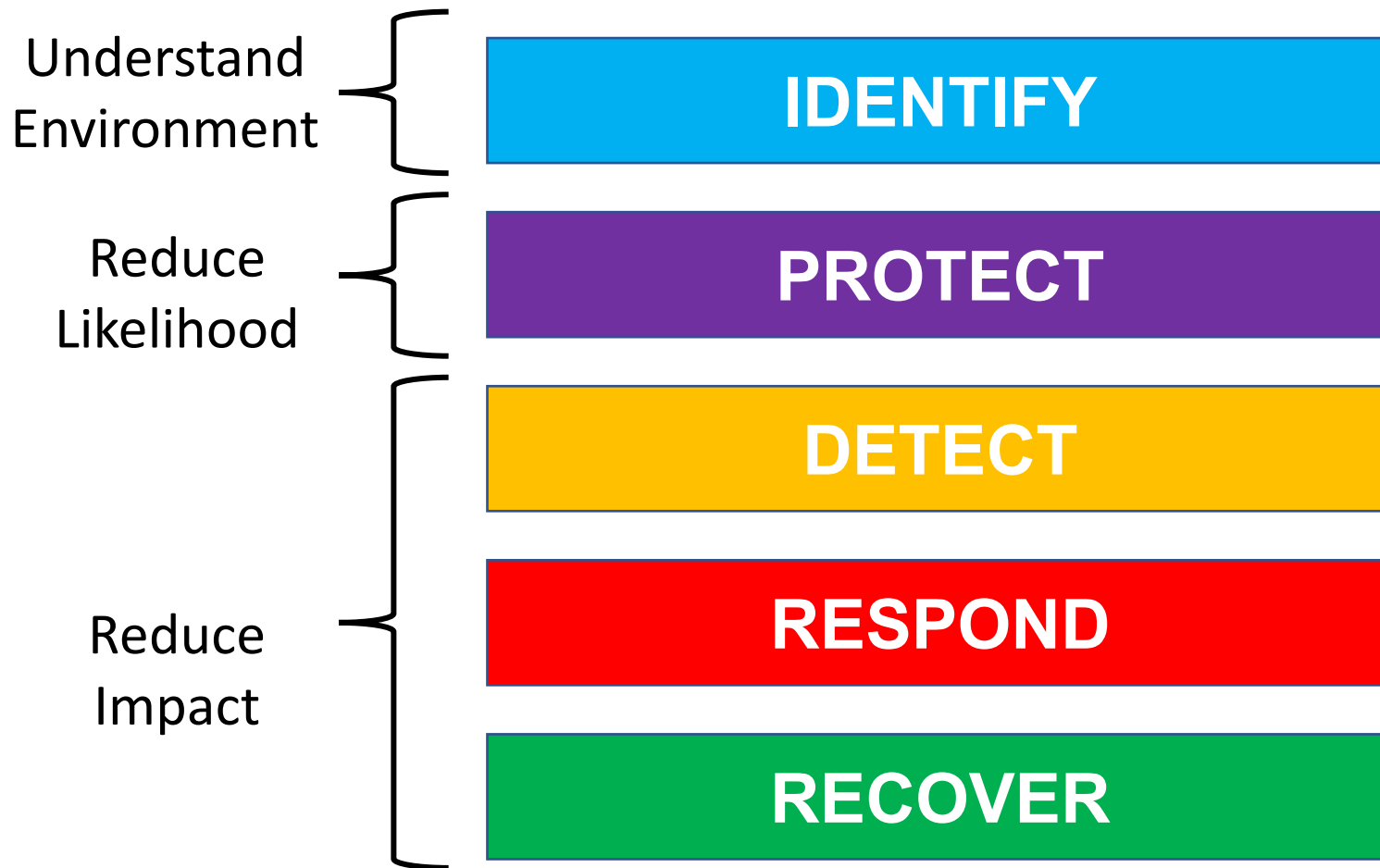


More than 60% of DWP Digital's run and maintenance costs can be attributed to ensuring that our IT services remain price performant, effective and secure.

Digital With Purpose

NIST-Cyber Security Framework

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1. Understand the assets we need to protect

2. Reduce the likelihood of successful attacks by prioritising work within the Protect function

- a. Good Cyber Hygiene
- b. Improving Control Coverage

3. Reduce the impact of attacks by

- a. Improving our ability to detect, respond and recover to attacks
- b. Using automation to provide instant response and recovery

