



How Resilient Are We? Cybersecurity that Inspires...

28-29 April 2026
Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa Edinburgh
Scotland | UK

BALANCING INNOVATION, TRUST AND RESILIENCE
WHERE CYBERSECURITY LEADERS TURN INNOVATION AND RISK
INTO STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE

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Welcome to 2nd CISO 360 UK

Peer benchmarking on the cyber risks and opportunities facing global businesses in 2026 & beyond. **How cyber resilient are we?**

Dear CISOs, Cybersecurity Practitioners and Luminaries,

This spring, the UK's CISO community gathers north of the border!

A national CISO forum beyond the London bubble, the Pulse team is excited to announce the **2nd CISO 360 UK & Ireland (28–29 April 2026, Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa in Edinburgh)**, bringing together CISOs and senior security leaders - from Scotland, Manchester, Leeds to London and from Yorkshire to the Midlands, Wales and Ireland - for two days of peer-led discussion and real-world insight into what is working and what isn't!

The national meeting point for CISOs this Spring, engage with fellow CISOs and luminaries through case stories, fireside chats, table discussions, and 'Pulse Checks' on where we are now - convened under The Chatham House Rule.

The focus is firmly on readiness, governance, and business impact. The goal is simple: create space for security leaders to step back from operational pressures, compare approaches with peers, and explore how the role of the CISO is evolving as technology, geopolitics, and business expectations shift.

Venue: **Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa, Edinburgh**

Dates: **28-29 April 2026**

Complimentary for CISOs and senior practitioners.

A tour of The Vaults, a cosy pub reception and dinner at the National Museum of Scotland are included on the evening of 28 April (see page 8 for details).

Expect:

- Closed-door discussions under The Chatham House Rule
- Real-world, practitioner-led insight grounded in lived experience
- Board-level themes (AI governance, Q-day preparations, supply chain, geopolitics, cyber resilience)
- CISO peer intelligence insights
- Experiential Edinburgh! Designed end to end for meaningful conversations
- Scenario-led sessions designed to translate intelligence risk into board-ready conversations
- Networking with peers in relaxed setting where the real conversations happen!

We look forward to welcoming you to this security leadership meeting of minds for CISOs from around the UK and Ireland!

CISO 360 Team

Pulse Conferences

“One of the things I enjoy about a Pulse CISO 360 event is that you get a global view. You're bringing folks together from around the world to share and it helps us to understand the bigger implications of what we're doing and to develop best practices. Pulse gives us a bigger audience to see wider.”
Sounil Yu, Author of The Cyber Defense Matrix and Co-Founder and CTO, Knostic





Agenda at a Glance

Day One, Tuesday, 28 April

12:30-13:00
13:00-15:45
15:45-23:00

Welcome Lunch
CISO 360 UK Conference
Evening Networking Activities

15:45-16:00 Walk from Sheraton Grand Hotel to Deacon Brodie's Tavern
16:00-17:00 Jekyll & Hyde Drinks at Deacon Brodie's Tavern
17:00-18:30 The Candlelit Vaults Walk. Step beneath the surface into The Vaults
19:00-23:00 CISO 360 Dinner at the National Museum of Scotland

Day Two, Wednesday, 29 April

07:00-09:00
10:00-16:00
16:00-16:30

Optional hike up Arthur's Seat. Bond with peers in the wild
CISO 360 UK Conference
Afternoon Tea Break, Prize Draw and Goodbyes



Session types



Case Stories

Hear battle-tested strategies from peers who've been in the trenches.



Panels and Fireside Chats

Delegates are invited to shape the conversation, engaging, two-way, organic discussions. No rehearsed pitches, just honest answers.



CISO 360 Roundtables and Playbooks

Tactical table discussions where you collaboratively solve challenges with peers before presenting back.



Spotlights

CxOs and corporate leaders outside the security sphere bring fresh perspectives.



