



June 2026

McLarens People

Sharing news from McLarens UK & Ireland with colleagues and clients




**Waste and Recycling
Fires article**

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Welcome

Our thoughts are with the people of Venezuela following the devastating earthquakes. These tragic events remind us of the profound human impact of natural disasters and the importance of compassion, preparedness and resilience.

Closer to home, Europe has experienced record-breaking June temperatures, highlighting the growing frequency and severity of extreme weather events, at a time when geopolitical challenges continue to dominate.

Conference season has also been in full swing, beginning with the McLarens UK Technical Conference at Wembley. It was another highly successful event, bringing together technical expertise, business updates and, most importantly, colleagues. Congratulations to our nine McLarens UK Values Award winners and everyone who was nominated.

We maintained a strong presence at the [BIBA](#), [AIRMIC](#) and [ALARM](#) conferences, and recently hosted our annual European Real Estate Conference in London, bringing together colleagues and clients from across Europe to discuss the challenges of managing pan-European portfolios.


It has also been a quarter of giving, with colleagues supporting a range of charitable initiatives, including the [EMWalhalla](#) race for the [RNLI](#), the [Paris Marathon](#) for [Providence Row](#), the [Giants Causeway trek](#) for [IUAD](#), volunteering at [Little Havens Hospice](#), and the completion of the Time to Read programme at [Togher Girls National School](#) in Cork.

We were delighted to be named Loss Adjuster of the Year for the third consecutive year and Best Employer at the [British Claims Awards 2026](#), alongside achieving [Good Business Charter Accreditation](#) in recognition of our commitment to responsible, ethical and sustainable business practices.

I hope you enjoy this latest edition of McLarens People. Whatever your plans, have a wonderful summer!



Steven Wallace ACII FCILA
Managing Director

 steven.wallace@mcclarens.com

Highly Commended at the BDMA Awards

We were delighted to attend the BDMA Awards, where McLarens was highly commended in both the Sustainability Project of the Year and Customer Experience categories.



Congratulations to [Alan Smith](#), whose leadership has been instrumental in building our relationship with the BDMA, and for playing a key role in the success of these award submissions.

Celebrating Cultural Heritage at Style in the City

The 14th Annual Style in the City Fashion Show, hosted by the [Insurance Institute of Manchester](#), celebrated the theme "One City, Many Cultures." Guests enjoyed a three-course lunch, entertainment from a steel drum musician and an Indian dancer, followed by the fashion show and a DJ.



A special mention goes to our very own [Tom Frain](#), who represented McLarens on the catwalk. He looked like a natural and certainly did us proud!

Good Business Charter Accreditation

McLarens has been awarded accreditation by the [Good Business Charter](#), recognising its commitment to responsible, ethical, and sustainable business practices.

The Good Business Charter is granted to organisations that demonstrate high standards across ten key areas, including payment of the real living wage, ethical sourcing, employee wellbeing, environmental responsibility, and fair tax conduct.

This accreditation highlights McLarens' ongoing dedication to operating with integrity while creating positive impacts for its employees, clients, communities, and the environment.

By achieving this recognition, McLarens joins a growing community of organisations that are committed to promoting fairer, more sustainable, and socially responsible ways of doing business.



Giant's Causeway Trek in Aid of Alzheimer's Society

[Rebecca Webster](#), [Steven Wallace](#), [Stephie Wallace](#), [Richard Nightingale](#), [Amanda Nightingale](#), [Aidan McGleenon](#) and Rebecca's eldest son, [William Webster](#), recently completed a challenging 26-mile trek along the Northern Ireland coastline in support of the [Alzheimer's Society](#) and [Insurance United Against Dementia](#).



Despite heavy rain and tough conditions, especially during the final six miles, the team persevered, motivated by the cause and the personal impact dementia has on so many families.

Currently, £4,613 has been raised so far and they are close to the £5,000 target. Anyone wishing to support the fundraising effort can donate via this [JustGiving page](#).

Airmic Conference

We attended this year's [AIRMIC Conference](#) at Birmingham's ICC, where the theme was "Back to Basics," providing a valuable platform for engagement and discussion.

Over the three days, we exhibited, reconnected with clients and partners and met new contacts across the AIRMIC community. Our Claims Cyclone challenge proved a popular attraction on the stand, sparking conversation throughout the event. [Gareth Bowers](#) also joined [Intact](#) on a Multinational Programmes panel session, contributing to wider industry dialogue.



