

Cloud security in the public sector

5 data points every CISO needs to know.



1 | Prevalence of cyber attacks

Cyber attacks on local authorities are rapidly increasing, with growing numbers of breaches exposing **sensitive citizen data** and demonstrating the **expanding vulnerability of public-sector systems**.

(Source: [Daily Security Review](#))

Cyber data breaches in UK local councils have surged by nearly

400%

over the past 3 years.

The average cost of a cyber breach for UK public-sector organisations in 2024 was

£3.4M

2 | Cost of inaction

Cyber breaches in public-sector organisations are increasingly common, with many incidents now **costing millions** and highlighting the financial risks of **delaying cybersecurity investments**.

(Source: [THINK Digital Partners](#))

3 | Tool sprawl complexity

Tool sprawl leaves public-sector organisations exposed, as every additional disconnected platform expands the attack surface and increases the likelihood of costly breaches stemming from **weak access controls and inconsistent security practices**.

(Source: [Infosecurity Magazine](#))



31%

of UK public sector organisations say their biggest internal communication challenge is staff using multiple, disconnected platforms.

58%

of UK public sector organisations outsourced at least one aspect of their cybersecurity in 2024.

4 | Growing reliance on MSSPs

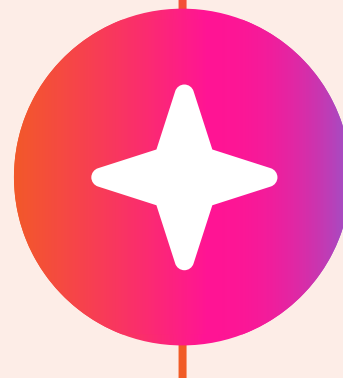
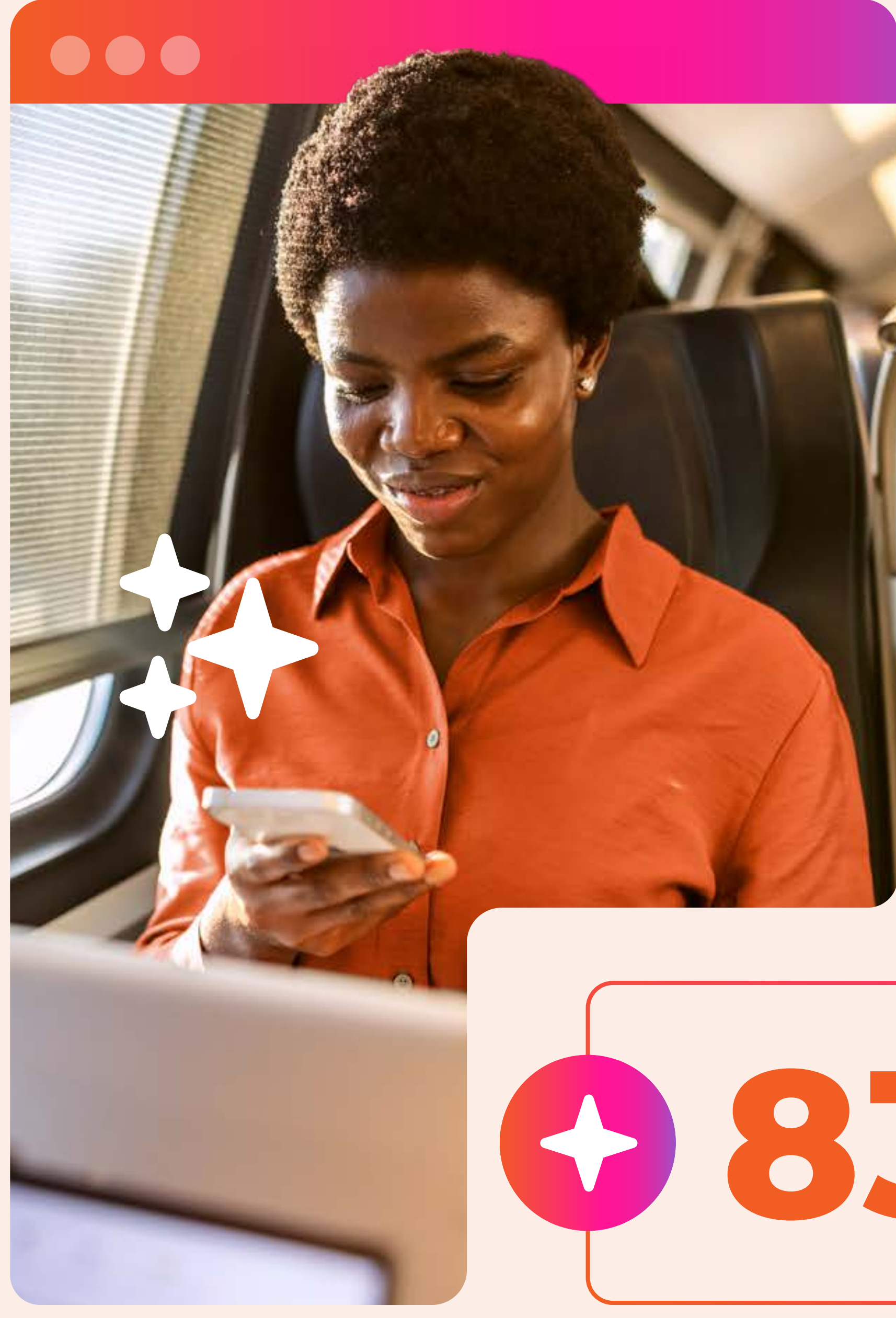
Public sector bodies are increasingly turning to **external security specialists** as internal capabilities lag and **threats continue to intensify**.

(Source: [GOV.UK](#))

5 | AI & the future of cybersecurity

AI introduces new cybersecurity risks for public sector organisations, with most local authorities concerned about its **potential to create vulnerabilities and amplify cyber threats**.

(Source: [Local Government Association](#))



83%

of UK local government respondents in 2025 identified cybersecurity as a 'great' or 'moderate' risk from AI.

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