CISO 360 Pulse Check

No slides, no panel, these rapid fire 5-minute reality checks are designed to expose the gaps between narratives and realities - to quickly surface what CISOs are **actually experiencing right now!**

Keynotes by



Gemma Ungoad-Thomas

Senior Fellow, King's College London. Recent Director for State Threats, Cyber and Technology in the UK Cabinet Office



Lady Olga Maitland, President, Defence and Security Forum

Global defence and security expert and commentator



Dr. Roddy Gow, OBE

Founder and Chairman of the Asia Scotland Institute. Member of the King's Bodyguard for Scotland (Royal Company of Archers)

CISOs and Cybersecurity Practitioners

- Paul Colnan, CISO & Director of Platform Engineering, **NewDay**
- James Kwaan, Senior Operations Threat Manager, **LBG**
- Simon Riggs, CISO, **OneAdvanced**
- Lee Morton, CISO, **GBG plc.**
- Jonny Herd, CISO, **Zenobe**
- Paula Kershaw, Managing Director - Chief Controls Officer - Cyber & Resilience, **Barclays**
- Michael Colao, CISO/CSO/ Chief Underwriter Luminary
- Gary R. Hayslip, CISO in Residence, **Halcyon (USA)**
- Nick Gertesian, CISO, **eClinical Solutions (USA)**
- Martyn Booth, CISO, **dunnhumby**
- Malcolm Kafesu, Head of IT Security & Governance, **Ontic Engineering & Manufacturing**
- John White, Field CISO EMEA, **torq**
- Prof. Dr. Robert Coles, Consultant, **DSSmith plc**
- Findlay Whitelaw, Field CISO, **Exabeam**
- Richard Holland, Field CISO, **Quorum Cyber**
- Dr. Abdullah A.I. Alnajem, Hd of Cybersecurity, **Saudi Enaya Cooperative Insurance (Saudi Arabia)**
- Alan Jenkins, Fractional CISO, **The Cyber Security Navigator**
- Danielle Sudai, Security Operations Manager, **Deliveroo**

Founders and Subject Matter Specialists

- Chris Wallis, Founder & CEO, **Intruder**
- Ken Munro, Founder and CEO, **Pen Test Partners**
- Alex Harland, Co-Founder and CEO, **AI Score**
- Ronan Lavelle, Founder and CEO, **Validato**
- Ben Armstrong, Co-Founder, **Cytix**
- Cian Heasley, Principal Consultant, **Acumen Cyber**
- Oliver Brown, CCO, **Wire**
- Owanate Bestman, Director, **Bestman Solutions**
- Dr. Sally Leivesley, Managing Director, **Newrisk Limited**; Member of the Register of Security Engineers and Specialists; international media commentator on cyber, catastrophic risks, terrorism and nuclear war
- Tarek Kuzbari, Vice President EMEA, **Picus Security**
- Cian Heasley, Principal Consultant, **Acumen Cyber**
- James Duggan, Solutions Architect UK&I, **Synack**
- Pete Hoddinott, Managing Director, **QCC**
- Jonathan Armstrong, Partner, **Punter Southall**

Day One - Tuesday 28 April 2026 - Security and AI

12:30-12:55 Welcome Lunch and Arrivals

12:55 Chairperson's Opening

13:00 Case Story: Agentic Ransomware, An Evolving Threat
Gary Hayslip, CISO in Residence, Halcyon (USA)

13:20 Insights: Back to the Future: Security in the Age of AI
Michael Colao, CISO/CSO/ Chief Underwriter Luminary

13:40 Case Story: The Agentic SOC: Evolutionary Leap or Lack of Visibility?
Danielle Sudai, Security Operations Manager, Deliveroo

13:55 Panel: Reality vs Narrative. AI Agents at Scale – What Has Actually Changed? What are CISOs Experiencing Now?

AI agents are scaling faster than governance. Moments like Anthropic's *Mythos* are intensifying the debate - breakthrough or hype? The reality: the shift is in scale. AI is getting better at validating, prioritising, and acting on weaknesses, turning signal into something operational. So where does the real risk sit and how do CISOs govern it without slowing the business?

- Capability vs scale: what's actually changed?
- What does effective governance for autonomous agents look like?
- How are we managing AI sprawl? From "prompt and pray" to provable control
- Identity governance and agent-driven environments
- Wrap: What has actually changed vs what hasn't? How should CISOs be positioning security differently?