We also hosted a client drinks reception overlooking Birmingham's canal, welcoming around 100 guests for an enjoyable evening of networking and discussion.

Little Havens - Day of Service

Recently, [Jamie Forbes](#), [Martin Lawrence](#), [Marina Cotiuc](#), [Kate Harris](#) and [Alex Heldth](#) completed their Day of Service volunteering at [Little Havens Hospice](#).

Little Havens Hospice is a charity which provides specialist care and support for babies, children and young people living with complex or incurable conditions, as well as vital support for their families. The charity's work helps families make the most of every moment together during incredibly challenging times.

The team was tasked with carrying out gardening and grounds maintenance within the patient areas, helping to ensure the outdoor spaces remain welcoming, accessible and enjoyable for the children and families.

Jamie Forbes said, 'It was a genuinely rewarding experience to contribute, in a small way, to an organisation that provides such compassionate and invaluable care'.



Bspoke Summer Party

[Tim Carpenter](#), [Mike Hurry](#) and [David Mello](#) from the Private Clients & Estates team attended the [Bspoke Summer Party](#), enjoying a Thames cruise with drinks and a buffet.

The event brought together colleagues from the Bspoke London team, alongside brokers and underwriters from [Brown & Brown](#), [The Clear Group](#), [Lycetts](#) and [Reserv](#).

Despite the 36°C heat, everyone enjoyed the sunshine, great company and networking opportunities.



Data Centres Panel Session

The Forensic Accounting Technical Panel talk was an insightful discussion on the growing risks and resilience challenges facing data centres.

Held at [Balls Brothers](#), Minster Court, the talk brought together industry experts including [Nigel Ward](#) (Aviva), [Louise Butcher](#), [Richard Parkinson](#) and [Joe Roskop](#) (McLarens) to explore the insurance, claims and operational considerations surrounding the infrastructure that underpins our increasingly digital world.

The session provided valuable perspectives on managing risk in an always-on environment and sparked engaging discussion among attendees.



Key Insights from Our Airmic Webinar

We recently hosted a webinar for Airmic members, exploring how sustainability is being balanced with practical claims handling and risk management.

[Gareth Bowers](#), [Karl Evans](#), and [Dr Nadia Mofidi](#) shared insights on the shift toward mitigation-first approaches, focusing on targeted repairs and extending asset life rather than full reinstatement.

The session also highlighted how resilience is being embedded through smarter materials, partial rebuilds, and evolving regulations, alongside emerging risks from technologies such as EV infrastructure and solar panels.



Ladies of Insurance Lunch 2026

McLarens' colleagues recently attended the Ladies of Insurance Lunch in Glasgow, bringing together women from across the insurance industry for an afternoon of networking, entertainment and fundraising in support of [Alzheimer Scotland](#).

Caroline McDonald stated, 'It was great to step away from the day job, catch up with so many familiar faces across the industry, and spend time with such inspiring women, all while supporting an incredible cause close to so many hearts.'



BIBA Next Generation Ball

The Belfast team hosted clients at the inaugural Next Gen Ball at the Europa Hotel.

The event proved to be a tremendous success, providing a fun and engaging environment to connect with the next generation of insurance professionals from across Northern Ireland.



Pushing Limits on the Streets of Paris

Congratulations to [Kim Alcock](#), [Jennifer Barclay](#), [Matt Barratt](#), [Aaron Burrows](#), [Louise Butcher](#), [David Gillan](#), [Tirnan Healey](#), [Lee Hudson](#), [Alistair Jacob](#), [Toby Knight](#), [Tim McGee](#) and [Richard Nightingale](#) and their friends, families and clients, on successfully completing the 26.2-mile Paris Marathon.

The team ran in support of [Providence Row](#) and [DEBRA](#), raising more than £7,200 for the two charities. The fundraising total reflects the incredible generosity of everyone who donated and supported the team along the way.

A fantastic achievement by everyone involved, both on the course and through their fundraising efforts for two worthy causes. You can donate [here](#).



British Claims Awards Success

McLarens has won Best Employer Award and Loss Adjuster of the Year Award at this year's [British Claims Awards](#).

These awards recognise the dedication, expertise and collaborative culture that our colleagues bring to the business every day.

