

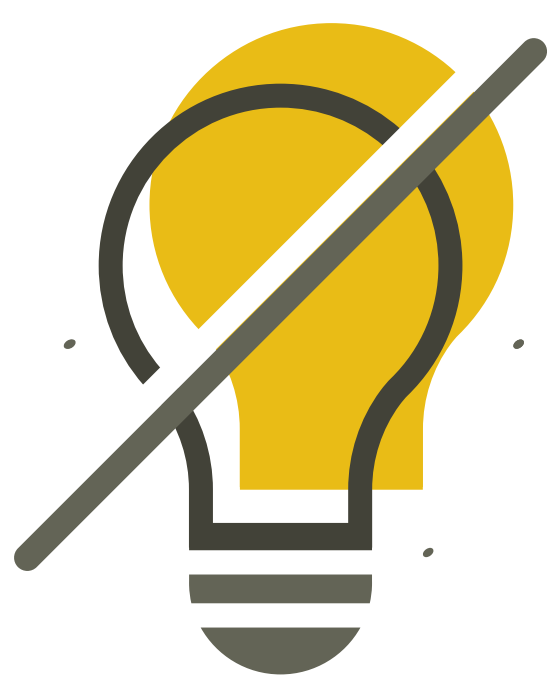
Disaster recovery

Are you prepared?

Many businesses believe a disaster won't affect their business. But any of the following situations could happen to any size of business at any time.

Cybercrime

Cybercrime is the biggest DR threat facing businesses worldwide and reports suggest it will cost the world's economy \$6 trillion per year by 2021.



Power outages

Unlike some countries, the UK gets off quite likely when it comes to extremes of weather. However, don't underestimate the disruption high winds or storms can cause to the power supply.

Hardware failures

Difficult to predict and often tricky to resolve, system errors or hardware malfunctions are one of the main culprits of unexpected downtime.



Human error

Another common cause of system down time, human error has been the root cause of many high-profile IT disasters. And, according to the Uptime Institute, it's the cause of 70% of data centre outages.

Fire or flood

Business disruption caused by fire or can be catastrophic. During 2017-2018 the fire service attended over 15,000 fires at business properties. It is also estimated that in excess of 185,000 commercial properties are at risk of flooding across England and Wales.



Terrorist attacks

For any business based in a large city, the threat of terrorism still looms large. Although attacks of this nature are rare, the risk to business operations could be considerable if an incident were to occur.

Do you have a disaster recovery plan in place?

If you're concerned about what would happen to your mission critical data in the event of a disaster visit [our website](#) or call M247 on 0808 253 6573 to speak to one of our experts.

Disaster recovery

Think you've got it covered? Think again!

No business is immune to a disaster which has the potential to cause IT failure. Significant periods of IT downtime can leave organisations without access to their mission-critical business assets.

And, while the IT team desperately try to fix the problem, your business could suffer a loss of productivity, and impact negatively on customer service and the reputation of the business. While many businesses think they're prepared for all kinds of disaster scenarios, there are others who aren't prepared at all.



1 Do you have a disaster recovery plan in place?

73%

The number of UK SMEs with no business continuity plan in place.

75%

The number of large enterprises with no business continuity plan in place.

Businesses place varying degrees of importance of DR (Disaster Recovery), typically for the following reasons:

- They believe it won't happen to them.
- They don't want to invest in DR infrastructure that isn't needed 99.9% of the time.
- They've been using tape for years and don't feel the need to change.



Did you know?

Gartner predicts that the average cost of IT downtime is approximately £4,400 per minute.

2 Cybercrime is the biggest threat to IT failure for UK businesses



Reports predict cybercrime will cost the world's economy £4.5 trillion per year by 2021.



2017 saw 184 million ransomware attacks worldwide.



British businesses battle 38 ransomware attacks per day.

Risky business

Aside from cybercrime, there are plenty of other potential threats facing businesses, and they can happen to anyone:



In 2017 British Airways suffered a major outage resulting in hordes of cancelled flights and unhappy customers.



This was the cause of Visa's service disruption in 2018 that left millions of UK businesses unable to process credit card payments.



An employee for Amazon Web Services (AWS) Simple Storage Service (S3) unwittingly caused an outage that caused disruption to many of its most popular sites including Netflix and Spotify.



Although the UK gets off lightly compared to other parts of the world when it comes to damage caused by storms or floods, last year tens of thousands of homes and businesses suffered power outages at the hands of Storm Eleanor.

3 Is your DR set up fit for purpose?

If anything, other than minimum downtime of your mission-critical assets is unacceptable to your business, it's time to address your DR plans.

- 1 Have you tested your current DR plan, and did it work effectively?
- 2 Are your business-critical services and workloads adequately protected?
- 3 Do you feel your DR infrastructure is fit for purpose or is investment required?
- 4 What would you do if your primary systems were to fail right now?
- 5 Do you think your organisation could benefit from cloud-based DR services?

4 Have you considered Disaster Recovery as Service (DRaaS)?

DRaaS takes the DR headache away from CIOs, giving them the peace of mind that all critical business assets are protected, secure and fully recoverable. It offers:

- Replication and hosting of physical and virtual server in the cloud by a third party provider to provide failover.
- It replicates infrastructure, applications and data from multiple locations to the cloud, enabling full recovery.
- Flexible recovery options are available such as restoring single applications or the whole infrastructure.



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Data sources

SMEs/large enterprises

<https://www.tandemsystems.co.uk/blog/2015/10/07/73-of-uk-smes-lack-a-disaster-recovery-plan>

Human error

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<https://www.information-age.com/ten-biggest-business-continuity-disasters-cost-uk-businesses-billions-123461455/>

Ransomware attacks

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/494947/ransomware-attacks-per-year-worldwide/>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2018/03/10/british-businesses-battle-38-ransomware-attacks-day/>

British airways power outage

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/may/31/ba-it-shutdown-caused-by-uncontrolled-return-of-power-after-outage>

Visa

<https://www.computerweekly.com/news/252442416/Visa-blames-hardware-failure-for-UK-wide-card-payment-system-outage>

Storm

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/storm-eleanor-live-updates-latest-news-uk-weather-winds-rain-flooding-power-cuts-homes-travel-roads-a8139111.html>

Cost of downtime

<https://blogs.gartner.com/andrew-lerner/2014/07/16/the-cost-of-downtime/>