Moderator: Martyn Booth, CISO, dunnhumby

With: Nick Gertesian, CISO, eClinical Solutions (USA); John White, Field CISO EMEA, torq; James Kwaan, Senior Operations Threat Manager, Lloyds Banking Group; Paul Colnan, CISO & Director of Platform Engineering, NewDay

14:25-14:35 Short Comfort Break

14:35 Case Stories: AI Vacuums
Jonathan Armstrong, Partner, Punter Southall

14:50 Case Stories: Unlocking Your Unfair Advantage Against AI Adversaries. What are we Seeing?
Tarek Kuzbari, Vice President EMEA, Picus Security

15:00 Panel: 2026 and Beyond: Security as a Business Enabler

Moves from what's changed to what do we do about it, and board-level decisions and positioning. CISOs are no longer just protecting the business, they are shaping how it grows. We move beyond controls and into decision-making, trade-offs, and accountability at scale. How is security being positioned not as a constraint, but as a driver of trust, speed, and competitive advantage?

- Governance when innovation outpaces policy: who owns the risk decisions?
- Embedding security into business strategy, product, and growth
- Balancing speed, trust, and accountability at board level
- Supporting innovation that is secure, ethical, and resilient by design
- Staying ahead of AI, quantum, and systemic risk without slowing execution

With: Gary Hayslip, CISO in Residence, Halcyon (USA)

Paula Kershaw, Managing Director - Chief Controls Officer - Cyber & Resilience, Barclays
Lee Morton, CISO, GBG plc.

15:25 Fireside Chat: Developing AI and Personnel for the Future Enterprise

Following the reality check on AI agents and the shift towards security as a business enabler, the next question is capability: do we have the people, skills, and mindset to deliver this? How are security leaders evolving both talent and leadership, from new operating models to reverse mentoring, where experience meets AI-native thinking. Fresh perspectives on AI, technology and new ways of working. How will the CISO role fundamentally change in the next five years?

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Robert Coles, Consultant, DSSmith plc

With: Richard Holland, Field CISO, Quorum Cyber
Owanate Bestman, Director, Bestman Solutions

15:45-23:00 Evening in Edinburgh Experience - Networking Activities

15:45-16:00: Walk from Sheraton Grand Hotel to Deacon Brodie's Tavern

16:00-17:00: Drinks at Deacon Brodie's Tavern

17:00-18:30: Haunted Vault Tour

19:00-23:00: Dinner at the National Museum of Scotland.

Dinner Speakers: Dr. Roddy Gow, OBE - Founder and Chairman of the Asia Scotland Institute

Lady Olga Maitland, President, Defence and Security Forum, Global defence and security expert and commentator

Conference Day Two - Wednesday 29 April 2026 How Resilient Are We?

07:00-09:00 Optional Hike Up Arthur's Seat! Bond with Peers in the Wild!

09:10 **Coffee**

09:20 **Chairperson's Re-Opening**

09:25 **Keynote: Cyber Threat Landscape: How the Shifting Geopolitical Environment is Reshaping Cyber Risk and Commercial Decision-Making**

Gemma Ungoed-Thomas, Senior Fellow, King's College London. Recent Director for State Threats, Cyber and Technology in the UK Cabinet Office

09:45 **Keynote: The Resilience Imperative: Hybrid Threats**

Lady Olga Maitland, President, Defence and Security Forum

10:00 **Case Stories: Hidden Attack Surfaces – The Parts of Your Office That Others Cannot Reach**

Ken Munro, Founder and CEO, Pen Test Partners

10:20 **Spotlight: From Human to Hybrid: The Next Insider Threat Won't Be Human**

Findlay Whitelaw, Field CISO, Exabeam

10:35 **Panel: Stretched, Overwhelmed, or Coping: The Reality Behind Security Team Morale**

Security teams are facing expanding attack surfaces, growing regulatory pressure, and constant operational demands. CISOs will share practical experiences on managing workload, prioritising when resources are limited, and what changes in tooling, automation, processes or leadership support - have made the biggest difference to team sustainability.

- What does "stretched" or "coping" really look like inside security teams today?
- When capacity is limited, what work actually gets dropped?
- Are fragmented security tools part of the problem?
- Where has automation or AI genuinely reduced pressure?
- What does real leadership support for security teams look like?

Panellists: Chris Wallis, Founder & CEO, Intruder and CISOs

With: Malcolm Kafesu, Head of IT Security & Governance, Ontic Engineering & Manufacturing

11:10-12:10 Morning Coffee Break and 1-2-1 Innovation Meetings

Connect with technology luminaries in our dynamic informative 'speed-meeting' setting to discover key technology market movers and shakers, in an efficient and engaging way for 5-minute voluntary door-openers. You'll be pre-matched based on your mutual interests. A unique opportunity to evaluate new tools and strategies, discuss real-world challenges.

