

9TH  
EDITION



## Party in the Park

**SHAPE THE CISO 360 AI BENCHMARK: OPERATING AT MACHINE SPEED.**  
**More than networking. Where CISOs are doing real work together.**  
**Share. Compare. Be inspired by peers.**

Thursday 24 September 2026  
The Orangery | Holland Park | London

The topics come directly from what CISOs told us is on their desks right now: governing and securing AI in the business, agentic AI and agentic identities, AI as adversary, AI in cyber defence, keeping pace of vulnerability management, third-party AI risk, telling the board the AI story – and the CISO at machine speed: your own skills, value and longevity in the AI era.



*"A really enjoyable evening with friendly peers in a stunning location. I liked the level of engagement from the sponsors, there were no sales pitches. High value."*  
**CISO, Telrock Systems**

*"It was great to reconnect with so many people. Conversations flow naturally when there are no artificial barriers."*  
**Business Risk Manager, Canon Europe**



## Welcome to The CISO 360 AI Benchmark @ 9th Party in the Park 2026

The community's event of the year returns – the summer garden party much loved by CISOs, this year with something new for 2026! For the ninth edition, the evening opens with welcome drinks followed by a closed, practical benchmarking session, CISO to CISO: The CISO 360 AI Benchmark – Operating at Machine Speed.

### **Every CISO privately wonders the same thing: am I ahead or behind my peers on AI?**

There is no trustworthy yardstick. Surveys won't tell you. Analyst maturity models won't either. The only place that question gets answered straight is a closed room of peers with no audience and no attribution. That is what this year's Party in the Park is shaped around.

Bringing together 80+ of the UK's most senior CISOs and security practitioners for two rounds of small working roundtables, held under The Chatham House Rule. The topic focuses come directly from what CISOs told us is on their minds right now:

### **AI governance and agentic AI are consuming attention, PQC has gone mainstream, and the perennials (vulnerability management, third party, identity) are being reframed through an AI lens rather than displaced.**

We asked attending CISOs for topical challenges that would interest them in their day-to-day. Nobody arrives having figured AI out. That is the point. You choose your tables in advance, you compare honestly with people carrying the same problems, and you leave with a candid, shared read on where you actually stand – captured afterwards in a short playbook shaped by those in the room.

First the benchmark. Then the garden. From 20:30 the party continues into the evening with drinks, bowl food and live music at The Orangery – a hidden stone-and-glass palace in Holland Park, its rose gardens and resident peacocks the perfect stage for an unforgettable late-summer evening of conversation, connection and camaraderie.

The benchmark is where the evening begins. Conversations that begin here tend to go somewhere.

We look forward to welcoming you.

CISO 360 Team

Pulse Conferences

## Agenda – Thursday 24 September 2026 CISO 360 – AI Roundtables

### **The context: Protecting our organisations and CISO value as AI moves faster than any of us. Is this the most exciting time to be a CISO?!**

As the world moves faster than any one organisation can handle alone, our collective intelligence is going to be our secret weapon. What are CISOs learning before Quantum changes the rules again, and how are we treating AI as an opportunity for value, longevity, well-being?

As the ground shifts day by day – what we knew yesterday is already outdated. Yet most of the AI conversation on the security circuit stays defensive. Let's take both views: AI as a risk but also as a professional opportunity – and the question every CISO is quietly asking – how do I pivot to protect my value and longevity in a field where knowledge expires this fast? AI as opportunity – the skills to lean into now.

**How it works:** Join small working roundtables. Discussions are held under The Chatham House Rule. Tables are chosen in advance and the topics come directly from what CISOs told us is on their desks:

Tables:

1. **Governing and securing AI in the business** – paved roads, shadow AI, policy that works
2. **Agentic AI and agentic identities** – securing autonomous agents
3. **AI as adversary** – threat modelling AI, threat actors, deepfakes and the quantum clock
4. **AI in cyber defence** – where it is genuinely working, where it is noise
5. **Vulnerability management at machine speed** – the patch wave and tighter SLAs
6. **Third-party and supply chain AI risk** – suppliers, contracts and concentration risk
7. **Telling the board the AI story** – quantifying and communicating AI risk
8. **CISO at machine speed** – your skills, value and longevity in the AI era

Compare honestly with peers carrying the same problems, and leave with a candid, shared read on where you actually stand, captured afterwards in a short playbook shaped by those in the room.

