PUBLIC SECTOR DATA SECURITY REVIEW

Data is a valuable asset. By using it securely, the Government can serve citizens better. The Public Sector Data Security Review Committee was convened to review how the Government secures and protects citizen's data. The Committee has made five key recommendations:

1 Enhance Data Protection and Prevent Data Compromise

- Reduce surface area of attack by minimising data collection, retention, access and downloads
- Enhance logging and monitoring to detect high-risk or suspicious activity
- Protect data directly when stored and distributed to render it unusable even if extracted
- Deploy advanced technical measures
- Enhance data security audit framework
- Enhance third party management framework

2 Enhance Detection and Response to Data Incidents

- **Detect** – Establish central contact point for public to report data incidents
- **Analyse** –Government Data Office to monitor and analyse data incidents
- **Respond** –Central body to respond to large scale incidents
- **Remediate** –Notify individuals significantly impacted
- **Post-Incident Follow-up** – a. Establish standard process for post-incident inquiry
  b. Distil and share learning points with all agencies

3 Raise Competencies, Instil Culture of Excellence

- Specify roles and responsibilities of public officers
- Equip groups with competencies to perform role effectively
- Inculcate a culture of excellence in sharing and using data securely

4 Accountability for Data Protection at Every Level

- Institute organisational KPIs for data security
- Mandate top leadership to be accountable for organisational data security
- Make the consequences of data breaches salient to public officers
- Ensure accountability for third parties handling Government data
- Publish the Government's policies and standards on personal data protection
- Publish annual updates on Government's efforts in safeguarding personal data

5 Ensure Sustainability and Resilience

- Appoint high-level Whole-of-Government body to oversee public sector data security
- Set up the Government Data Security Unit to drive public sector data security
- Deepen the Government's expertise in data privacy protection technologies