12:00 **Case Story: Open Source, Open Risk: Securing Engineering Teams in the npm Era**

Paul Colnan, CISO & Director of Platform Engineering, NewDay

12:20 **Spotlight: Rethinking Cyber Defence: Are Point-in-Time Assessments & a Focus on Detecting IOCs Giving You a False Sense of Security?**

Ronan Lavelle, Founder and CEO, Validato

12:30 **Panel: CISO 360 Innovation Circle - From Security Problem to Real-World Solution**

Get unfiltered answers from Founders, CxOs. Exploring the technologies shaping enterprise security.

. What technologies CISOs are actually buying today . What problems CISOs still struggle to solve today . Where innovation is genuinely moving the needle . How startups earn trust inside large enterprises . What differentiates signal from noise in a crowded security market

Moderator: Alan Jenkins, Fractional CISO, The Cyber Security Navigator

With: Ronan Lavelle, Founder and CEO, Validato; Alex Harland, Co-Founder and CEO, AI Score; Ben

Armstrong, Co-Founder, Cytix; Pete Hoddinott, Managing Director, QCC; Speaker, Anecdotes; Speaker Census

13:00 **Scenario Challenges for CISOs: Exercise Defender – Scotland's Resilience**

1. 2026 Sub-Nuclear Warfare Phase 2. Arctic Trade Geopolitics 3. Scotland's Maritime Security 4. Case Studies Energy Security On-shore/Off-Shore 5. Space Geopolitics and Mystery Objects 6. Simplifying Resilience Complexity 7. Drone and Missile Defences 8. Emerging Tactical Nuclear Weapons 9. AI and Brain Sciences

Dr Sally Leivesley, Newrisk Limited, Member of the Register of Security Engineers and Specialists

13:30-14:20 Lunch

Day Two - 29 April 2026 How Resilient Are We?

14:20 Case Story: Innovative Business Strategy Modelling to Prevent Healthcare Fraud and Abuse
Dr. Abdullah A.I. Alnajem, Head of Cybersecurity, Saudi Enaya Cooperative Insurance Co. (Saudi Arabia)

14:40 Panel: Know Your Adversary, Reducing Uncertainty. From Threat Intelligence to Offensive Security

From red teaming and adversary simulation to breach-and-attack testing and ransomware, this discussion explores what CISOs are learning when they actively challenge their own defences and how those insights are shaping stronger resilience strategies.

- How are adversaries increasing the speed and scale of attacks using AI?
- Sociological and behavioural drivers of attackers
- How can organisations emulate these approaches to strengthen their own security testing?
- Offensive security approaches that are working: red teaming, adversary simulation, breach-and-attack testing
- How are CISOs strengthening patching discipline to keep pace with machine-speed exploitation?
- Continuous testing / adversary simulation - what works, what doesn't
- Red Team / offensive security - what works, what doesn't

Panellists: Cian Heasley, Principal Consultant, Acumen Cyber
James Duggan, Solutions Architect UK&I, Synack

15:10 CISO 360 Roundtable Playbooks: When the Breach Happens

CISOs break into three roundtables to exchange practical lessons on how organisations prepare for, respond to and manage cyber crises. Each table is co-led by a practitioner. At the close, table hosts share the key insights with the room.

Discussion: 25 mins. Table Hosts report back from the stage: 2 mins per table

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Robert Coles, Consultant, DSSmith plc

1. Crisis Readiness & Simulation. Steered by: iluminr

How organisations prepare leadership teams for real cyber incidents through simulation, decision exercises and cross-functional crisis planning.

2. Incident Response & Recovery. Steered by: Reliance Cyber

What works, and what doesn't in the first 24 hours of a breach - containment, response leadership and restoring operations.

3. Secure Communications in a Crisis. Steered by: Wire

How CISOs maintain trusted communications between security teams, executives and partners when corporate systems may be compromised.

15:40 Fireside Chat: Accelerating Critical Infrastructure Cyber Defence and Resilience - Energy Focus

Scotland sits at the heart of Europe's energy resilience through the North Sea ecosystem. What does cyber resilience mean in your operational environment - offshore platforms, grid infrastructure, engineering networks or industrial control systems? How are they strengthening resilience across critical infrastructure while enabling digital innovation across operational environments? OT/ICS security and engineering alignment, Resilience planning, Third-party and supply-chain vulnerabilities, AI-driven threats.

