

THE NATIONAL GALLERY

IT RISK MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

IT RISK April 2006

Information Systems

Introduction

The Gallery uses information systems to support a significant proportion of its operations. The IS Department is responsible for maintaining and securing those systems, and ensuring that they are available to authorised users. External and internal risks are regularly reviewed, and established protective measures adjusted in the light of any new vulnerabilities identified.

Procedures

The Gallery plans and prioritises developments of its information systems through the Information Strategy Group, responsible for maintaining the Information Strategy and supporting the co-ordination, monitoring and delivery of IS-related projects to predefined standards.

The policy under which staff may make use of the Gallery's IS facilities is included within the contract of employment for each member of staff and staff are reminded from time-to-time of their obligations. These include appropriate use of the Internet, software licencing procedures, password management and data protection.

The IS Department identifies those areas of technology where staff skills may need further development, and works with the HR Department for the delivery of appropriate training, ensuring that staff are able to make effective use of their information systems. The risk of loss of specific technical skills within the IS and user departments is alleviated by nominating individuals with primary and secondary responsibilities for a key system, together with comprehensive documentation to support system configuration and administration.

Health and Safety advice is provided for all staff and contractors working on site, including the proper use of IT equipment, appropriate seating, and any additional adjustment that may be necessary to suit a particular individual.

Threats from malicious attack or accidental exposure to hazards are mitigated through the use of firewall and virus checking technologies. These are kept up to date as a matter of course. Additional protection is available, as appropriate, where there may be the risk of loss or compromise of information through staff working away from the Gallery.

Regular technology refresh, prioritised warranty cover and comprehensive capacity planning together ensure that systems can grow to meet new demand. Conventional commercial hardware and software applications are used, allowing the Gallery to capitalise both on external advice where necessary to ensure that effective systems are in place, and interoperability using common standards.

An appropriate level of availability is maintained by providing secure and conditioned locations for server and communications equipment. Offsite backup storage and recovery is in place, ensuring that key operations can continue should access to the Gallery's premises be denied. The effectiveness of this is tested regularly.