The awards also reflect our continued commitment to delivering outstanding outcomes for our clients and partners.

Thank you to all our colleagues, clients and partners for your hard work, trust and support and congratulations to all the finalists and winners.



Real Estate European Conference

Now in its fourth year, the McLarens European Real Estate Conference has become a key date in the insurance calendar. On June 3rd, we welcomed over 100 clients alongside our European affiliates for our most interactive event yet.

Despite the London rain, the day was filled with energy and engagement, with sessions covering key industry topics including PV and EV risks, green clauses, data centres, fraud, and brownfield developments.

The Real Estate conference continues to reflect the strength of McLarens' relationships across the real estate community.



EMWalhalla 2026

[Duncan Hamilton](#), [Lisa Usman](#), [Jazz Scott](#) and [Alex Wakefield](#) recently took part in EMWalhalla in the Netherlands, a unique charity road trip raising funds for the [RNLI](#). They joined more than 1,200 vehicles from across Europe, covering thousands of miles in support of the RNLI's lifesaving work.

Thanks to the generosity of clients, friends and supporters, the team raised more than £3,200 for the charity. Despite a few unexpected travel challenges along the way, the event was a great success and a memorable experience for everyone involved.

Donations are still welcome via [this page](#). If you'd be interested in taking part in EMWalhalla 2027, please contact Alex Wakefield, all that's required is a sense of adventure and enthusiasm for the road ahead.



Global Management Team Meeting

We had the privilege of bringing together our Global Management Team (GMT) to London for a week of collaboration, strategic discussion, and planning, with colleagues joining from around the world.

The sessions delivered provided valuable time to reflect on our achievements, explore opportunities and challenges ahead, and align on key priorities as we continue to evolve and grow.

Coming together in person brought fresh perspectives and reinforced our shared commitment to delivering the best outcomes for our clients, colleagues, and business.

Watch the GMT Conference highlights video [here](#).



Time to Read Mentoring Programme

McLarens Ireland recently completed a 12-week Time to Read programme with second-class students from Toghher Girls National School in Cork, helping to foster literacy, confidence and a love of reading.

Each week, volunteers spent time reading with the students, creating meaningful connections through stories, learning and shared experiences. A highlight of the programme was a visit to Bishopstown Library, where the students explored the library, completed a book together and enjoyed a special outing.

The programme concluded with a visit to the McLarens Ireland office, where the students celebrated their achievements, received certificates and enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon with the team.

Time to Read is a fantastic example of how McLarens colleagues are making a positive impact in their local communities.

We are incredibly proud of everyone involved and the lasting difference the programme has made for the students and volunteers alike.



Empower Development ‘Springboard’ Event

The McLarens London office recently hosted an [Empower Development Springboard](#) event, helping early-career insurance professionals build confidence, expand their networks and develop valuable industry connections.

Springboard is designed for people in their first insurance role, providing a welcoming environment that removes common barriers to networking. Through events, resources and practical guidance, the initiative supports the next generation of insurance professionals as they establish their careers.



Celebrating Retirements

We have recently said farewell to [Brian Gibson - Executive Manager](#), [David Fillingham - Technical Manager](#) and [David Gillan - Executive Director](#) as they have retired from the business.

We extend our sincere thanks to all three for their dedication, professionalism and valuable contributions over the years.

Brian and David Gillan each spent almost 20 years with McLarens, playing an important role in the company's success and supporting clients and colleagues throughout their careers.

We are grateful for their commitment and service and wish all three a long, happy and well-deserved retirement!



BIBA Conference

The [BIBA Conference & Exhibition](#) was once again a highlight in the insurance calendar, providing a great opportunity to connect with clients, colleagues, and new prospects. We kicked off with a memorable client dinner at [Manchester Art Gallery](#), where guests enjoyed excellent hospitality and a string quartet performing modern music.

The exhibition was as busy and energetic as ever, attracting around 10,000 attendees. Our stand saw strong engagement, particularly with the interactive “Claims Cyclone” game, and congratulations go to [Richard Galgey of Kerry London](#), who won a £200 voucher for The Ivy.

We also enjoyed the Women in Insurance breakfast, where former [Sky News](#) presenter [Kay Burley](#) shared her inspiring reflections on her career and the challenges she overcame.

