Thank you, Haseeb, for your well-documented post, fascinating points made. Drawing on your point regarding the high level of risk towards small to medium-sized companies raises vital issues and concerns to be addressed by all sized businesses. In the documentation by (Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport., 2019), there are clear indicators that many small to medium-sized companies have attitudinal and awareness issues regarding being a potential source of cyber risk. There are many arguments for this, suggesting that small businesses trust suppliers down the supply chain and risk management policies were unnecessary because it was not their responsibility. An underlying factor is that many companies do not have the resources or capabilities to manage cyber risk. Smaller companies also thought it was challenging to question larger businesses' cyber risk management, damaging a positive relationship.

The positive outlook is that companies of all sizes are becoming aware of their potential cyber risk and any level in the supply chain. (Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport., 2019) reported further that many larger organisations initially set standards recognised internationally, such as ISO 27001 (Humphreys, 2011). The incorporation of standards allows for good cyber risk management practice. The influence of GDPR (Intersoft Consulting, 2019) has guided businesses in this manner. In the United Kingdom, government initiatives such as the Cyber Essentials Scheme (National Cyber Security Centre, 2021) will support businesses to be more aware and adapt their behaviours towards cybersecurity risk.

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