Panellists including: Jonny Herd, CISO, Zenobe and Resilience Leaders

16:10-16:30 Afternoon Tea Break & Sponsors' Prize Draw

YOU'RE INVITED! JOIN MEMORABLE DEDICATED NETWORKING EVENTS

Complimentary - A Crucial Part of the CISO 360 UK Experience.



Lunch - Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa Edinburgh
Tuesday 28 April + Wednesday 29 April

Networking Lunches at the Sheraton Grand Hotel

Tuesday - arrive in time for lunch and get acquainted with CISO peers before the sessions start!

Wednesday - During the conference, you'll enjoy a delicious hot buffet and have plenty of time to continue the conversations with peers.



Drinks - Deacon Brodie's Tavern
435 Lawnmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2NT
Tuesday 28 April - 16:00-17:00

Jekyll & Hyde Drinks at Deacon Brodie's Tavern *Security conversations on Edinburgh's historic Royal Mile.*

At the close of Day One, delegates are invited to continue the conversation in true Edinburgh style with an informal evening reception at Deacon Brodie's Tavern, located on the historic Royal Mile in the heart of the Old Town. Dating back to 1806, this atmospheric pub is named after the infamous William Brodie, a respected cabinet-maker and city councillor who led a remarkable double life — respectable by day, criminal by night. Brodie was hanged from the city's new gallows on Oct 1st 1788. Ironically he had designed the gallows that were to eventually seal his fate. His story famously inspired Robert Louis Stevenson in the creation of Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. Against this backdrop of Edinburgh folklore and candlelit charm, CISO 360 delegates will gather for drinks and conversation before the evening continues across the street with a visit to the city's legendary underground Vaults! A fitting setting to reflect on the day's discussions - and perhaps a reminder that things are not always what they seem.



Cultural Experience - A Walk in The Vaults
Starting point 300 Lawnmarket
Tuesday 28 April - 17:00-18:30

The Candlelit Vaults Walk

Step beneath the surface into The Vaults and hidden layers.

Beneath Edinburgh's cobbled streets, through an unmarked doorway on South Bridge, lies a hidden world carved in stone in 1788, a place of shadow economies, illicit trade, survival, and stories the city never wrote into its official record. Once home to taverns, workshops, distilleries, and later the city's forgotten people, these chambers have held secrets for over two centuries. We venture underneath Edinburgh's Royal Mile for terrifying ghost stories on this guided tour of the city's underground which includes the Edinburgh Vaults, stone circle vault, and a torture exhibition. It's a setting that reminds us: resilience is rarely built in comfort and that trust can be forged in unusual spaces!



Dinner - Rooftops National Museum of Scotland
Tuesday 28 April - 19:00-23:00

CISO 360 Dinner | National Museum of Scotland

Skyline Dinner with views towards Edinburgh Castle.

Emerging from the Vaults, the evening continues with the CISO 360 Dinner at the iconic National Museum of Scotland. These dinners are intentionally conversational, informal, and off-the-record reflecting the trusted spirit that defines the CISO 360 community. Set high above the city, the museum's rooftop space offers floor-to-ceiling windows and a stunning outlook across Edinburgh's Old Town, with unrivalled views towards Edinburgh Castle. It is the perfect setting for security leaders to continue discussions in a relaxed environment building relationships, and reflecting on the day's conversations while overlooking one of Europe's most historic cityscapes.



Optional Hike up Arthur's Seat!
Wednesday 29 April - 07:00-09:00

CISO 360 Hike Up Arthur's Seat!

A hill walk with peers in the heart of the city.

Arthur's Seat, an ancient volcano in Holyrood Park, Edinburgh, offers a popular 2-3 hour (approx. 4.75km) hike with panoramic city views. The summit (251m) requires a steep, rocky climb. Proper footwear is advised due to muddy/rocky paths, which are strenuous but rewarding.

Bond with peers in the wild and be back in time for breakfast and to refresh, all before the start of conference day two!

