Reviewing an Assessment Reporting Template

The Sample Vulnerability Assessment Report from Purple Sec was reviewed. This was checked against the UK Centre for National Cyber Security recommendations. The vulnerability assessment report is, overall, fit for purpose. It is clear and well structured. In particular the positive features of the report are that it:

1. The methodology is documented
2. Every vulnerability is risk rated
3. The testing is technically well described
4. The follow-up recommendations are clear

This report, however, could be strengthened:

1. Refer to the company's internal controls or Vulnerability Management Group
2. There is no reference to additional testing for validation
3. There are no references to alternative solutions
4. There is no business context to determine the impact of any penetration breach
5. There are no recommendations for future mitigation

While, to a large extent, the risks associated with cyber security are global, it should be noted that the template referenced is from a US company but benchmarked against UK standards.

References

PurpleSec (2024). Sample Vulnerability Assessment Report - Example Institute. Available from Sample-Vulnerability-Assessment-Report-PurpleSec.pdf [Accessed 08 March 2025]

National Centre for Cyber Security (2022). Penetration testing: How to get the most from penetration testing. Available from: penetration-testing.pdf [Accessed 08 March 2025]