Centre for Internet Security (CIS) Critical Controls v8

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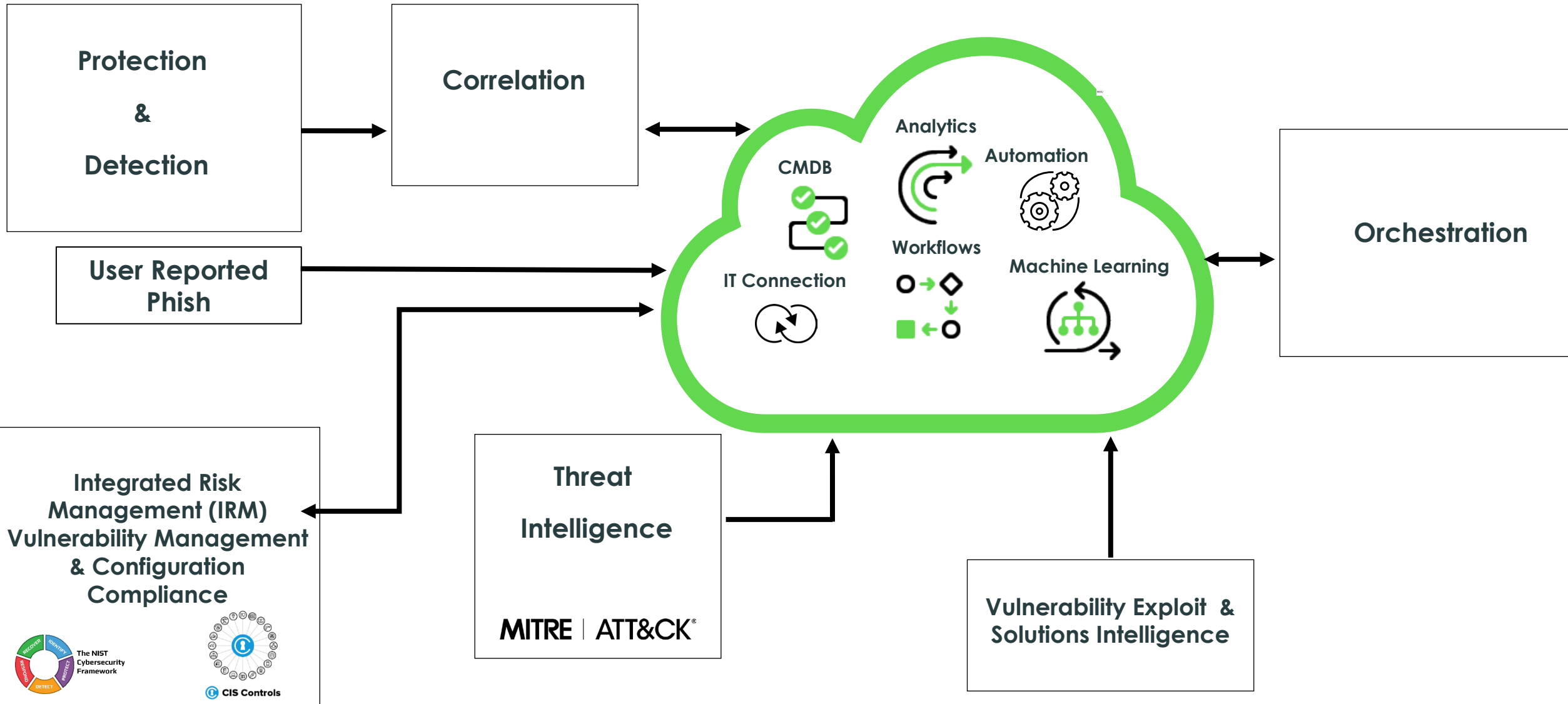
Defense-in-Depth Approach to Cybersecurity



CONTROL 01 Inventory and Control of Enterprise Assets 5 Safeguards IG1: 2/5 IG2: 4/5 IG3: 5/5	CONTROL 02 Inventory and Control of Software Assets 7 Safeguards IG1: 3/7 IG2: 6/7 IG3: 7/7	CONTROL 03 Data Protection 14 Safeguards IG1: 6/14 IG2: 12/14 IG3: 14/14
CONTROL 04 Secure Configuration of Enterprise Assets and Software 12 Safeguards IG1: 7/12 IG2: 11/12 IG3: 12/12	CONTROL 05 Account Management 6 Safeguards IG1: 4/6 IG2: 6/6 IG3: 6/6	CONTROL 06 Access Control Management 8 Safeguards IG1: 5/8 IG2: 7/8 IG3: 8/8
CONTROL 07 Continuous Vulnerability Management 7 Safeguards IG1: 4/7 IG2: 7/7 IG3: 7/7	CONTROL 08 Audit Log Management 12 Safeguards IG1: 3/12 IG2: 11/12 IG3: 12/12	CONTROL 09 Email and Web Browser Protections 7 Safeguards IG1: 2/7 IG2: 6/7 IG3: 7/7
CONTROL 10 Malware Defenses 7 Safeguards IG1: 3/7 IG2: 7/7 IG3: 7/7	CONTROL 11 Data Recovery 5 Safeguards IG1: 4/5 IG2: 5/5 IG3: 5/5	CONTROL 12 Network Infrastructure Management 8 Safeguards IG1: 1/8 IG2: 7/8 IG3: 8/8
CONTROL 13 Network Monitoring and Defense 11 Safeguards IG1: 0/11 IG2: 6/11 IG3: 11/11	CONTROL 14 Security Awareness and Skills Training 9 Safeguards IG1: 8/9 IG2: 9/9 IG3: 9/9	CONTROL 15 Service Provider Management 7 Safeguards IG1: 1/7 IG2: 4/7 IG3: 7/7
CONTROL 16 Applications Software Security 14 Safeguards IG1: 0/14 IG2: 11/14 IG3: 14/14	CONTROL 17 Incident Response Management 9 Safeguards IG1: 3/9 IG2: 8/9 IG3: 9/9	CONTROL 18 Penetration Testing 5 Safeguards IG1: 0/5 IG2: 3/5 IG3: 5/5

Adaptive Cybersecurity Ecosystem (Platform)

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Can't forget the people and process

