

Executive Assurance Service

Secure Today, Assure Tomorrow

storm
a littlefish company



Executive Assurance Service

Gain clarity and control across your data landscape with a structured approach to risk reduction and strategic assurance.

In an era of rapid digital transformation, data has become both a strategic asset and a growing source of risk. For today's executive teams, the stakes have never been higher. From regulatory scrutiny to reputational threats, the pressure to maintain control over sensitive information is intensifying, yet many organisations still lack the visibility and governance needed to respond with confidence.

A recent Modern Workplace Survey of IT leaders across the UK and Ireland, commissioned by Storm Technology, revealed that:

- **74%** of organisations admit that their data sits across fragmented systems.
- **79%** still rely on Excel or manual processes to collate and analyse data.
- **23%** of organisations lack complete visibility of their data.
- **73%** are concerned about increasing regulatory requirements around data management.

Storm Technology's Executive Assurance service is designed to meet these challenges head-on. Tailored for the C-suite, it delivers a structured, top-down program that helps organisations address the most pressing data governance and security challenges, including;



Shadow AI & Data Exposure

Employees increasingly adopt unsanctioned tools and AI services outside IT's visibility. This often means feeding sensitive data into external platforms or unapproved apps. Without oversight, every new tool becomes a potential threat.



Regulatory Complexity

The regulatory landscape is shifting fast. Regulations like DORA, NIS2, and the EU AI Act are reshaping how data must be managed. Executives face growing pressure to stay ahead, knowing that even a single misstep could lead to fines, reputational damage, or legal consequences.



Fragmented Governance

Siloed systems and inconsistent data management leave organisations exposed. While some departments enforce strict controls, others may leave sensitive files openly accessible. This lack of unified governance creates blind spots and undermines leadership's confidence in data oversight.



Limited Visibility

When the board asks, "How are we doing on data risk right now?" most organisations struggle to provide a clear answer. Reporting is often retrospective, based on static snapshots or annual audits. Without live dashboards or actionable metrics, executives are left in the dark until issues escalate.



Why Choose Storm Technology?

Storm Technology is a trusted business technology partner to some of Ireland's leading brands. Driven by client success, Storm leverages over 30 years of experience delivering innovative business solutions, advisory consulting and technical expertise, all backed by a proven best practice project methodology and deep Microsoft partnership.

Storm's Executive Assurance service is built on a foundation of strategic insight and delivery excellence. Combining advisory expertise with a structured, outcome-driven approach, we help leadership teams navigate complex data governance challenges, reduce organisational risk, and build long-term resilience. From initial assessment to ongoing optimisation, our team works closely with stakeholders to ensure every engagement delivers measurable value and supports confident, informed decision-making at the executive level.

A Strategic Path to Data Confidence

Storm's Executive Assurance offering is built around the realities executives face today, where uncertainty around data governance is no longer acceptable, and proactive assurance is essential. Many executives are asking the same question: "Are we truly in control of our data?"

Storm's Executive Assurance service exists to answer that question, following a four-phase methodology designed to deliver measurable risk reduction and sustained governance maturity.



Step 1: Data Security & Governance Discovery and Assessment

The discovery phase establishes a clear baseline of your data and governance landscape. Using tools like Microsoft Purview, our experts will evaluate your current data security posture, identify risky user behaviours, surface unprotected sensitive data, and highlight any compliance issues. Stakeholder interviews are conducted to capture current workflows, pain points, and policy gaps.

Findings are consolidated into a **Risk Assessment Report**, featuring a heat map of your most critical exposures and tailored recommendations. Benchmark metrics like DLP incidents and data labelling coverage are also captured to track progress.



Step 2: Data Security & Governance Blueprint

Building on the discovery insights, this step defines a tailored governance model aligned to your business objectives and regulatory requirements. The blueprint outlines policies for data classification, access, retention and ongoing governance and data security management. It also includes an information architecture plan, detailing how Teams and SharePoint sites should be structured and tagged. Recommendations for incorporating technical controls using tools such as Microsoft Purview and Orchestry are also included.

The blueprint is presented through a set of **policy documents** and a **supporting visual deck**, offering a unified governance framework to guide your organisation going forward, one that is understood and supported by stakeholders from leadership to frontline teams.