### Timings:

- 17:00–18:00** Doors open, arrivals and welcome – drinks and canapés
- 18:00–20:30** **The CISO 360 AI Benchmark: Operating at Machine Speed** – two rounds of working roundtables under The Chatham House Rule
- 20:30–23:00** **Party in the Park Reception** – bowl food, drinks and live music on the lawn
- 23:00–** **Carriages**

Dress code: Business relaxed / smart casual – outside lawn and indoor stone palace

**The CISO 360 AI Benchmark: Operating at Machine Speed**

Two rounds of working roundtables under The Chatham House Rule.

- 18:00–18:15** **Welcome and framing.** Where do you think you sit vs peers on AI readiness?
- 18:15–19:00** **Roundtable Round 1** (45 mins)
- 19:00–19:10** **Move tables, top up drinks**
- 19:10–19:55** **Roundtable Round 2** (45 mins)
- 19:55–20:20** **The Readout:** one moderator per table gives the single most honest finding from their table, 3 mins each.
- 20:20–20:30** **Close of discussions,** take-away framing
- 20:30–** **9th Party in the Park continues** – canapes, drinks, entertainment

**The CISO 360 AI Benchmark: Operating at Machine Speed**

Two rounds of working roundtables under The Chatham House Rule.

**1 Governing and securing AI in the business**

What does your paved road actually look like today, and what percentage of the AI use in your organisation do you think you can actually see? What have you banned, what did the ban achieve, and what data do you know has already left through an LLM regardless? When a new AI tool or model version arrives, how does it actually get in, who signs off, how is it tested, and does it have the management plane you'd expect of any other enterprise software?

**2 Agentic AI and agentic identities**

Are agents running in your environment yet, sanctioned or not? Who owns an agent's identity in your organisation? What's your best and worst agentic use case so far and what did the bad one teach you?

**3 AI as adversary**

What has actually changed in the attacks you're seeing, versus what's hype? Have you dealt with a deepfake incident? Has anyone attacked your AI systems yet, prompt injection, data poisoning, model manipulation, and would you know if they had?

**4 AI in cyber defence**

Name one thing AI genuinely does better in your SOC. Across your AI tooling, what has it replaced, what has it assisted, and what has it quietly made harder? Has your team built anything internally with AI that replaced a vendor, or could?

**5 Vulnerability management: keeping pace**

What's your real median time to patch, honestly? What broke the last time you went faster? When red teaming and vulnerability discovery become autonomous and continuous, the findings will outpace anyone's ability to fix them, how are you preparing to prioritise at that volume?

**6 Third-party and supply chain AI risk**

Do you know which of your suppliers are using AI on your data? What's in your contracts about it? Beyond suppliers using AI, do you know what's actually inside the AI you're buying: the models, training data and components underneath?

**7 Telling the board the AI story**

What number or picture has actually landed with your board on AI risk? What is your board actually asking you for right now, and is it the right question? Has AI changed your budget conversation and are you framing it as risk, enablement, or both?

**8 The CISO at machine speed**

Which of your hard-won skills is depreciating fastest and what are you deliberately building to replace it? What have you personally learned or started doing hands-on in the last six months, and what have you consciously stopped doing? Is AI a route upward for you, to the board, to broader risk, through the glass ceiling, or is it narrowing the role? What would make it the former?



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**Party in the Park**

The Orangery, Holland Park, London  
Thursday 24 September 2026, 5pm-11pm

**The Venue**    The Orangery – Holland Park  
Ilchester Place, Kensington, London W8 6LU



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