

ACCORD

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# Unlocking Success Through Digital Solutions



Virtual CISO &  
Cloud Security Services

## 1. Service Overview

Accord provides a Virtual Chief Information Security Officer (vCISO) service to support UK organisations in strengthening cyber governance, improving cloud security posture, and preparing for external compliance and certification outcomes.

The service delivers strategic security leadership, remediation planning, and audit readiness support aligned to recognised standards including but not limited to ISO27001 and Cyber Essentials / Cyber Essentials Plus, with a focus on modern cloud and SaaS environments such as Microsoft 365.

This service is suitable for organisations requiring senior cyber and information governance expertise without recruiting a full-time internal CISO.

## 2. Service Scope

The vCISO service supports:

- Cloud security governance and leadership
- Certification readiness and remediation planning
- Policy, risk, and evidence framework development
- Continuous security improvement aligned to cloud service delivery
- Liaison support alongside accredited certification bodies
- Risk based approach to planning and remediation
- Vendor and solutions recommendations

The service is normally delivered remotely as a subscription-based engagement with defined days per month.

On-site visits are supported depending on the nature of the contract subject to reasonable travel expenses.

## 3. Key Features

- Senior cloud security governance and leadership support
- ISO27001 clause and Annex A gap assessments
- Cyber Essentials and CE+ remediation planning
- Policy and documentation framework development
- Risk treatment planning and prioritised remediation roadmap

- Audit readiness preparation and evidence pack support
- Board-level reporting cadence and continuous improvement roadmap
- Liaison support alongside accredited external auditors

#### 4. Service Benefits (Cloud-Focused)

1. Provides senior cloud security governance without full-time recruitment
2. Strengthens assurance across Microsoft 365 and cloud-hosted services
3. Accelerates ISO27001 and Cyber Essentials readiness for cloud environments
4. Reduces burden on internal teams managing complex cloud adoption
5. Delivers prioritised remediation plans for cloud security control gaps
6. Improves audit readiness and evidence-based cloud assurance
7. Enhances board visibility of cloud risk, identity access, and data exposure
8. Supports secure use of SaaS collaboration platforms
9. Embeds continuous cloud security improvement through structured governance cadence
10. Enables compliant cloud service delivery aligned to public sector expectations

#### 5. Deliverables

Depending on engagement scope, Accord may provide:

- Governance maturity assessment
- A risk based approach to identifying relevant standards and remediation plans
- Remediation roadmap and prioritised action plan
- Policy suite development and maintenance
- Evidence packs for audit readiness
- Executive-level cyber risk reporting
- Ongoing governance cadence and advisory oversight

## 6. Remediation Tooling

This vCISO service may be complemented by additional managed cyber security modules delivered under Accord's governance framework, including:

- Managed Threat Detection & Response
- Vulnerability and exposure management oversight
- Security awareness programme governance
- Backup and resilience assurance support
- Data security and insider risk governance

These modules may be procured under separate service listings as buyer requirements evolve. Accord will support organisations in the selection and purchasing of relevant solutions based on their risk profile.

## 7. Software and Licensing

The vCISO service is priced independently of software licence costs.

Where security tooling is required (e.g. vulnerability management platforms or awareness training systems), licences may be:

- Provided via existing buyer subscriptions, or
- Supplied under separate commercial agreement

Accord provides governance oversight and integration support as part of delivery if required.

## 8. Certification Scope

Accord does not act as an accredited certification body and does not issue ISO27001 or Cyber Essentials certificates. Any standards identified will be delivered via the appropriate 3<sup>rd</sup> party auditors and certification bodies. This is to retain independence on each organisations risk position and subsequent remedial actions.

## 9. Support & Delivery

- Normally delivered remotely across UK organisations
- We provide a named Accord service lead and Account Manager
- Each account will have a formal escalation and engagement plan in place at the start of the contract
- Optional onsite workshops and engagement where required (subject to reasonable travel expenses)
- Continual improvement aligned to organisational maturity and buyer priorities