Overall, BIBA 2026 delivered a fantastic mix of networking, insight, and shared experiences, and we thank everyone who spent time with us during the event.



Annual Dinner of the The Insurance Institute of Ipswich, Suffolk & North Essex

McLarens hosted a table at the Annual Dinner of the Insurance Institute of Ipswich, Suffolk & North Essex, hosted by [Johanna Mulley](#), [Matt Morling](#), [Jason O'Sullivan](#), [Cassie Watts](#) and [Sam Ashkuri](#).

The evening provided a great opportunity to come together with valued clients and connect with the wider local insurance community.

It was a fantastic evening celebrating collaboration and community within the profession.



Private Clients Client Event

McLarens Private Clients & Estates held their annual Summer Soiree on 18th June 2026 at [Coq D'Argent](#) near the McLarens London office.

The weather held out for our rooftop event, it was a brilliant sunny evening with delightful company, a chance to catch up with existing clients and for new introductions.

[Tim Carpenter](#), Head of Private Clients & Estates sends thanks to those who joined us from the wider business and from the industry.

We hope everyone had an enjoyable evening, we are looking forward to the next one!



The Insurance Charity Webinar

During [The Insurance Charity Awareness Week](#) we were delighted to hear from CEO [Helen Sanson](#) about the incredible work they do in offering financial support and practical guidance to current and former insurance professionals in the UK and Ireland.

The message was clear: don't wait until it's too late, get in touch with them if you feel that you need some additional support. All conversations are strictly confidential.

We look forward to supporting the work of the charity in the coming months.



Race to the Stones Ultramarathon

Our very own Superman, [Toby Knight](#), will soon be tackling the Race to the Stones ultramarathon, a gruelling 100km non-stop run along the Ridgeway, one of the UK's oldest roads.

The route will begin in Lewknor, South Oxfordshire, and pass a number of historic landmarks before finishing at the iconic Avebury Standing Stones, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Toby is raising funds for [Down Syndrome Swimming Great Britain \(DSS-GB\)](#), a volunteer-led charity that supports competitive swimmers with Down syndrome and provides valuable guidance and resources for families, clubs and coaches.

An incredible achievement for a fantastic cause, Toby's efforts are helping to raise both awareness and vital funds for DSS-GB. Donations are welcome via [this JustGiving page](#).



ALARM Conference

We attended the ALARM Conference in Manchester in June, which provided a great opportunity to connect with industry colleagues and share experiences across the sector.

The highlight was a session delivered by [Gordon Winstanley](#) and [Gareth Magrath](#) from [Browdia](#), titled “Challenges in Meeting Government Housing Targets – Planning Restrictions and Floodplain Risks,” which offered delegates a valuable insight into the complexities surrounding development and risk management. The event also gave us the chance to strengthen existing relationships and build new connections.

In addition, we attended the Risk Awards dinner on the first evening, which was an enjoyable opportunity to celebrate achievements across the industry and continue networking in a more informal setting.





Russell Norris
Executive Adjuster /
Sports & Leisure Lead

Losses in this sector represent a wide range of cross-class business including Casualty, Property, Cancellation and Abandonment, and Personal Accident.

We work closely with other McLarens Practices and specialist teams, including Forensic Accounting on Business Interruption claims, enabling us to provide expert support on complex, high-value and often high-profile losses.

Instructions cover a wide spectrum of claims, from liability cases involving occupants of a supercar who suffered serious injuries during a track experience day, where our Forensic Engineers delivered critical technical expertise in response to alleged mechanical failures, to the catastrophic failure of underground tanks that caused extensive damage to a Football League stadium and pitch, expertly managed by our Major Loss team.

Other notable losses include contaminated fuel being pumped into vehicles critical to an F1 race, highlighting the costly consequences of failing to properly purge oil drums before filling them with specialist fuel.

As our team continues to grow, we're always keen to hear from clients and colleagues with experience in handling Sports and Leisure claims. If that sounds like you, please get in touch.

McLarens Sports and Leisure, a new offering within our Entertainment and Contingency Practice, has been created to meet evolving market needs and align with the approach of insurers and brokers in establishing dedicated sports divisions.

I'm very proud to lead this new endeavour and excited to work with a host of exceptional adjusters, hand-picked from across the UK and NI, and our wider EMEA region, for their talent and experience in this rapidly expanding and dynamic market.