A Strategic Path to Data Confidence



Step 3: Data Security & Governance Implementation & Automation

This stage brings the blueprint to life through the deployment of key technologies and security controls, integrating them with existing systems to establish controls to ensure robust data security and mitigate the theft of business data.

Key controls are established, including sensitivity labels, Data Loss Prevention (DLP) policies, and access hardening measures like multi-factor authentication and Just-In-Time admin access. Microsoft Purview components, such Data Map, Data Catalog, and Information Protection are configured to support data discovery, classification and protection, while governance automation tools such as Orchestry are used to streamline the management of Teams and SharePoint sites. Where appropriate, Power Platform workflows are introduced to further automate manual governance tasks.

Implementation is delivered in focused sprints, prioritising high-risk areas first. By the end of this phase, organisations have the **foundations in place for a secure and well-managed environment**.



Step 4: Data Security & Governance Assurance

This phase focuses on sustaining and optimising your data governance and security posture. We provide an **Executive Dashboard** (typically built in Power BI or Microsoft Purview) to provide real-time visibility into key metrics such as external sharing links, classification coverage, and compliance alerts, ensuring leadership remains informed and aligned.

We host **Quarterly Assurance Workshops** to review trends, incidents, and dashboard insights with executive stakeholders, adapting the governance model as needed to reflect regulatory changes, usage patterns, or business growth. As part of these sessions, our experts prepare a **board-ready summary**, translating technical metrics into business relevant insights to support strategic decision-making.

Our ongoing management services monitor data activity, enforce policies, and support incident response, while optimisation efforts ensure your framework remains effective and future-ready.

Executive Assurance Tiered Offerings

Choose the level of Executive Assurance that fits your organisation's needs, from a high-level assessment to full governance optimisation.

1

A free, entry-level assessment designed to surface critical risks in your most sensitive data areas. This high-level report provides initial insights to help kickstart your governance journey.

2

Data Security & Governance Readiness Assessment & Quick Start

Ideal for organisations seeking a fast, structured start. This tier includes a full risk assessment, a tailored governance blueprint, and delivery of two quick-win governance improvements to build early momentum.

3

Data Security & Governance Advisory Service

A comprehensive advisory engagement focused on building the foundations for a secure, well-managed environment. Includes assessment, blueprint, and implementation of key controls and smart governance automations.

4

Data Security & Governance Executive Assurance

Our most complete offering, combining foundational governance with ongoing executive-level oversight. Includes dashboard-driven visibility, quarterly assurance workshops, and continuous optimisation to keep your governance future-ready.

Measurable Impact, Executive Confidence

Storm's Executive Assurance service is designed to deliver clear, measurable outcomes. Based on our existing client impact, here's what you can expect:

Quantifiable Results

- » **40% Reduction in Data Exposure Risk**
Sensitive data becomes significantly more secure. For example, if we found that 1,000 files were initially exposed in our discovery, we would reduce that to 600, and then continue to lower the risk post-engagement.
- » **3x Faster Audit Response**
Compliance preparation goes from weeks to days with easy access to reports and data. One client's GDPR request fulfilment shifted from a scramble to a simple search, saving time and reducing stress.
- » **25% Fewer Insider Incidents**
With better controls in place, users are less likely (or able) to mishandle data, leading to a noticeable drop in internal data leaks.
- » **100% Governance Visibility**
No more blind spots, gain complete visibility of governed data. Every SharePoint site, Teams channel, and data repository is accounted for, monitored and owned.

Strategic Advantages

- » **Regulatory Confidence**
Demonstrate compliance instantly. Dashboards and logs provide real-time evidence of policy enforcement, helping avoid fines and easing audit pressure.
- » **Enhanced Internal Trust**
When data is consistently managed, executives and business users trust it more, which can indirectly improve the adoption of BI and AI tools.
- » **IT Efficiency**
Clear policies and automation mean that IT teams spend less time chasing permissions or data owners and can spend more time driving strategic improvements.

Ready to take control of your data today? [Get in touch](#) to discover how our Executive Assurance Service can empower your leadership with clarity and control.

Get in touch

Storm Technology is an Irish owned and operated Microsoft Business Technology Consultancy and Solutions Partner. We specialise in building solutions that enable our clients to gain better value faster from their technology investment.

Dublin | Galway | Belfast | Nottingham

T: +353 1 416 1226 (IRE)_
T: +44 28 9049 0979 (UK)
E: info@storm.ie
W: www.storm.ie