VENUE INFORMATION

Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa Edinburgh

1 Festival Sq, Edinburgh EH3 9SR

[Website](#)

ABOUT THE VENUE

Overlooking Edinburgh Castle, the hotel is situated within the city's financial district, adjacent to the West End business and entertainment area. It is just a five-minute walk from Princes Street and approximately 500 metres from Edinburgh Castle, offering delegates a central, well-connected setting for two days of focused security leadership dialogue.

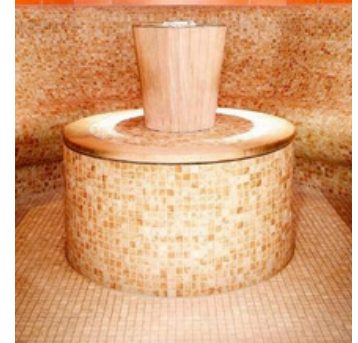
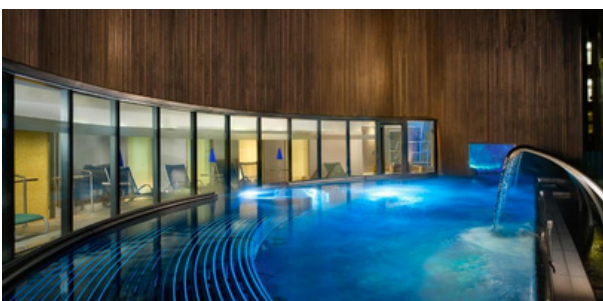
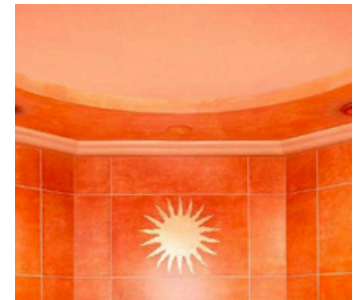
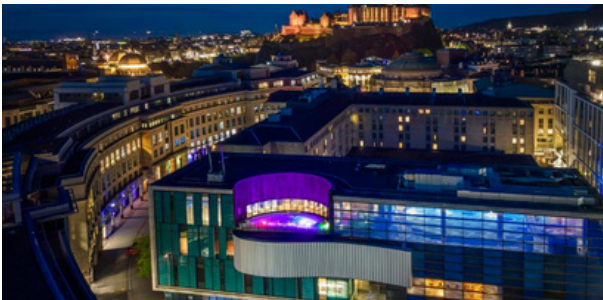
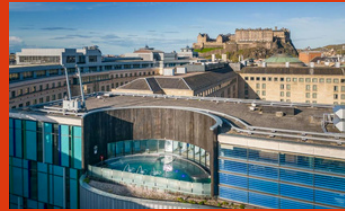
For CISO 360 UK attendees, Pulse has secured an exclusive CISO 360 rate per night, including breakfast. Booking details are on the link below. Availability will be limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Edinburgh Suite provides a spacious and comfortable setting for the 2nd CISO 360 UK Conference across both days, offering an environment designed for focused discussion and executive-level exchange.

Our Networking and Innovation Hub will be hosted directly outside the suite, creating a seamless flow between conference sessions and peer engagement, encouraging meaningful conversations, solution discovery and continued dialogue throughout the event

Booking Link and Information

CONFERENCE SPACE





EVENT INCLUSIONS

All Participant Places Include:

- ✓ Entry to **CISO 360 UK**
- ✓ Lunch, coffee breaks and refreshments
- ✓ Invitation to join the evening networking events
- ✓ Post-event presentation materials (subject to speaker opt-out) and output reports

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

REGISTER DELEGATE PASS

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For Practitioners +
Corporate
C-Suite

- ✓ Apply for a **COMPLIMENTARY PASS** - for CISOs, cybersecurity practitioners and corporate C-suite.
- ✓ Invitation to join the Security 360 Circle – a rapidly growing and international trusted.
- ✓ Certificate of attendance soft copy provided post-event on request.

REGISTER NETWORKING PASS

£1,995

Network and learn

- ✓ We have ring-fenced a limited number of Networking Passes, designed for executives working as **independent advisors, providers, vendor companies.**
- ✓ Network with participants, to learn and meet new prospective customers and to join the discussions – with a view to sponsorship of a future Pulse conference.

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£6,000**

- ✓ Discussions, **branding, impactful 1-2-1 meetings** and networking with CISOs and cybersecurity practitioners.
- ✓ **Contact us today to arrange a meeting:**
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