We're delighted to be joined by some of the Heads of our outstanding teams across Europe and the Middle East, such as Gareth Bowers, William Wilson and Mark Farrant, alongside Matthew Rooney and Richard Parkinson, to name but a few.

10 QUESTIONS WITH: Russell Norris



Russell Norris
Executive Adjuster /
Sports & Leisure Lead

1. Describe your home office

Ground floor in what used to be the spare room, the work area fights for space with my record collection and DJ kit.

2. What can you see from your window right now?

The back garden, I try to not to get distracted by the ongoing battle between next-door's cat and our resident squirrel.

3. What is your favourite travel destination?

I love Spain and have visited several of its very interesting and beautiful cities, Seville and Valencia are my favourites. The excellent food and wine on offer is an added bonus.

4. What is your favourite food?

Traditional Pie, Mash and Liquor. I've been eating it for as long as I can remember, I'd happily have it for breakfast, lunch and dinner if my waistline would allow.

5. What is your favourite tittle?

Tequila!! like to sip it and make a mean spicy margarita, mixing it with tonic makes a great alternative to a G&T. Red wine comes a close second.

6. If you could invite anyone to dinner (dead or alive), who would they be?

Mick and Keith, Messrs. Jagger and Richards. They've written some of my favourite music, I was lucky to once meet Ronnie Wood so I'd like to hear their sides of some the tall tales. I'm not sure Keef would be much help.

7. Do you have any hobbies?

I DJ for fun, more afternoon sessions in bars rather than the clubs I used to play in, recovery from late nights takes a little longer these days. Always on the lookout for great new music.

8. What essential ingredients make for a great weekend?

Hearty breakfasts as I try to eat healthily during the week, a stroll along the prom at the seaside, watching sport live or on TV, hopefully with a Spurs and McLaren win (one far more likely than the other these days), spin some tunes with friends and watching a good movie, most likely Star Wars again!

9. What's your go-to takeaway food?

Thai food, red beef curry and sticky rice is my go-to takeaway, preferably washed down with a decent Shiraz.

10. What is your favourite TV Series?

Breaking Bad is my favourite, I binge-watched way quicker than is healthy.



The McLarens UK Conference 2026 gathered colleagues together for two inspiring days. The event captured the very best of McLarens - its people, expertise, and unwavering commitment to collaboration and excellence.

Across the conference, colleagues from around the UK gathered to strengthen connections, exchange ideas, and celebrate the partnerships that continue to drive the business forward. The energy throughout the event was a testament to the strong culture that underpins McLarens - one built on knowledge sharing, professionalism, and a people-first approach.

This year's agenda offered a rich programme of content, reflecting the depth and diversity of expertise within the UK business. From strategic updates and client insights to thought-provoking sessions on ESG, catastrophe claims, and conservation in claims, the conference delivered both breadth and depth. Attendees left with valuable insights and a renewed focus on delivering excellence for clients in an ever-evolving landscape.

Supporting a Meaningful Cause

A high-point of the conference was McLarens' support for [Dougie Mac](#), a charity providing specialist hospice care for adults, young adults, children, and their families. Through the generosity of attendees and an engaging raffle with prizes donated by executive and leadership team members, an impressive £3,001.25 was raised.

This achievement reflects the strong community spirit within McLarens and its commitment to making a positive impact beyond the business.

Celebrating Excellence

The conference also provided an opportunity to recognise outstanding contributions across the UK team. Congratulations were extended to all McLarens UK Values Award winners, whose achievements embody the principles that define the organisation.

Award Winners:

- [Helen Walker](#) – Thought Leadership Award
- [Mark Simmons](#) – Knowledge Award
- [Kate Harris](#) – Excellence Award
- [Sara Howe](#) – Teamwork Award
- [Debbie Crosti](#) – Respect Award
- [Sam Hooper](#) – Accountability Award
- [Paul Durham](#) – Trevor Latimer Award
- [Vicky Jewell](#) – Special Recognition Award
- [Tom Garel-Jones](#) – Young Achiever Award

With momentum from a successful 2026 conference, the future looks bright, driven by the collective passion and professionalism of its people.



Spotlight on EMEA

NIVRE Qualifications

[Mitchell van den Berg](#), [Sander Smits](#), [Annefloor Nieuwenstein](#), [Michiel Roholl](#), [Gerjo Duinmeijer](#), [Olivier van der Kruijs](#), [Jan Jeroen Kreuzen](#) and [Ronald Polano](#) are currently completing the NIVRE programme. The NIVRE programme is the Dutch version of CILA.

Since starting last August, they have been taking part in an intensive programme covering key areas including communication skills, research, ethics and regulatory frameworks.

Their learning is supported through assignments, reports, tests and regular in-person sessions.

The programme concluded with a final assessment, the team is now ready to follow the last steps and get fully qualified.

SV Fides Visits

[SV Fides](#) visited McLaren's Netherlands to learn more about personal injury work and the role of a specialised loss adjuster.

Members of the team introduced them to the field, explained how internships are structured, and highlighted why the role is both rewarding and challenging.

The session was interactive, featuring real case examples and discussions on how different claims might be handled, giving participants a feel for a typical working day.



Middle East Leadership Appointments

McLarens has appointed [Mahesh Ganesan](#) as Operations Director – Middle East. In this newly created role, Mahesh will oversee regional operations, with a focus on improving efficiency and delivering a consistent, high-quality service for clients across the Middle East.

McLarens has also appointed [Ollie Waterman](#) as Commercial Development Director – Middle East. Ollie joins with extensive experience handling major and complex losses across Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. He was previously Head of Property for the Middle East at an international loss-adjusting firm and brings market knowledge and technical expertise across a broad range of sectors. In his new role, Ollie will lead commercial development across the region, with a focus on client engagement, service excellence and expanding McLaren's presence across key markets.

Both based in Dubai, these appointments reflect McLaren's ongoing investment in its Middle East operations, particularly as the region navigates geopolitical tensions and a complex and developing market environment.

[Steven Wallace](#), Managing Director, EMEA, commented: "The Middle East is an important region for McLaren, and these appointments reflect our commitment to investing in the right leadership to support our clients and grow sustainably."



Together, Mahesh and Ollie will be central to the continued development of our Middle East offering, and to ensuring we deliver the quality of service our clients expect."

Steven Wallace visits Dubai Office

[Steven Wallace](#), Managing Director – EMEA, recently visited the McLaren's Dubai office, saying that "it was great to be back in the Emirates to meet colleagues and clients, and in particular our new joiners, [Omar](#) (Abu Dhabi) and [Shijoy](#) (Dubai). It has been a difficult time, but team spirit, togetherness and positivity were palpable."



Looking forward already to my next trip in October!"

NARIM Congress

McLarens Netherlands, together with [HDI](#), recently hosted two breakout sessions at the NARIM Congress, which this year marked the 30th anniversary of NARIM (the Dutch Association of Risk and Insurance Managers).

Our session "Covered or not covered?" generated lively discussion and reinforced that claims are rarely black and white, but often a matter of nuance and interpretation.

The key message participants took away was: "Work with each other, not against each other. Insurer, broker, insured, and loss adjuster all need one another for an effective claims handling process."

Welcoming New Affiliate Partners

McLarens is proud to welcome two new affiliate partners to its global network; [Quantum Adjusting Ltd](#) in the Channel Islands and [BE Group LLC](#) in Georgia.

These partnerships reflect McLaren's continued commitment to strengthening its presence in key markets by collaborating with trusted local experts who bring deep regional knowledge, technical expertise and a shared focus on exceptional client service.

Together, these new affiliates expand access to McLaren's global resources and specialist expertise, reinforcing the company's commitment to delivering outstanding claims solutions through a powerful combination of global reach and local knowledge.



Market Insights

Looking at the hot topics ongoing and coming up in the market.



Click on the links to find out more.

The cost of waiting: why recoveries can't afford to be an afterthought

Recoveries are frequently lost not because liability does not exist, but because the evidence needed to establish it is no longer available. In a market increasingly focused on claims inflation, lifecycle management and indemnity spend, that is a problem worth taking seriously.



[Read full article](#)

Cyber risk and live events: a short window, high-impact exposure

Cyber risk is rarely out of the headlines. Attacks continue to increase in both frequency and sophistication. The NCSC's most recent Annual Review recorded 429 significant cyber incidents in the UK over a single 12-month period - more than double the figure from the year before, with 18 classified as "highly significant" in their potential to disrupt essential services.



[Read full article](#)

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